

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Buckingham Presbyterian Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 20 South Main Street

not for publication

city, town Berlin

vicinity of

congressional district

1st

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 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 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 Buckingham Presbyterian Church

street & number 20 South Main Street

telephone no.: 301-641-0234

city, town Berlin

state and zip code

MD 21811

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse

liber

street & number

Market Street

folio

city, town

Snow Hill

state

MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. W0-201

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 of move _____
<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.

Buckingham Presbyterian Church, built in 1905, is a stone structure of complex form with a three-story bell tower, situated near the south end of the Berlin's downtown commercial area on South Main Street. The principle facade is characterized by an irregularly shaped slate roof, cross gables, gothic-style stained glass windows and castellated parapets.

The principle entrance is located in the base of the square bell tower at the northeast corner of the church, the double doors sheltered by a small gable roof with brackets. The main sanctuary is octagonal in shape, occupying the north end of the building, three by three bays. Its wooden ceiling is braced and coffered. Large stained glass windows occupy the center bays.

The south end of the building is a large Sunday School room separated from the sanctuary by a series of tall paneled wooden doors with pressed glass lights. On the south end, a three-sided bay contains stained glass windows in the Gothic style. An entrance to this section of the church is located on the principle facade and has horizontal paneled doors sheltered by a shed roof and knee braces.

The church is built of coursed, ashlar-cut granite. Castellated parapets occur around the bell tower and south end. A coved sandstone belt course is located at the top of the windows on the principle facade and south end, as well as the base of louvered gothic arch openings in the bell tower. Window sills are sandstone.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-201

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This church structure is an important part of Berlin's historic district, occupying a site that is transitional between commercial and residential areas. The following history was obtained from the church:

Buckingham Church, historically a branch of the Snow Hill Church founded by Francis Makemie in 1683, has existed in Berlin since the 18th century. The first church building, a wooden one, was located at the site of Buckingham cemetery at the southern end of Berlin's South Main Street. This structure was replaced by a brick building completed in 1784 which is said to have been demolished by a snowstorm January 18, 1857.

A three-room frame church building was erected in 1859 on the site of the present church. This was destroyed in Berlin's disastrous 1904 fire. The present structure, part of Berlin's massive rebuilding after that fire, was completed in 1905 and dedicated in 1906.

Prominent Berlin families have worshipped in this church, which records among its members, Calvin B. Taylor, found of the bank.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-201

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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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 Page Hammond

organization Berlin Historic District Commission date November, 1985

street & number 313 South Main Street telephone 641-0773

city or town Berlin 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
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21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438