

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

2101374027

FOR NPS USE ONLY	T-137
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DATE ENTERED	

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC (preferred)
Old Whitemarsh Cemetery and Church Ruin, St. Peter's Parish
AND/OR COMMON
St. Peter's Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER (Hole in the Wall Road)
East side of U.S. Rt. 50 and Synadier Road NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
2 1/2 miles north of Trappe VICINITY OF First
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
Maryland 24 Talbot 041

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME old church ruins and graveyard.
Old Whitemarsh Cemetery, Trappe, Maryland, Inc.
STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 1072
CITY, TOWN STATE
Easton Maryland 21601
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Talbot County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Washington Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Easton Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Old Whitemarsh Cemetery and the ruins of Old Whitemarsh Church stand on high ground on the east side of U.S. Route 50 at Maynadier Road, 2 1/2 miles north of Trappe, Talbot County, Maryland.

The original building named "Whitemarsh" or St. Peter's" Church (used interchangeably in the Vestry Records) was erected between 1662 and 1665. It is apparent from the Vestry Records of Whitemarsh that there were three additions to the building and many repairs. The ruins above ground today are of brick addition to the original 1660's frame building. This brick structure was destroyed by a fire on January 12, 1897, leaving only parts of two walls standing. The group known as Old Whitemarsh Cemetery, Inc. is interested in undertaking an archaeological dig to find the original foundation of the church.

The cemetery lies on three sides of the old Church structure, and some of the stones are very ancient. They are all in poor condition, or fallen, and need repair save that of Robert Morris, Sr., which was replaced with a newer stone in 1928 by the Daughters of the American Revolution. There is one old red sandstone marker complete with an angel and carved wings, inscription defaced, which according to Mr. Dan Topping, A.I.A., is the only one he has seen in this country although he has seen them in England. The recognizable stones date from the year 1707 to the present day. Many have disappeared, possibly carried away, or perhaps lying under the sod. The area has been unprotected since 1897. There is a post and rail fence surrounding the historical part of the cemetery, which was erected in 1964 by the Vestry of St. Paul's Church, Trappe, who held title to the property.

A number of gravestones were moved from Old Whitemarsh Cemetery to Old Spring Hill Cemetery in Easton prior to 1906. In that year, a list of these stones was published by A. L. Richardson in his book, Historical Graves of Maryland:

1. Robert Morris, Sr. (new slab in 1898 by one of the descendants, Mrs. Chas. C. Harrison of Philadelphia, Pa.
2. In Memory of Thomas Goldsborough, May 11, 1804 - 29 years.
3. Mrs. Rachel Goldsborough, Jan. 16, 1815 - age 60 years.
4. Elizabeth Parrott (wife of Thomas), May 23, 1816 - 42 years.
5. William Harrison, Jr., July 8, 1816 - Nov. 29, 1827.
6. Richard W. Thompson (Ireland), Oct. 12, 1826 - 51 years.
7. John Sawyer, (son of William and Rebecca), husband of Alice, May 21, 1825 - 58 years.
8. James Kennedy, Sept, 27, 1787 - 39 years.
9. Thomas Bullitt, Oct. 11, 1821 - 23 years.
10. Thomas James Bullitt, Nov. 25, 1840 - 77 years.
11. Mary Bullitt, (wife of Thomas), Feb. 24, 1812 - 55 years.
12. Jeremiah Nichols, (son of Rev. Henry Nichols), Oct. 8, 1753 - 40 years.

(See continuation sheet No. 1)

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Description, Continued #7

13. Elizabeth Nichold, daughter of Jeremiah & Deborah, Sept. 1747.
14. Mary MacCallow (MacCallum), Aug. 11, 1773 - 30 years.
15. Sarah Galt, Sept. 26, 1808.
16. Elizabeth, wife of Philip Walker, March 19, 1755 - 36 years.
17. Thomas Richardson, Merchant (Illegible inscription), 1728.
18. John Thompson, Merchant, March 14, 1742. (defaced).
19. John Haron, Taylor of Talbot County, Mar. 23, 1797 - age 47.
20. Rachel James, daughter of L. Booker, wife of Alex James, June 17, 1770 - 31 years.
21. Lambert Booker, (father of Rachel) died 1763, requested to be buried at White marsh between the two----- (deleted).

