

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #79-15 Building Date: 1846

Building Name: Trinity Episcopal Church

Location: 14519 Church Street, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Accessible

Description

Trinity Church is a gable-roof brick church structure with a tall parapetted brick entry tower built onto its principal gable end. It is distinguished by its gothic-arched stained-glass windows, its modillioned cornice, and its corbelled and parapetted tower. Entrance is through the entry tower which is centered on the principal north gable end, through double doors, each leaf having six panels. The crenellated tower rises to a height of four stories and is distinguished by considerable variety in bonding, panelling and corbelling in the brickwork. Flanking the tower are two narrow gothic-arched windows, and outside these windows is a shallow buttress at each corner. The nave is built of brick laid in 5:1 American bond; it is five bays in length, each bay filled with a gothic-arched stained glass memorial window. The cornice beneath the steeply pitched gable roof is adorned with modillion brackets, all painted beige. The sanctuary is one bay deep, lower and narrower than the nave; its south gable end is lighted by a large three-part gothic-arched stained glass window over the altar. There is a small one-story hip-roof addition built on the southwest corner of the nave. The church grounds includes a small and ancient cemetery planted with hollies and dogwoods.

Significance

Trinity Episcopal Church is a fine example of a Victorian Gothic Revival Church; it was designed by one of the most prominent architects of the period, and it has long associations with the prominent families of Upper Marlboro and Prince George's County. The Trinity congregation was formed on this site in 1810 by Thomas John Claggett, Bishop of Maryland, the first Episcopalian Bishop to be consecrated (1792) in the United States. In 1845, the decision was made to construct a new church on the site of the old frame building. The Vestry of Trinity Church adopted a plan by architect Robert Carey Long, Jr. of Baltimore and contracted with William McNeal to build it. In 1896, on the fiftieth anniversary of the building of the church, the bell tower was added to the south gable end of the church. Trinity Church remains an important landmark in the town of Upper Marlboro. It is an excellent example of Victorian Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture. Designed by one of the leading architects of the day, Trinity Church also exemplifies the social, religious and historical heritage of Prince George's County.

Acreage: 1.5 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Trinity Episcopal Church

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 14519 Church Street  not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church

street & number P.O. Box 187 telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro state and zip code Maryland 20772

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber JRM #15

street & number Main Street folio 267

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, c/o County Planning, M-NCPPC

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

# 7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #79-15

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Trinity Church is a gable-roof brick church structure with a tall parapetted brick entry and bell tower built onto its principal gable end. The building is distinguished by its gothic-arched stained-glass windows, its modillioned cornice, and its corbelled and parapetted tower.

The nave is five bays long, each bay filled with a gothic-arch stained-glass window. Entrance to the nave is through the (added) entry tower which is centered on the principal north gable end. The tower is built of brick which is darker in color than that of the nave. Entrance is through double doors, each leaf having six panels. Above the door is a wood molding painted beige, and above that a seven-light fanlight; a double brick segmental arch frames the fanlight and door.

The brick bell tower rises to a height of four stories. Above the door enframingent, set into the bonded brick is a white stone plaque which displays the legend:

"Trinity Church  
Built in 1846  
Rebuilt in 1896"

Surrounding the plaque, the north face of the tower is laid in all-header bond with alternate bricks projecting in a checkerboard pattern. Above this decorative bonding, at second level, are two gothic-arch windows. Above the windows, at third level, is a pair of inset plain brick panels, with three courses of corbelling defining a lintel above each panel. At fourth level are three gothic arched openings for the belfry; above them a triple course of corbelling surmounted by the ornamental brick moldings of a crenellated parapet. Each level is defined by a double corbelled string course.

The side elevations of the tower have ornament similar to the north face. At first and second level, there is a single slim gothic-arched window in each of the east and west faces. At third level there is a single inset panel with upper corbelling, and at fourth level a single gothic arch opening under the molded parapet.

Flanking the entry tower on the north gable end are two narrow gothic-arched windows, and outside these windows there is a shallow buttress defining the corner of the gable end; each buttress is surmounted by a wood crown molding, painted beige.

The nave is built of brick laid in 5:1 American bond. There is a corbelled water table. The nave is five bays in length, each bay filled with a gothic-arched stained glass memorial window. The molded wood surrounds of the windows are painted beige. The windows are sealed with plexiglass. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with black asbestos shingles. The cornice is adorned with modillion brackets, all painted beige.

