

S-16

Manokin Presbyterian Church
Princess Anne
public workshop

1765, 1871-72, 1888

The history of the Manokin Presbyterian Church occupies an important place in the development of the Presbyterian Church in Somerset County as well as Colonial America. In 1672, a group of Presbyterians who had settled on the lower Eastern Shore petitioned the Grand Jury of Somerset County for a civil permit to hold services of worship and to have their own minister. The permission was granted, and Robert Maddox was called by the Grand Jury to preach on the third Sunday of each month, at the home of Christopher Nutter at the head of the Manokin River, the current site of the church. In 1683 Reverend Francis Makemie arrived from Ireland at the request of Colonel William Stevens of Rehoboth. Under his leadership the congregations at Rehoboth, Manokin, Pitts Creek, Snow Hill and Wicomico were organized.

The first ordained minister of the Manokin church was the Reverend Thomas Wilson, whose name appears in the Somerset County land records as early as 1685 when Wilson purchased 130 acres of "Turner's Purchase." Wilson continued to serve the Manokin congregation until his death in 1702.

By the mid eighteenth century, the session deemed it necessary to replace the church. In 1764, the building was described as, "decayed in almost every part and not worth repairing, and that it is too small to contain the people that often attend." As a result the congregation decided to, "build a new one of Brick 50 by 40 in the clear, sixteen feet from the water table to the plate, to be covered with Cyprus shingles, to have a gallery at each end for Negroes with such windows, doors, and other matters as shall be convenient." In January of 1765, Samuel Wilson submitted a bid for the construction of the new church at £ 790, but the sum proved too costly and the structure was completed for £ 600. As evidenced by the extant building, the south and east Flemish bond walls were treated with glazed header highlights in a checkerboard pattern, and two arched doors were fixed in the south side on either side of the center window. A pre-1872 photograph of the church and the reworked south wall document the former arrangement. In 1872 the eighteenth-century church was heavily rebuilt by raising the roof and turning the orientation east/west. The two south doors were converted to windows, and an east end door was cut through. Inside, the old box pews were removed along with the galleries. Finally in 1888, a three-story entrance and bell tower were attached to the east gable end.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

5-16 15
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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Manokin Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER West side of North Somerset Avenue, one mile south of
intersection with Md. Rte. 362

CITY, TOWN

Princess Anne

-- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

-- VICINITY OF

CODE
24

COUNTY

Somerset

CODE
039**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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Manokin Presbyterian Church c/o Mrs. Robert H. Johnson, Clerk of Session

STREET & NUMBER

North Somerset Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Princess Anne

-- VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Somerset County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Somerset Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Princess Anne

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

S-16

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Manokin Presbyterian Church is situated on the west side of North Somerset Avenue, one mile south of its intersection with Maryland Route 362, in Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. It is a 1½-story brick structure with a three-story entrance tower on the east end. The walls of the main section were built in 1765 and the tower was added in 1888. A small extension to the rear of the building was made in the remodeling of 1872-1873.

The main body of the church has three windows on the south wall and two on the north one. There are windows on each side of the entrance tower on the east end. All of these have double-hung sash with diamond-patterned leaded glass. In the west end are two window openings with segmental arches that are presently bricked in. The brick of this section of the church was laid in Flemish bond with a single row of headers forming the arches over the windows. A new chimney stack stands on the north side of the building, probably housing a furnace flue. The building has a bracketed cornice and a belt course that stretches between the ends of the cornice on both the east and the west facades. The roof of this section, presently covered with asbestos shingles, was raised in the 1872 remodeling, creating the present steep A-roof. There are two shed roof dormers on each slope of the roof, containing small stained glass windows.

Also in the 1872 remodeling, a small addition was built on the rear of the building. It is one-story with a gable roof that imitates the pitch of the main roof and has stained glass windows with segmental arches and arched transoms on either side.

The entrance tower was added in 1888. It has three storys which are divided by belt courses, a stepped one between the first and second floors and a bracketed one (formed by bricks) between the second and third and at the top. On the first floor there is a stained glass window, the Makemie Memorial window, in the east wall. It was added in 1922. In the north and south walls are the entrances, each containing double doors with three inset panels of horizontal boards and arched transoms. On the second floor there is a window in each wall of the same type as those in the main section. There are two louvered vents in each face of the third story. Projecting corner piers of brick rise for several courses above the hip roof. All of the openings on this facade have brick arches over them consisting of three rows of headers.