SIGNIFICANCE

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) archaeology
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1662-5

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Old Whitemarsh Cemetery and the ruins of Old Whitemarsh Church are significant as tangible remains of the early history of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Maryland. This church and cemetery existed prior to any other on the Eastern Shore save Christ Church, Kent Island, which long ago entirely disappeared.

The church is believed to have been erected between 1662 and 1665. The first date mentioned in the Parish records is 1690, when Joseph Leech was acting minister. There is a courthouse record in Talbot County for June 21, 1687, authorizing repairs to the road "from Cooleys' gate to the Church at Whitemarsh." When the Maryland Assembly made the Church of England the state church of Maryland in 1692, it outlined St. Peter's Parish where Whitemarsh Church is located as one of the thirty original parishes in the colony.

The location of Old Whitemarsh Church was chosen in the 17th century because of its accessibility to the trade and commerce of that day. It was a focal point on the main public road, lying midway between the Town of Oxford and the now extinct Town of Dover, Maryland, which was originally the county seat of Talbot County, on the upper Choptank River.

The Rev. Daniel Maynadier, a Huguenot, was Rector from 1711 to 1745; and according to historical records both he and his wife are buried under the chancel of the Church. The church was rebuilt during his office, and new Communion silver service was ordered from England in 1736. All things of this nature taking a great deal of time to complete, it was not until 1738 that the silver arrived, as noted in the Vestry minutes. The silver paten, four inches in diameter, two silver chalices and a flagon are still in use at St. Paul's Church in nearby Trappe.

Following Dr. Maynadier, who was much beloved by the Parishoners, was the Rev. Thomas Bacon in 1746. From the Isle of Man, Great Britain, he was ordained and licensed by the Bishop of London for Maryland. He lived at Oxford, and enlarged both the Church and congregation, being a very forceful and eloquent preacher. He was one of the first champions of the minority groups he found here, the indentured servants, black people and slaves. He was a lawyer, as well, and in 1770 coded the laws of the Territory, particularly those applicable to Church matters, into "Bacons' Laws of Maryland." He instituted the building of a Charity Working School for poor boys, under the patronage of both Lord and Lady

(See continuation sheet No. 2)

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Significance, Continued #8

Baltimore, who gave financial support to the effort. The inmates were known as "Baltimore Boys," and the school was a mile or two down the road to Oxford from the church. This was the first vocational school to be established on the Eastern Shore.

The church having fallen again into disrepair, it was enlarged to nearly double its previous capacity in 1751. Dr. Bacon moved from Oxford to Dover, Maryland, which was still at that time the county seat, and being plagued by ill health, accepted a Parish at Federalsburg, where he continued to write and publish his sermons.

After 1795 services were alternated between Whitemarsh and Easton, which had by then become the county seat and the center of industry in the area. By 1847 fewer services were held at Old Whitemarsh and the rector lived in Easton, where Christ Church was being built. The old Bible and Communion Service, as well as the wooden alms box were moved to St. Paul's Church, Trappe, where they remain today. In 1851 Holy Trinity became the Parish at Oxford, leaving Whitemarsh Church almost abandoned except for occasional services. In January 1897 the Church was being prepared for a service when the building caught fire from brush that was being cleared and burned in the yard. This completely destroyed the old church except for the brick walls still standing today.

There are several famous names of Maryland connected with Whitemarsh. Robert Morris, Sr., father of the financier of George Washington's a factor for the English firm of Foster, Cunliffe and Sons of Liverpool. He died in July 1750 following a shooting accident and was buried in Whitemarsh Churchyard. His grave lies adjacent to the walls of the old church. A large stone covers it. This stone was restored in 1939 by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Vestry records show that in his will he left fifty pounds "current money" for the benefit of the poor which the church wardens distributed.

