PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-29 Building Date: 1915

Building Name: Pinkney Memorial Church

Location: 5203 42nd Avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland

Private/Religious/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

The Pinkney Memorial Church is a one-and-one-half story, frame, cross-gable church structure with Tudor and Gothic Revival decorative features. The main block is L-shaped, three bays by seven, with stucco wall cladding and false Tudor-style timbering above a high uncut stone foundation. Principal entry is into the west gable end, through a gothic-arched door in a small vestibule with flared eaves. Flanking the vestibule are two small gothic-arched stained-glass windows with upper tracery. The five-bay south elevation has pairs of pointed-arch lancet windows with Gothic tracery. There is a side entry with a pointed-arch door, and a cross gable which contains two levels of lancet windows grouped in four. Exposed rafter ends punctuate the overhanging eaves; the main block of the church rests on an uncut stone foundation, high on the west end and gradually declining towards the east.

Significance

Pinkney Memorial Church was built in 1915 as part of St. Matthew's Parish. In 1890 the first Pinkney Memorial Church was built in Hyattsville, at the corner of Baltimore Avenue and Spencer Streets. It was named for Reverend William Pinkney, the seventh rector of St. Matthew's Parish, who had served in the Hyattsville parish for twenty years. Pinkney later became the fifth bishop of Maryland; after his death in 1883, the idea of a memorial church to him arose. By 1913, a new and larger church was needed; in July of that year property was purchased on the corner of what is now 42nd Avenue and Gallatin Streets. Ground was broken for the present church on September 12, 1915 and the corner stone was laid November 21, 1915. The first service was held in the new church on June 11, 1916. The church at 42nd and Gallatin Streets was sold in 1964, and has housed several congregations since that time. It is a prominent landmark in the town of Hyattsville.

Acreage: .27 acre

Survey No. P.G. #68-29

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic: St. Matthews Episcopal Church/Pinkney Memorial Church

and/or common: Celestial Church of Christ

2. Location

street & number: 5203 42nd Avenue ___ not for publication

city, town: Hyattsville ___ vicinity of congressional district: 5

state: Maryland county: Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	_X_ 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	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	_X_ not applicable	_X_ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name: Eastern Division Open Bible Church, Inc.

street & number: 5203 42nd Avenue telephone no.:

city, town: Hyattsville state and zip code: Md. 20781

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Prince George's County Courthouse liber: 4071

street & number: Main Street folio: 572

city, town: Upper Marlboro state: Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title: None

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ 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 Pinkney Memorial Church is a one-and-one-half story, frame, cross-gable church structure with Tudor and Gothic Revival decorative features. It stands on a corner in a residential community. The main block is L-shaped, three bays by seven, with stucco wall cladding and false Tudor-style timbering above a high uncut stone foundation.

Principal entry is into the west gable end, through a small vestibule with flared eaves. The gothic-arched door is approached by a short flight of steps. Flanking the vestibule are two small gothic-arched stained-glass windows with upper tracery. The principal west gable front has a plain vergeboard. Within this is a small double, stained glass window and directly beneath this a row of horizontal decorative false timbering. At the peak of the gable is a small cross.

On the south elevation the roof has a wide boxed cornice with ornamental exposed rafter ends. Beneath this is a series of bays containing pairs of pointed-arch lancet windows with Gothic tracery. Beginning from the southwest corner of the southern elevation are five bays, then a side entry with a pointed-arch door, approached by a short flight of steps from the side. The entry is protected by the wide eave overhang. Extending to the east is the cross gable which contains two levels of lancet windows grouped in four. Beneath the gable peak is a small window.

The east gable end contains three levels of windows, arranged symmetrically, four on the bottom, then two, then one on top. Extending north is a cross gable wing with two pairs of lancet windows, and a one-story shed-roof extension.

The north gable end contains two bays, with windows to either side of a central chimney. The extending portion of the north elevation repeats the five bays of the south elevation, as well as the two eyebrow dormers.

The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingle; exposed rafter ends punctuate the overhanging eaves; the main block of the church rests on an uncut stone foundation, high on the west end and gradually declining towards the east.

8. Significance

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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
___ 1600–1899	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	X other (specify) Local History
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1915 **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.

Pinkney Memorial Church was built in 1915 as part of St. Matthew's Parish. St. Matthew's Parish was founded in 1811, cut out of St. John's Parish which was one of the original thirty parishes established in Maryland under the act of the General Assembly in 1692.