The south gable end of the church has several additions. The sanctuary, lower and narrower than the nave but with similar gable roof, extends the building one additional bay to the south. The south gable end of the sanctuary is highlighted by a large three-part gothic-arched stained glass window over the altar. There is evidence in the brick work above this altar window, that the original window in this location was taller and narrower. The width of the sanctuary has been increased to be flush with the east facade of the nave, and this enlargement is apparent in the brickwork of the south gable end. The modillioned cornice continues from the north front along the long east and west facades of the church; the south gable ends, both of the nave and of the lower sanctuary, are finished with a plain raking board, painted beige.

There is a small one-story hip-roof addition built on the southwest corner of the nave. It is lighted by small modern windows, and has two entrances in its west facade.

On the east facade, there is an entrance into the nave in the fifth (northmost) bay. Leading to the east from this doorway is an iron-railed covered breezeway which connects the church with the Clagett Memorial Building, a two story gable-roof brick building which is one bay by two bays, with entrance in its north gable end.

The church stands on a lot on the south side of Church Street in Upper Marlboro. The grounds are enclosed on the north by an iron fence, and entrance from the street is by a long brick path flanked by large old fir trees. The grounds, which include a small ancient cemetery, are planted with hollies and dogwoods. To the east is the modern brick parish hall.

# 8. Significance

Period	Area 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1846 **Builder/Architect** Robert Carey Long, Jr.

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.

Trinity Episcopal Church is a fine example of a Victorian Gothic Revival Church; it was designed by one of the most prominent architects of the period, and it has long associations with the prominent families of Upper Marlboro and Prince George's County.

The Trinity congregation was formed in 1810 by Thomas John Claggett, Bishop of Maryland, the first Episcopalian Bishop to be consecrated (1792) in the United States. The new Episcopalian congregation moved into a small frame building on this site, which had been abandoned circa 1800 by an earlier Presbyterian congregation. Within a few years, the Episcopalian congregation had constructed a new frame church building, which was dedicated by Bishop Claggett in July of 1812. Bishop Claggett himself served as Rector of Trinity Church until his death in 1816.<sup>1</sup>

The first church in this location figured prominently in the British invasion during the War of 1812. British troops under General Robert Ross camped in Upper Marlborough on the night of 22 August 1814, during their march on Washington. Their entry into the Church building is recorded in the book of the Vestry Minutes. Written in the margin of the Vestry Records books appears: "No meeting from 21st May 1814 to 27 March 1815 owing to the situation into which the country was thrown by the invasion of the British army in August... Several leaves here and some in other parts of the book were torn out by some of Ross's soldiers who found the book in the Church where it was put for safekeeping... to their eternal disgrace be it recorded..."<sup>2</sup>

By 1845, the decision had been made to construct a new church on the site of the old frame building. A building committee was appointed by the Vestry in December of 1845, consisting of Benjamin B. Hodges, Horatio C. Scott and Thomas Claggett (of Weston). Claggett was appointed treasurer with authority to collect donations and subscriptions towards the building of the new church.<sup>3</sup>

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G. #79-15

Section 8 Page 2

During the month of January 1846, the Building Committee advertised in the Baltimore Sun, and received several proposals. One of the proposals, by William R. McNeal of Alexandria, Virginia, was accompanied by a plan by architect Robert Carey Long, Jr., of Baltimore. It was this plan, with several modifications, which the Vestry adopted. (The original Long design included a steeple; the Vestry, however, decided against inclusion of the steeple.) A contract was drawn up with McNeal for the "erection of a new church upon the site of the old church according to the specifications of Robert Carey Long, Esq., architect in Baltimore, under his direction and superintendence, the whole to be strictly complied with (except outside painting of walls and roof which the Vestry agree to dispense with) for \$4,200." McNeal was to furnish all materials and labor. The church was to be finished on or before 1 October 1846.<sup>4</sup>

Robert Carey Long, Jr., had already established himself as a leading architect in Baltimore. The son of an earlier architect of the same name, the younger Long had designed Ascension Church in Westminster, St. Timothy's Church in Catonsville, and three ecclesiastical landmarks in Baltimore: the Franklin Street Presbyterian Church, St. Peter's Church, and the Lloyd Street Synagogue. Long supervised the construction of Trinity Church, for which he was paid a commission of 5% of the total cost, plus his traveling expenses between Baltimore and Upper Marlboro.<sup>5</sup>

During the course of the construction, difficulties arose with the contractor. McNeal was eventually dismissed and the building was completed by local workmen. In December of 1846, Reverend Cleland Nelson, and the Vestry of Trinity Church requested of William R. Whittingham, Bishop of Maryland, that the new church be consecrated. This he did, 31 December 1846, indicating that the "inhabitants of the town of Upper Marlborough in Prince George's County have recently erected a new Church edifice on the site of the frame building building formerly known and consecrated as Trinity Church, but now decayed and taken down...."<sup>6</sup>

In 1896, on the fiftieth anniversary of the building of the church, the bell tower was added to the south gable end of the church.