The entrance was originally on the south side and the high pulpit on the north. There were galleries for the slaves and Negro servants who attended the church. In 1872, however, the church was completely remodeled, enlarged by twenty feet, the entrance changed, the roof raised, the galleries removed and the pulpit moved from the north side to the west end. The present arrangement of the interior, with two

see continuation sheet #1

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Somerset County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

side aisles and pews facing west, was established at this time. The wooden floors are from this period.

The church sits directly by the street with the cemetery spreading out on its south and west sides.

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"/> 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 checked="" 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 1765, 1871-2, 1888 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Manokin Presbyterian Church is one of the first organized Presbyterian Churches established in America. In 1672, a group of Presbyterians who had settled on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, petitioned the Grand Jury of Somerset County for a civil permit to hold services of worship and to have their own minister. The permission was granted and Robert Maddox was called by the Grand Jury to preach on the third Sunday of each month, at the home of Christopher Nutter, 'at the head of the Manokin River', the present site.

In 1680 a request was sent by Colonel Stevens of Rehobeth to the Presbytery at Laggan, Ireland, for an ordained minister, and three years later, in answer to that request, the Reverend Francis Makemie, a 25 year old, recently ordained minister, arrived in Somerset County. Under his leadership, this church, and those at Rehobeth, Pitts Creek, Snow Hill, and Wicomico were organized."*

Francis Makemie was born in County Donegal, Ireland, of Scottish parents in 1658. He was ordained at the Laggan Presbytery in 1682 and arrived in Maryland the following year. He moved about frequently and was located in North Carolina in 1683-84, Virginia in 1684-85, back to the Eastern Shore in 1690-91, and in 1696-98 in Barbados. He was a strong supporter of the Westminster Confession and defended the Presbyterians from Quaker attack. In Maryland he primarily served in Snow Hill and at Rehobeth Church. He was in England from 1702 to 1704. He returned to America with four others to establish the American Presbytery of which he was the first moderator. (Dictionary of American Biography, Vol.X, p.11,215,1933).

"The first ordained minister of Manokin was the Reverend Thomas Wilson, and to him should be given much credit for the success of the church in its early beginnings."

The very early session records of the church were lost in a fire at the home of the Reverend William Stewart.

"In 1764 the building located on this spot, described in early records, as a 'plain country building', was, according to Session minutes, 'found to be decayed in almost every part, and too small for the number to attend', and in 1765 a brick building was erected, the walls of which are those of the present building. This brick building had two

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CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

doors on the south side, the high pulpit on the North, galleries for the colored servants who attended, and box-shaped pews. In 1872 the church was completely remodeled, enlarged by approximately 20 feet, the entrance changed, the roof raised, the galleries removed, and the arrangement of the interior made to resemble its present appearance. Since that time, many improvements have been added to the building, most noteworthy of which is the Makemie Memorial window which appears in the vestibule, dedicated in 1922, but every effort has been made to retain the historicity of the appearance of the building. In the last few months, the exterior of the church has been newly painted to restore its original appearance, a new heating system installed, the interior of the church completely redecorated, and a new carpet laid."

* All quoted paragraphs are from: Rev. W.W. Williams, et. al. "Celebrating the 280th anniversary of preaching on this ground, 1672-1952." Program, October 8&9, 1952, Manokin Presbyterian Church, Princess Anne, Md.

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Somerset TOWN Princess Anne VICINITY STREET NO. N. Somerset Avenue ORIGINAL OWNER Manokin Presbyterian Church ORIGINAL USE Church PRESENT OWNER Manokin Presbyterian Church PRESENT USE Church WALL CONSTRUCTION Flemish Bond Brick NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY 2. NAME Manokin Presbyterian Church DATE OR PERIOD 1765 - Tower 1888 STYLE Georgian altered to Victorian ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC yes

This building is a rectangle, 1 1/2 storeys high of Flemish bond brick with glazed headers. The red brick has a very soft pleasing tone. There is a simple watertable of protruding square brick around the building. It is three bays wide with a central door now covered with a tower which was added in 1888. The building is 3 bays deep. All of the windows have rounded arches of a single row of headers. On the front and back ends there is a belt course between the first storey and the gables. A small nave projects from the rear and was added in 1888.