In 1890 the first Pinkney Memorial Church was built in Hyattsville, at the corner of Baltimore Avenue and Spencer Streets. It was named for Reverend William Pinkney, the seventh rector of St. Matthew's Parish, who had served in the Hyattsville parish for twenty years. Pinkney later became the fifth bishop of Maryland; after his death in 1883, and the idea of a memorial church to him arose.

By 1913, a new and larger church was needed; in July of that year property was purchased on the corner of what is now 42nd Avenue and Gallatin Streets. Ground was broken for the present church on September 12, 1915 and the corner stone was laid November 21, 1915. The first service was held in the new church on June 11, 1916. For over 50 years the church grew and by the early 1940's it became apparent the parish needed a larger church.

In June 1947, at a special meeting of the congregation they voted to purchase a site to erect a new parish hall and church. The property chosen was on a high hill, on Nicholson Street between 36th and 37th Avenues. This had previously been the site of an old mansion estate called "Longview". In 1951 the rectory was built, in 1953 the parish hall, and in 1961, the new church.

The church at 42nd and Gallatin Streets was sold in 1964.

Pinkney Memorial Church, now the Celestial Church of Christ, has a long rich history, and a bright future for continued service for the Hyattsville community.

Notes

1 G. M. Hopkins, Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878

2 Prince George's County Deeds #4071:572, 3068:164, 96:207, 84:401, 48:232, 26:287, 19:253, JWB 25:753.

3 Plat JWB #2:618.

4 City of Hyattsville Souvenir Booklet, 1976

5 City of Hyattsville Souvenir Booklet, 1961

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P G #68-29

cf. Chain of Title

cf. Notes, Item # 8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .27 acre

Quadrangle name Washington East, Section E

Quadrangle scale

Block F, Lots 1 & 2
Tax Map 50, grid B - 1

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 Kelly Taube, Student Intern, University of Md. School of Architecture

organization c/o Historic Preservation Commission, MNCPPC date July 1987

street & number #4010 C.A.B. telephone

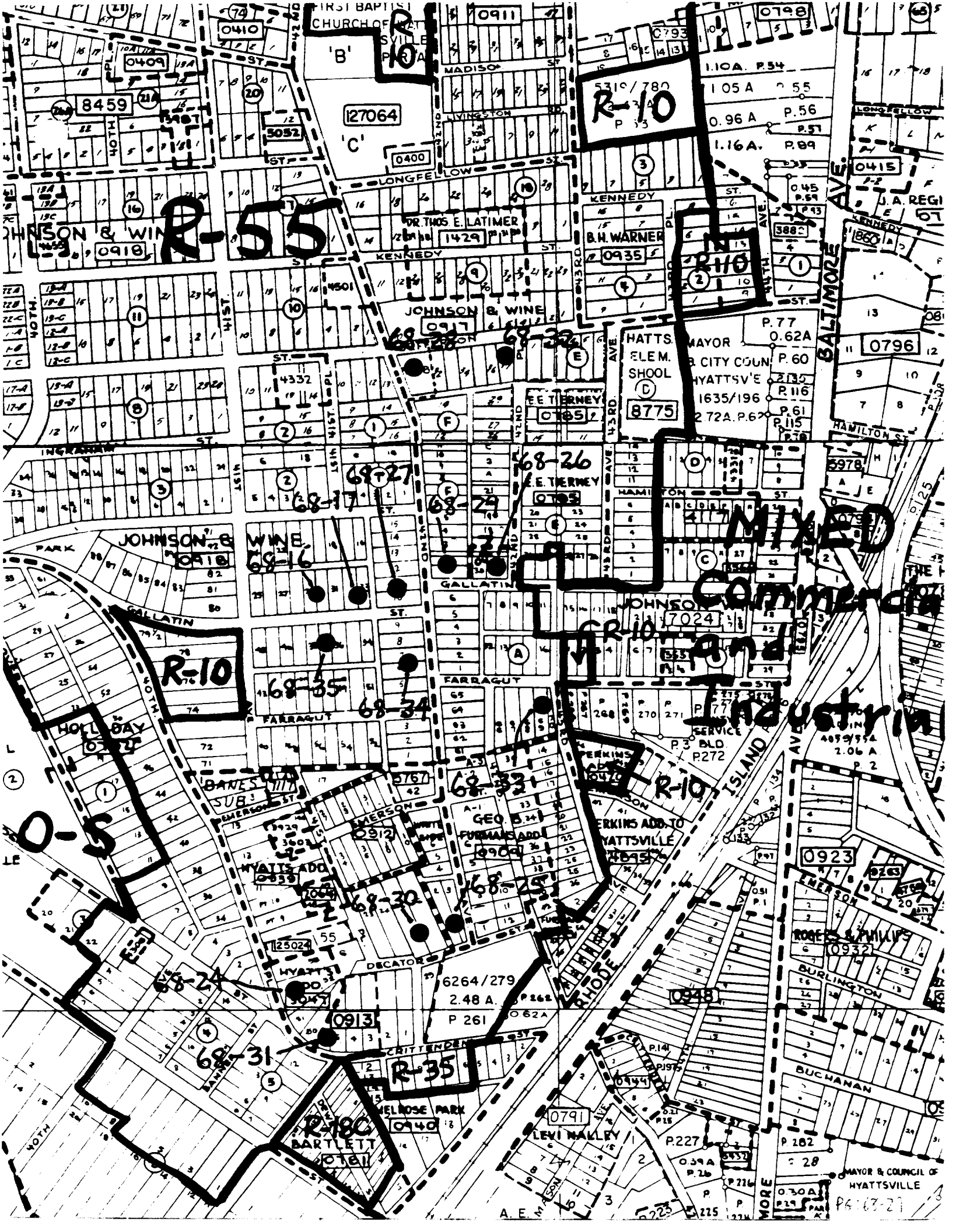
city or town Upper Marlboro state Md.