Trinity Church remains an important landmark in the town of Upper Marlboro. It stands in an ancient graveyard which dates from the period of Presbyterian occupancy. Trinity Church is an excellent example of Victorian Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture. It represents a congregation which was founded by the Thomas John Claggett, the first man to be consecrated as an Episcopalian Bishop in America. It was designed by Robert Carey Long, Jr., one of the leading architects of his day. It has long associations with the prominent families of the Marlboro area, and exemplifies the social, religious and historical heritage of Prince George's County.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

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Survey No. P.G. #79-15

Section 8 Page 3

Notes

- 1 Bowie, E.G. Across the Years in Prince George's County, 1947; cf. also Trinity Church Vestry Minutes, #50212-12, Maryland Archives.
- 2 Trinity Church Vestry Minutes, #50212-12, Maryland Archives.
- 3 ibid, 1845.
- 4 ibid, 1846, Report of Building Committee.
- 5 ibid, Pamphlet "A Service of Rededication and The Holy Eucharist", Trinity Episcopal Church, January 1987.
- 6 Trinity Church Vestry Minutes, 1846, #5012-12, Maryland Archives.



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 79-15 Date 1846

Building Name Trinity Episcopal Church

Location 14519 Church Street, Upper Marlboro, Md.

Open to Public  yes  no

Trinity Church is located on the south side of Church Street in Upper Marlboro. The present brick building was erected in 1846 to replace an eighteenth century wood structure. It is one story high with a steep gable roof. The east and west sides are each five bays deep with pointed-arch, stained glass windows. The south wall is dominated by a single, very large, pointed-arch stained glass window. Altered brick work above the window shows that an earlier opening has been filled in. The square, brick, crenellated tower at the north front entrance was added in 1896. The two-leaf door is surmounted by a round-arch with fanlight. Above the doorway are two pointed-arch windows. On each face of the tower, three openings of similar shape create the belfry. At second floor level, there is a small pointed-arch stained glass window on each facade. Near the corners of the building are brick wall buttresses which rise to the level of the eaves.

Trinity Church, the oldest in Upper Marlboro, is built on the site of one of Maryland's earliest Presbyterian churches. About 1800, members of that Presbyterian congregation joined with another in Bladensburg, leaving the Marlboro building vacant. In 1810, Trinity Church was organized by Thomas John Claggett, the first Episcopalian bishop to be consecrated in America. The contract for the present building was let on 3 February 1846, and the church was consecrated on 29 December of the same year.

Trinity's historic graveyard is older than the town of Upper Marlboro, and here are buried many of the earliest and most prominent citizens of Prince George's County.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Trinity Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 14519 Church Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Fourth

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Prince George's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Vestry of Trinity Church

Telephone #: 627-2636

STREET & NUMBER 14519 Church Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 20870

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Courthouse

Liber #: JRM#15  
Folio #: 267

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

CITY, TOWN Upper Marlboro

STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Church is located on the south side of Church Street in Upper Marlboro. The present brick building was erected in 1846 to replace an 18th century wood structure. It is one story high with a steep gable roof. The east and west sides are each five bays deep with pointed-arch, stained glass windows. The south wall is dominated by a single, very large, pointed-arch stained glass window. Altered brick work above the window shows that an earlier opening has been filled in. The square, brick, crenellated tower at the north front entrance was added in 1896. The two-leaf door is surmounted by a round-arch with fanlight. Above the doorway are two pointed-arch windows. On each face of the tower three openings of similar shape create the belfry. At second floor level there is a small pointed-arch stained glass window on each facade. Near the corners of the building are brick wall buttresses which rise to the level of the eaves.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PG: 79-15

## PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)  
local history

SPECIFIC DATES 1846

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Bldr.: William R. McNeal of Alexandria, D.C.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: E. Cary Long of Baltimore, Md.