The interior is all Victorian. In 1872 - 1873 the church was renovated. The slave galleries were ripped out, the pulpit was moved from the north side to the west end, and new pews were installed. At this time all of the leaded glass in the windows and all the present interior decoration were installed. A most amazing gas chandelier (now electric) of mirrors, prisms and brass, probably also dates from this renovation.

There is a clear line of old versus new brick on the gable ends of the building which makes it possible that the present "A" roof was a Victorian alteration and the original roof may have been a hipped one.

This church is a very attractive one set in a grove of tall trees with a very interesting cemetery containing many good Victorian stones.

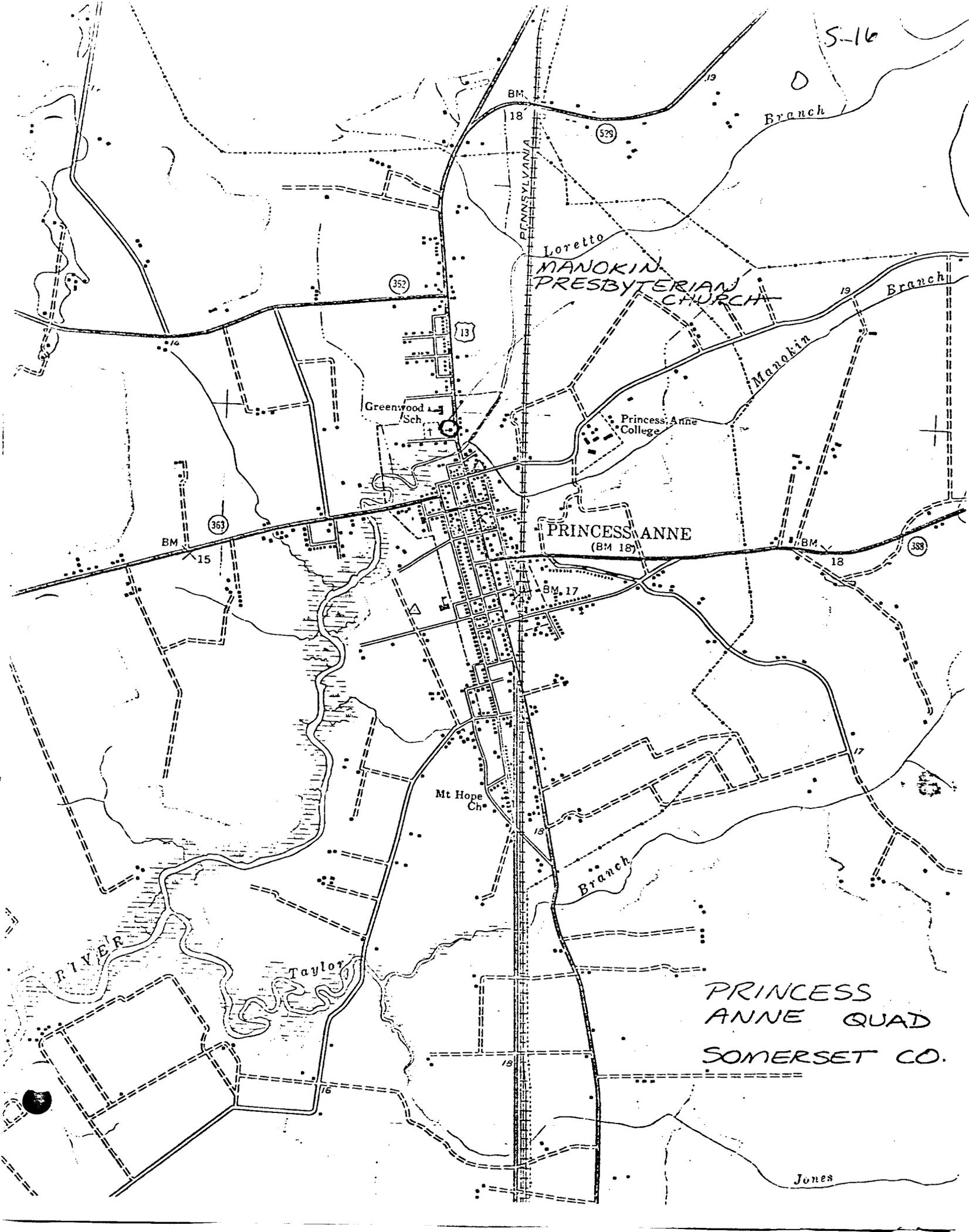
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endongered Interior Exterior well kept up