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



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HYATTSVILLE
R-10
R-55
R-110
MIXED Commercial and Industrial
R-10
R-10
R-10
R-35
R-18C
O-5
JOHNSON & WINE
DR. THOS. E. LATIMER
B.H. WARNER
HATTS. ELEM. SHOOL
MAYOR & CITY COUN. HYATTSV'E
E.E. TIERNEY
GEO. B. FURMAN'S ADD.
PERKINS ADD. TO HYATTSVILLE
HYATTS ADD.
BANES SUB.
HOLLIDAY
LEVI NALLEY
MAYOR & COUNCIL OF HYATTSVILLE
BALTIMORE AVE.
ISLAND AVE.
RHODE
MADISON
LIVINGSTON
LONGFELLOW
KENNEDY
INGRAHAM
HAMILTON
GALLATIN
FARRAGUT
EMERSON
DECATOR
CRITTENDEN
BURLINGTON
BUCHANAN
ROGERS & PHILLIPS
MELROSE PARK
BARTLETT
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WASHINGTON EAST
Chatham
University Hills Recreation Ce
Byrd Stadium
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
CAMPUS
St Mark Sch
College Heights Estates
Northwestern High Sch
College Heights
University Park
University Park Sch
Georges Plaza
Memorial Library
Berwyn Heights
Municipal Bldg
Playground
Paint Branch Park
COLLEGE PARK
College Park Airport
College Park Sch
Calvert Hills
Calvert Park
BALTIMORE
Indian Creek
Branch
Water Tank
Erco Field
Riverdale Gardens
Jr High Sch
Riverdale Recreation Center
Leland Memorial Hospital
Fire Sta
Grem Jr High Sch
West Riverdale
RIVERDALE
Riverdale Heights
Riverdale Hills
Hyattsville Hills
Gaging Sta
Chapel Manor
Hyattsville
Castle Manor
Concordia Lutheran Sch
Burgan Manor
East Pines
St Bernard Sch
Springbrook Terrace
Fletcher Field
Dueste Terrace
Anacostia River Park
Magruder Park
Pumping Sta
Municipal Bldg
Rogers Heights
Edmonston
Salvation Army Community Center
Wheatley
Seton Sch
Blackburn High Sch
North Brentwood
Brentwood
North Brentwood Sch
Playground
Peace Cross
Blagenburg
Bladensburg Sch
Jr High Sch
Shopping Center
Cottage City
Villa Heights

P.G. #68-29

Pinkney Memorial Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
May 1987
South elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

P.G. #68-29

Pinkney Memorial Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
May 1987
South detail
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD

P.G. #68-29

Pinkney Memorial Church
Prince George's County, Maryland
Susan G. Pearl
May 1987
West elevation
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust
Annapolis, MD