According to the Vestry Minutes the contract for the building was let on 3 February 1846. The church was consecrated on 29 December of the same year. Total cost for all the materials, labor and workmanship was \$4200.00. This church, the oldest in Upper Marlboro, is built on the site of one of Maryland's earliest Presbyterian churches. Members of that Presbyterian congregation joined with another in Ladensburg about 1800, leaving the Marlboro building vacant. In 1810, Trinity Church was organized by Thomas John Claggett, the first Episcopalian bishop to be consecrated in America. The historic graveyard is older than the town of Upper Marlboro and here are buried many of the earliest and most prominent citizens of the county.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Prince George's Co. Land Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Md.  
Liber JRN#15, folio 267

Vestry Minutes of Trinity Church, microfilm #1210, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.

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  
Margaret W. Cook

ORGANIZATION  
P.G. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE  
December 1979

STREET & NUMBER  
Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Road

TELEPHONE  
779-2011

CITY OR TOWN  
Riverdale,

STATE  
Md. 20840

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

AR#79-15  
1702954608

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

**1. NAME**

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Trinity Episcopal Church

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
14519 Church Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Upper Marlboro

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Prince George's

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Bath	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Trinity Episcopal Church

STREET AND NUMBER:  
14519 Church Street

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro STATE: Maryland

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Prince George's County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro STATE: Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The church is a rectangular, end-gable structure with a center porch tower the most prominent feature. The tower is four stories with a round-arched entrance. The arch abutment has a diaper-paneling of headers projecting from the wall surface. The second story consists of two lancet windows, the third of two blank rectangular panels set back from the wall surface. The belfrey story has three, four-centered arched openings, the arches having high haunches and relatively flat crowns, giving the effect of a high-set Tudor arch. A parapet of arches is supported on a corbel table projecting from the wall surface.

On either side of the tower is a lancet with stone sill on the north wall of the nave; five similar narrow lancets light the nave from the east and west side walls. These windows have an arch flush with the wall surface and a second framing arch set back one thickness of brick and flush with the window frame; the frame consists of a roll moulding.

The end of the nave has a large pointed arch opening divided by heavy mullions into three lancet openings. Above this, the arch of the original narrow lancet is visible.

A two-stage water table runs around the nave; across the facade, the cornice is bracketed.

The church was built in 1846 and rebuilt in 1896. The nave is the earlier church; the tower and detailing, the remodeling.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1846 and 1896

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Trinity Episcopal Church stands on the site that Col. Ninian Beall deeded to the Patuxent Presbyterian Church in 1704, which used it as their meeting house until 1800. In 1810, Bishop Thomas Claggett (sic) founded Trinity Church; he was the first Episcopal Bishop consecrated in the United States.

Architecturally, the church is a good example both of an 1846 church and of the architectural ideas of the last decade of the nineteenth century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	
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SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

**Acreage Justification:**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COUNTY:

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC      DATE: 5/9/73

STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring      STATE: Maryland

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

Significance of this property is:  
 National     State     Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5