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
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8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Paul A. Brinkman DATE OF RECORD August 1, 1967
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

5-16

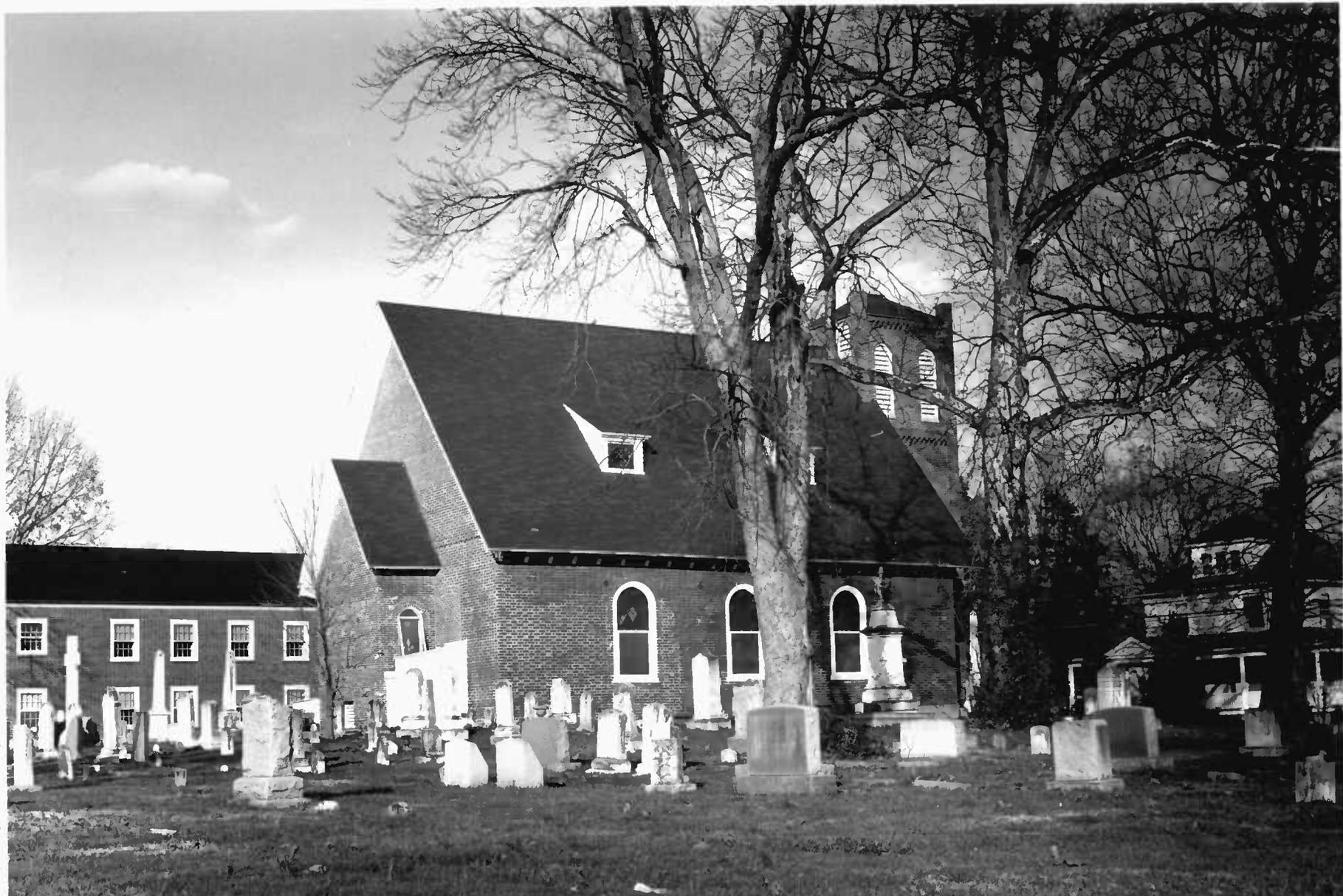


MANOKIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PRINCESS ANNE (BM 18)

PRINCESS ANNE QUAD
SOMERSET CO.