Colonel Tench Tilghman and John Singleton of Oxford were both lay readers at Old Whitemarsh Church. Tilghman became one of Washington's most trusted and beloved aides during the Revolution, carrying the news of Cornwallis' surrender to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

There is a story of a duel fought within a mile of the church one foggy morning. After two shots rang out in the still air, one man, Andrew Jackson, later to become President of the United States, hurriedly mounted his horse and sped away to Oxford Port to catch a boat for Washington. The other man lies in an unmarked grave in Old Whitemarsh Cemetery, never identified.

In 1973 a corporation was formed as "Old Whitemarsh Cemetery, Trappe, Maryland,

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Significance, Continued #8

Inc." and 2.9 more acres of land was purchased around the perimeter of the area. A rededication service was held in April of that year with the Rt. Rev. George A. Taylor, Bishop of the Diocese of Easton, presiding. It is the plan of the Corporation to restore the mutilated gravestone, using whatever funds are available, and to do some archaeological excavating to find the outlines of the original building.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore Sunday Sun, Nov. 3, 1940.

Baltimore Sun, early edition, 1897.

Davis, Rev. Harry, B. D., Ph.D., ed. "History: Christ Church, Easton, Maryland." Copy in Christ Church Library.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(See continuation sheet No.)

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	40,77,6,0	4,28,34,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. William L. Winters, Secretary

ORGANIZATION

Old Whitemarsh Cemetery, Trappe, Md., Inc.

DATE

2/20/75

STREET & NUMBER

Tred Avon Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Oxford

STATE

Maryland 21654

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Easton Star Democrat, Oct. 1930, Feb. 6, 1959, Feb. 13, 1959, Aug. 14, 1968, Aug. 21, 1968.

Kellogg, C. W. Robert Morris, Sr., A Marylander. Privately printed, Chilton Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Kemp, W. Thomas. Old Whitemarsh Church. Paper before Eastern Shore Society of Baltimore, March 25, 1920. Published privately.

Mason, Rev. Henry M. St. Peter's Parish, Talbot County. At Christ Church, Aug. 10, 1854.

Tilghman, Oswald. History of Talbot County, Maryland, 1661-1861. Reprint of 1915 ed. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1967.

Vestry Minutes of St. Peter's Parish, pp. 92-209. Christ Church, Easton.

Wright, P. Kennard. "White Marsh Church, St. Peter's Parish," Easton, Maryland.

TRAPPE

Dist. No 3

TALBOT CO.

Lake, Griffling, E. Stevenson
1877 ATLAS

T-137



T-492

Bolnbrooke Neck

Ferry Neck

Jamaica Point

WINDYHILL

TRAPPE

MANASSES

CHOPTAN

WINDYHILL

T-137

1877 ATLAS

Dist. No 3

TRAPPE

TALBOT CO.

Lake, Griffling, E. Stevenson

T-137

WINDYHILL

Stumptown

T-137

Manadier

T-137
Old Whitemarsh Cemetery & Church Ruin (St. Peter's Parish)
U.S. Rt 50 & Almshouse Road, Trappe
Trappe quad, 1942, PR 1974