SCHOOL HOUSE POND

O-S

R-80

R-80

R-55

C-S-C

R-R

R-55

R-80

C-S-C

R-80

R-80

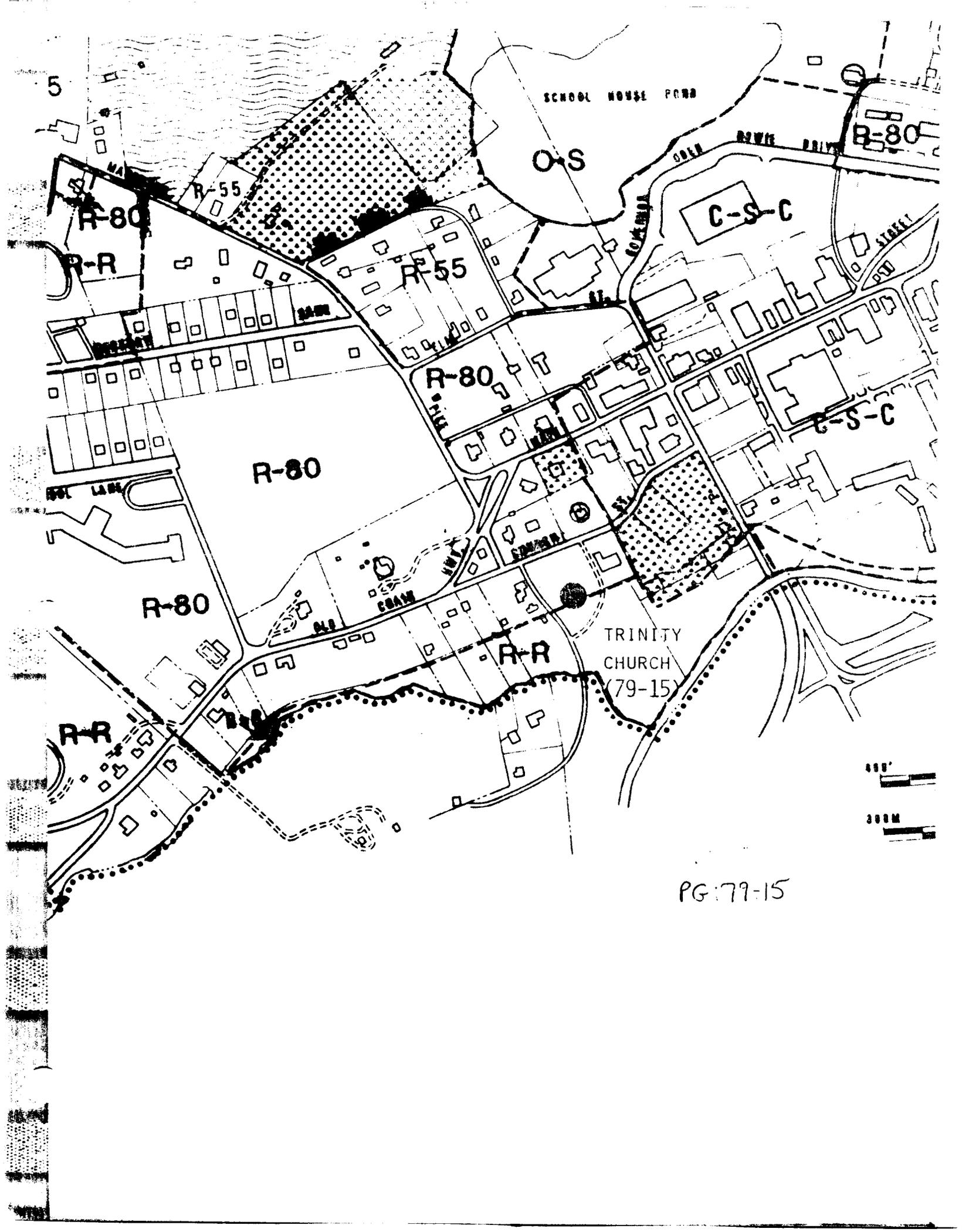
R-R

TRINITY CHURCH (79-15)

R-R



PG: 79-15



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STATE OF MARYLAND  
5156/836  
6.39 A.  
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8/267  
M. 107  
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O-S

MALBOROUGH TOWNE ARTS

SCHOOL HOUSE POND

R-18

PG CO.  
4411/183  
11.00A.  
P. 258

M.N.C.P. & P.C.  
4413/241  
8.05 A  
P. 74

R-80  
P. 77  
P. 78  
P. 253

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79-25

CLARA SMITH  
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ELIZABETH CLAGETT, ETAL  
6030/866  
5.00A.  
P. 55

R-55

P.G. CO.  
3.2A.  
P. 25

350/660  
74A.