Jones



S-11 MAURKIN PRESBYTER

2

S-16 MAJOKIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*J. D. Simpkins
Natural Color Photos
Princess Anne, Md. 21853*



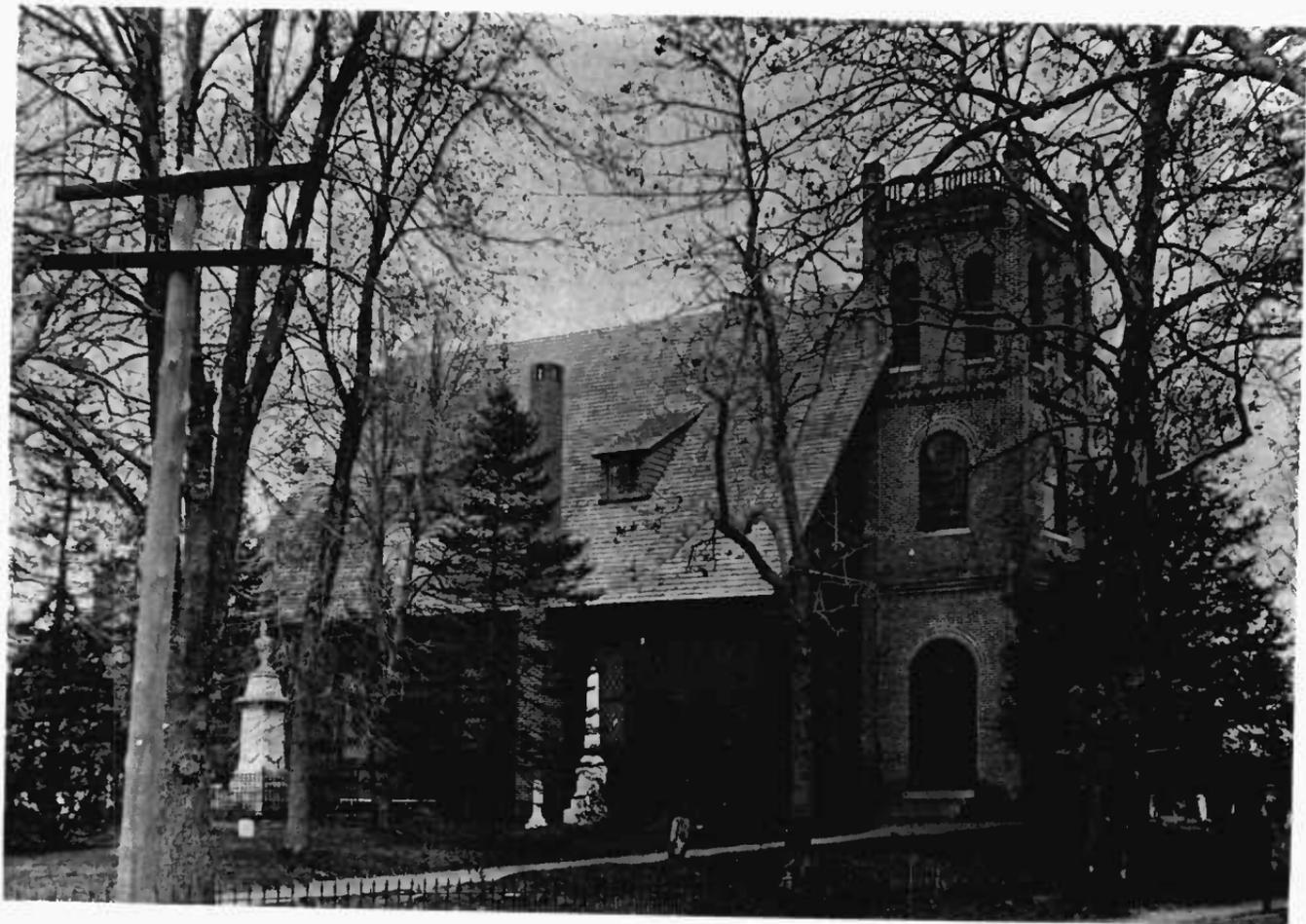
Manokin Presbyterian Church 5-16

60



Old Presbyterian Church

Manokin Presbyterian Church S-16
South Elevation, Documentary, c. 1870-1880
Princess Anne, Somerset County
Photographer-Unknown
Collection of W. Marshall Scott
Copied 1984 Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Hist. Trust



Manokin Presbyterian Church S-16
South Elevation, Documentary c. 1900
Photographer- Brown
Collection of W. Marshall Scott
Copied 1984 Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Hist. Trust