

WO-130

c. 1870 and earlier

St. Mary's Episcopal Church parish house

Furnacetown

Public

St. Mary's Episcopal Church parish house is an unusual Gothic Revival frame building that was relocated to Furnacetown property northwest of Snow Hill around 1980. Its original location on Third Street in Pocomoke City was directly across the street from St. Mary's Episcopal Church. The three-part frame structure now serves as exhibit space at the iron furnace park museum. Distinguished by its gable front and pointed arch openings, the interior is noteworthy as well for its vaulted beaded board ceiling. Attached to the back of the main block is an early building, reported to have been used as a school by the Episcopal church. The earlier sash with nine-over-nine windows suggests the early to mid nineteenth century date. The third and shortest section appears to be a late nineteenth century addition.

The history of St. Mary's Episcopal Church includes the construction of a small church school, and it apparently opened for instruction on April 3, 1848 with Mrs. Sarah Sarah L. Love serving as the initial teacher. The church history relates the building was moved across what is now Third Street to a lot that had been given to the church by Sallie Jones. The early to mid nineteenth century features of the center section agree with this tradition.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: St. Mary's Church Parish Hall

MHT Inventory Number: W0-130

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Religion

2) Geographic Orientation:

Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1815-1870 Agricultural-Industrial Transition

4) Resource Type(s):

1. Standing Structure

a. Parish House

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-130
Magi No. 2401304503
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common ST. MARY'S CHURCH PARISH HALL

2. Location

street & number South side of Furnacetown Road not for publication

city, town Furnacetown vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. W0-~~205~~ 130

Condition		Check one	Check one		
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move	e. 1980
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed				

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

St. Mary's Episcopal church parish house is a single-story, three-part frame building located at Furnacetown in the vicinity of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The parish house formerly stood in Pocomoke City and was relocated on the furnace property around 1980. The parish house currently faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Supported by a concrete block pier foundation, the weatherboarded parish house consists of three distinct parts. The front section, dating to around 1870, appears to have been an addition to the center section which is an early nineteenth-century one-room structure. The third section dates evidently to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The three sections descend in height from front to back and are covered by asphalt shingle roofs.

The west (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking windows. The four-panel door is marked by diagonal and vertical beaded board panels, and fixed above the entrance is a Gothic arched six-pane transom. The six-over-six sash windows to each side are also topped by fixed Gothic arched windows as well. The louvered shutters that flank the windows retain wrought iron strap hinges. Extending past the wall surface are the eaves which are finished as the base with short returns. The north and south walls of the main block are pierced by single six-over-six sash windows also fitted with louvered shutters hung on wrought-iron strap hinges.

The east wall of the main block is largely covered by the earlier single-story, two-bay center section which is lighted from the north and south by pairs of nine-over-nine sash windows with single board-and-batten shutters. The boxed cornice above is trimmed with bed and crown moldings.

The third and shortest section is a one-bay by one-bay frame office with a small two-over-two sash window piercing the south wall and paired two-over-two sash windows light the office from the east. The gable end is flush.

The interior of the two front sections is consistently fitted with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded board wainscoting and vaulted beaded board ceilings. Four-panel doors permit passage between rooms.

8. Significance

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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 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

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.

St. Mary's Episcopal church parish house is an unusual Gothic Revival frame building relocated on the Furnacetown property north of Snow Hill. Originally located in Pocomoke City, the three-part frame building was moved to its present site around 1980, and it is now used for exhibit space and an office. The gable-front principal elevation is most noteworthy with its repetitive Gothic arched entrance and flanking windows. Attached to the back of the main block is an early nineteenth-century one-room plan section that evidently stood independently before the front block was attached around 1870. The interior of the former parish house is distinctive as well with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded board wainscoting and a vaulted beaded board ceiling. The third section was added as a small kitchen for the parish house.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. W0-~~225~~ 130

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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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	Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian		
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organization	Worcester County	date	5/8/88
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street & number	Worcester County Courthouse	telephone	301-632-1194
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city or town	Snow Hill	state	MD 21863
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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

WO-130
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PARISH
HOUSE
Snow Hill, MD Quadrangle, 1966

4279
12'30"

4277

4276

4275

5866 II NE
(DIVIDING CREEK)