C-S-C

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
419/446  
4.34A  
P. 60

R-80

79-18

T. VAN CLAGETT  
2509-174  
3.21A.  
P. 56

79-15

TRINITY CHURCH  
3296/253

P.G. CO. COMM.  
3190/520  
5.48 A  
P. 266

FLOOD CONTROL  
2125/474  
5.70A  
P. 245

R-R

P. COVELLI  
54/  
7.0  
O P. 197

MD. RTE. 4

I-3

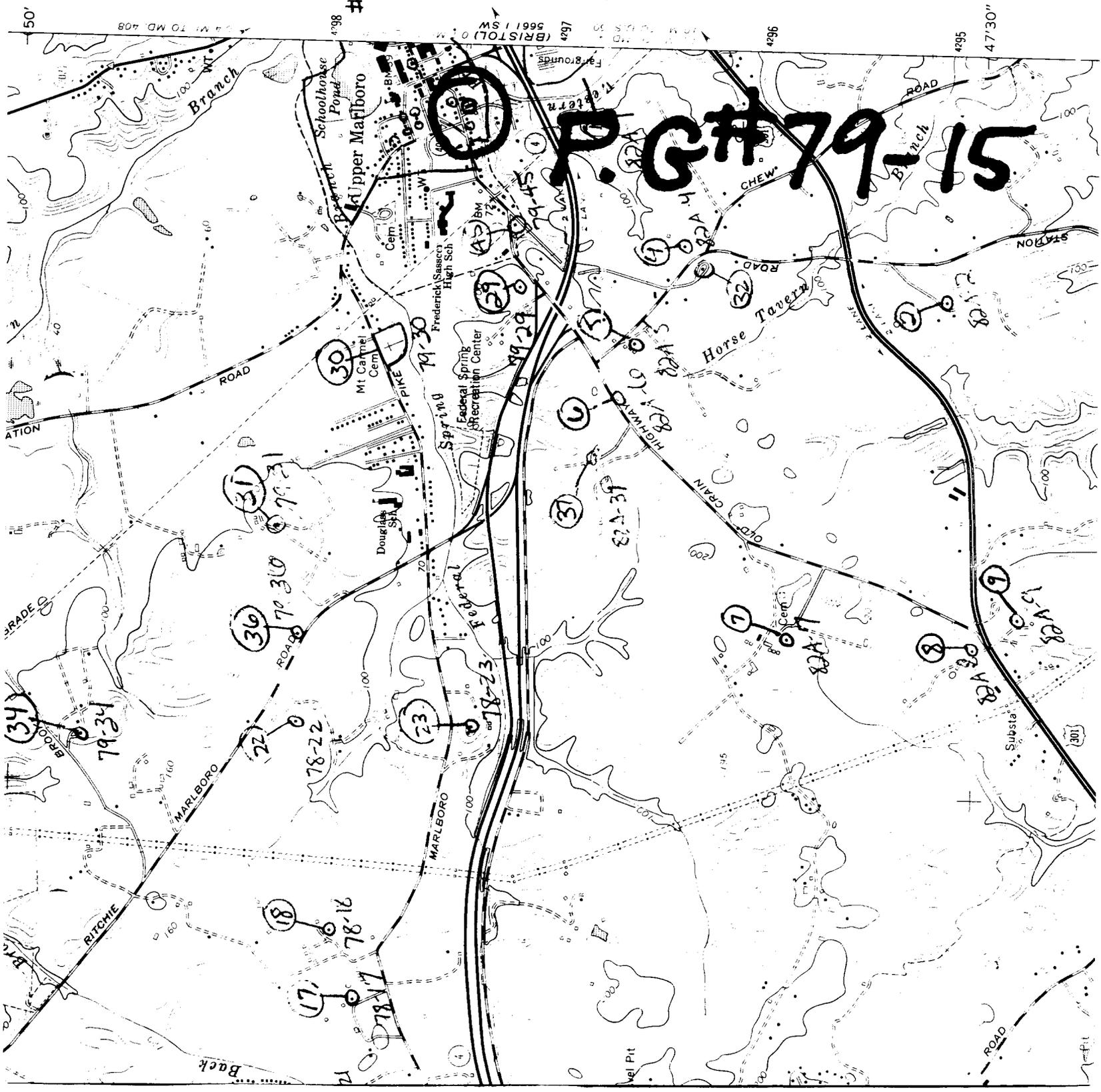
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PG: 79-15

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TRAC

# Upper Marlboro

#S 79-  
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Trinity Episcopal Church in Upper Marlboro dates from the 1840s, but the land on which it stands has been dedicated to God's work since 1704, when Colonel Ninian Beall deeded the site to the county's first Presbyterian congregation. The Presbyterians of Upper Marlboro worshipped here until their congregation was absorbed by Bladensburg's late in the eighteenth century; the town's Episcopalians then acquired the old wooden Presbyterian church and made it their own. They built this brick church in 1846; the tower was added in 1896. Courtesy of Prince George's Travel Promotion Council, Inc.