Landing Neck
Ch. 6

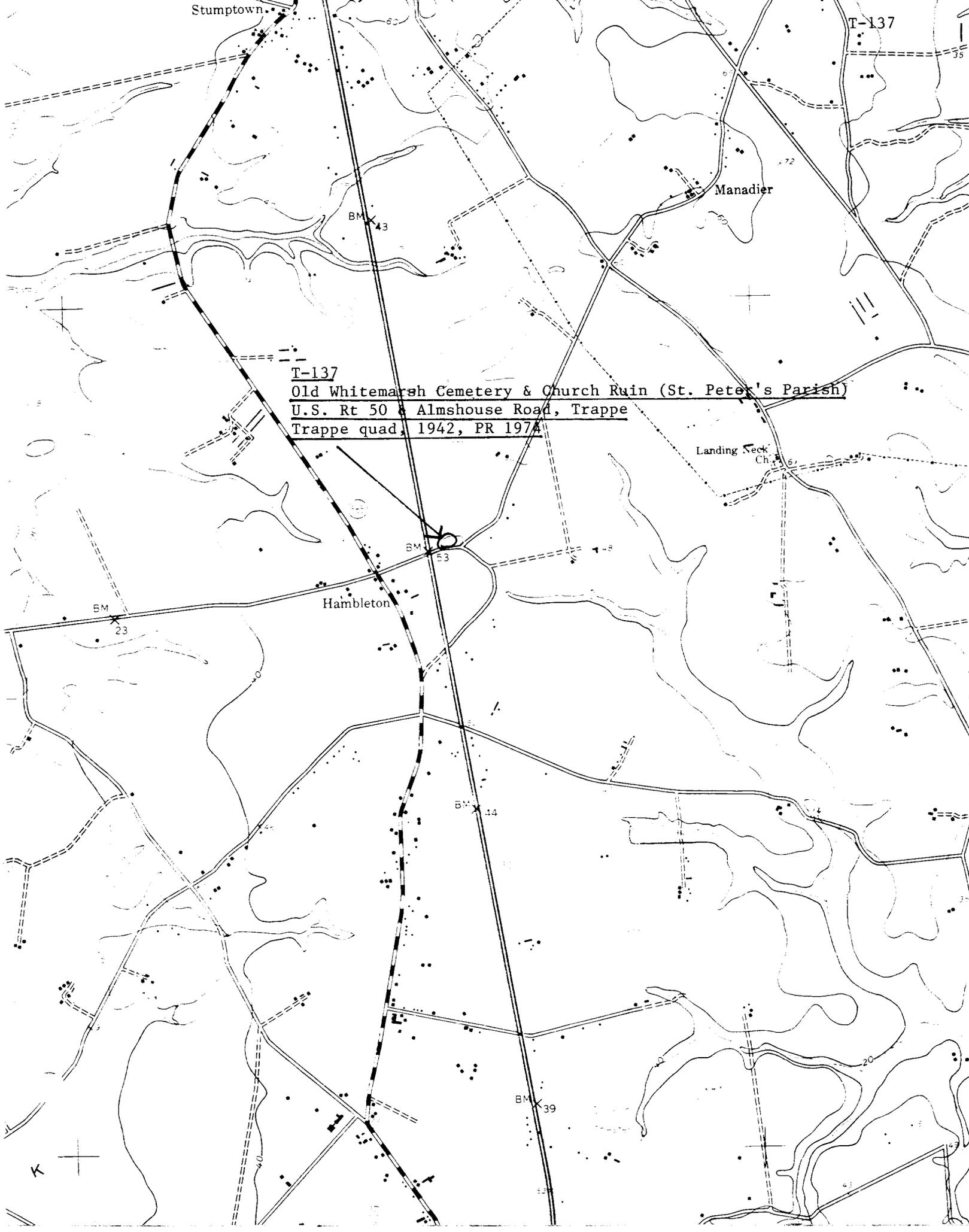
Hambleton

BM
23

BM
53

BM
14

BM
39





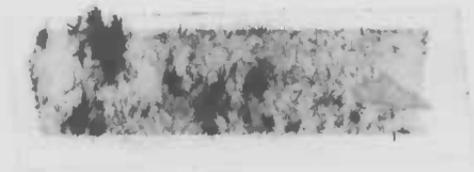
30 x 1.35

50%

137

White Marsh Church Ruin

T-137



S. elev.

M. Bourne 1/76



Old Whitmarsh Cemetery

T-137

