Capsule Summary
SM-862
St. Joseph's Hall
Morganza
Private 1907

St. Joseph's Hall, constructed in 1907, is a one story, gable front, frame building located on the south side of St. Joseph's Church (SM-79) in the rural crossroads community of Morganza, Maryland (Beitzell, 268). As the site of church functions ranging from dances to carnivals, the hall has provided the local Catholic community with a sorely needed meeting place. It also represents a contributing building to the larger undocumented Morganza Survey District. Despite the artificial exterior sheathing and partial replacement of windows, the building retains much of its character and function. Further documentation should include a more thorough architectural analysis and oral history surrounding the events that occurred there.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-862

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	St. Joseph's Hall
other	

2. Location

street and number	Behind St. Joseph's Church, W of int. of Colton's Point & Pt. Lookout Rds.	__	not for publication
city, town	Morganza	__	vicinity
county	St. Mary's		

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

name	James Hickey, Archbishop of Washington				
street and number	No address given			telephone	N/a
city, town	Morganza	state	Md	zip code	20660

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	St. Mary's County Courthouse	tax map and parcel	TM-18, P-34		
city, town	Leonardtown	liber	EBA 3	folio	504

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

_____ Contributing Resource in National Register District
_____ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
_____ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
_____ Recorded by HABS/HAER
_____ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
_____ Other:_____

6. Classification

Category
_____district
__x__building(s)
_____structure
_____site
_____object

Ownership
_____public
__x__private
_____both

Current Function
_____agriculture
_____commerce/trade
_____defense
_____domestic
_____education
_____funerary
_____government
_____health care
_____industry
_____landscape
_____recreation/culture
__x__religion
_____social
_____transportation
_____work in progress
_____unknown
_____vacant/not in use
_____other:

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
__1__	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
__1__	_____	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
__0__

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-862

Condition

___ excellent ___ deteriorated
x__ good ___ ruins
___ fair ___ altered

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

St. Joseph's Hall is located on the south side of Point Lookout Road just west of the intersection between Point Lookout and Colton's Point Road near Morganza, Maryland. Oriented on a north/south axis, the hall is situated on a southward sloping four-acre parcel that also includes St. Joseph's Church (SM-79) which lies to the north. The parcel is bounded to the east by a vacant parcel, to the west and south by a farm, and to the north by Point Lookout Road.

St. Joseph's Hall is a one story, gable-front, frame building with a gable roof. Resting on a concrete foundation, the hall's exterior walls are clad with aluminum siding and the roof is sheathed with decorative pressed-metal shingles.

The primary or north elevation features a flat roofed, three bay extension. The fenestration of this extension includes a set of paired, paneled doors flanked on either side by a modern one-over-one, double-hung sash window. The doors are sheltered by a gable roof portico supported by two turned posts. The main block, meanwhile, features a one-over-one window lying on either side of the extension. The upper portions of the elevation exhibits two louvered openings presumably for the ventilation of the attic. A large cross adorns the peak of the gable front and cornice returns further accentuate the elevation.

The west side of the hall is pierced by two sets of five windows. Each of these sets consist of five, six-over-six windows. Two six-over-six windows flank these sets of windows. The basement appears to be pierced by a number of openings, further suggesting it may be functional.

No other elevations were documented.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-862

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
__ 1600-1699	__ agriculture	__ economics	__ health/medicine	__ performing arts
__ 1700-1799	__ archeology	__ education	__ industry	__ philosophy
1800-1899	x architecture	__ engineering	__ invention	__ politics/government
x 1900-1999	__ art	__ entertainment/ recreation	__ landscape architecture	x religion
__ 2000-	__ commerce	__ ethnic heritage	__ law	__ science
	__ communications	__ exploration/ settlement	__ literature	__ social history
	__ community planning		__ maritime history	__ transportation
	__ conservation		__ military	__ other:

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

_____ National Register _____Maryland Register ____x____not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

St. Joseph's Hall, constructed in 1907, is a one story, gable front, frame building located on the south side of St. Joseph's Church (SM-79) in the rural crossroads community of Morganza, Maryland (Beitzell, 268). As the site of church functions ranging from dances to carnivals, the hall has provided the local Catholic community with a sorely needed meeting place. It also represents a contributing building to the larger undocumented Morganza Survey District. Despite the artificial exterior sheathing and partial replacement of windows, the building retains much of its character and function. Further documentation should include a more thorough architectural analysis and oral history surrounding the events that occurred there.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-862

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

Beitzell, Edwin Warfield. The Jesuit Missions of St. Mary's County, Maryland. 3rd ed. Leonardtown, MD: St. Mary's County Historical Society, 1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	4 acres		
Acreage of historical setting	4 acres		
Quadrangle name	Mechanicsville	Quadrangle scale:	1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The parcel is bounded to the east by a vacant parcel, to the west and south by a farm, and to the north by Point Lookout Road. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber EBA 3, Folio 504.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

and published by the Geological Survey

USC&GS

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ographs taken 1952. Field check 1953

C hart 539 dated 1951

1927 North American datum
d on Maryland coordinate system

are shown in brown

Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
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1°03'
19 MILS

UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCALE 1:24

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Morganza
St. Mary's County
Mechanicsville Quad

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SM-862

St. Joseph Hall

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

Sept/00

MJ 5-10

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