Thomas G. Pratt (1804-1869) was governor of Maryland from 1845 to 1848. He lived in Upper Marlboro and later became a United States senator. Courtesy of the Maryland Commission on Artistic Property



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TRINITY CHURCH  
BUILT IN 1848  
REBUILT 1888

P.G. #79-15

Trinity Church  
Prince George's County  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
Tower, north detail  
Neg: Md, Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



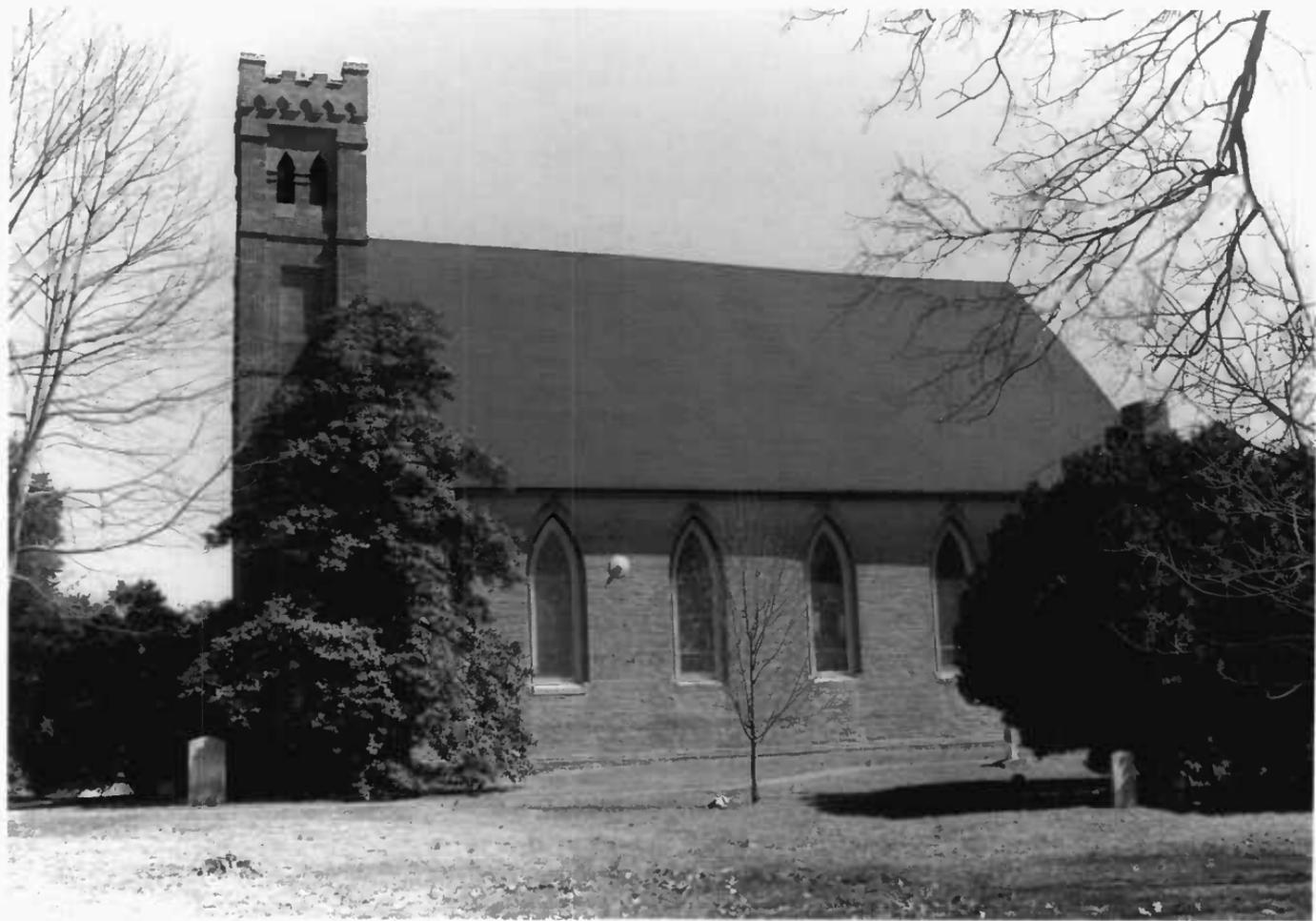
P.G. #79-15

Trinity Church  
Prince George's County  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
North elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #79-15

Trinity Church  
Prince George's County  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
South elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



P.G. #79-15

Trinity Church  
Prince George's County  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
West elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.



NAME TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LOCATION 14500 BLOCK, CHURCH ST. UPPER MARLBORO, Md

FACADE N.W.

PG: 79-15

PHOTO TAKEN 5/9/73 M. DWYER



P.G. #79-15

Trinity Church  
Prince George's County  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1987  
Tower, east elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.