

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-2632**

**St. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church**

**1620 Reisterstown Road**

**Baltimore, Baltimore County**

**1927**

**Private**

St. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church is representative of many high-style Gothic Revival churches constructed in towns throughout Baltimore County during the first half of the 20th century. The church, which was constructed in 1927 to replace an earlier building on the same site, accompanies an early 20th century Gothic Revival style chapel and an 1878 rectory. The Episcopal congregation of St. Mark's on the Hill organized in 1876 and soon occupied a building that was constructed in 1869 by the local Presbyterian congregation. From the Presbyterians, the property passed to the local congregation of the Southern Methodist church. It was this latter group that conveyed the land to the St. Mark's congregation. The Episcopalians occupied the building until the early 20th century, when it was replaced by a Gothic Revival style church of stone construction. The group, however, continued to make use of the late 19th century rectory to the west of the church.

The complex of buildings at 1620 Reisterstown Road includes two stone churches that date to the 1920s, one late 19th century rectory, and one late 20th century garage. The primary structure on the property is the large Gothic Revival style church that dates to 1927. The two-story coursed rubble stone building features a complex footprint and front gable roof clad in slate tiles. One coursed rubble stone chimney is located at the intersection of the main block and the one-story east wing. The façade, or west elevation, is composed of the front-gabled main block and the one-story side-gabled west wing. Entry into the building is through the west elevation of the west wing, which is pierced by one beaded-diagonal-board double-leaf wood door with beaded diagonal board in the pointed-arch tympanum. A large pointed-arch stained glass window with Gothic Revival style carved stone tracery and mullions dominates the main block of the church. This window has a carved stone surround and sill. The parapeted gable peak of the main block is pierced by one rectangular louvered metal ventilator with a stone surround.



## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2632

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 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.

Established in the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the complex of church-affiliated buildings now located at 1620 Reisterstown Road includes two churches that date to the 1920s, one late 19<sup>th</sup> century rectory, and one late 20<sup>th</sup> century garage. The primary structure on the property is the large Gothic Revival style church that dates to 1927. The two-story coursed rubble stone building features a complex footprint and front gable roof clad in slate tiles. One coursed rubble stone chimney is located at the intersection of the main block and the one-story east wing. The façade, or west elevation, is composed of the front-gabled main block and the one-story side-gabled west wing. Entry into the building is through the west elevation of the west wing, which is pierced by one beaded-diagonal-board double-leaf wood door with beaded diagonal board in the pointed-arch tympanum. The doorway features an ornately carved stone pointed-arch lintel. A large pointed-arch stained glass window with Gothic Revival style carved stone tracery and mullions dominates the main block of the church. This window has a carved stone surround and sill. The parapeted gable peak of the main block is pierced by one rectangular louvered metal ventilator with a stone surround.

The small Gothic Revival chapel to the south of the larger church dates to 1922. The two-story, three-bay wide coursed rubble stone building is seven bays deep. The front gable roof, which is clad in slate tiles, terminates in a parapet with dressed stone coping on the gable ends of the building. One coursed rubble exterior chimney rises along the west elevation of the building. The façade, or east elevation, is centrally pierced by a segmentally-arched doorway that features a flush-vertical-board double-leaf door with a carved and quoined stone surround. Two multi-light leaded windows with quoined stone surround flank the entry. A group of three multi-light leaded windows with a shared, quoined stone surround pierce the gable field of the façade.

The circa 1878 rectory is a two-and-a-half-story, four-bay-wide dwelling with a hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles. The wood frame building is clad in stucco. One central interior parged chimney rises from the roof. The façade, or south elevation, is dominated by a one-story, four-bay-wide porch with a half-hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles and supported by chamfered wood posts and turned spindle corner brackets. The façade is pierced by four multi-light single-leaf wood doors and four 2/2 vinyl windows. Two gabled dormers with one-light casement windows with one-light round-arched transoms project from the roof.

The garage, which dates to circa 1980, features a cinderblock foundation and board-and-batten-clad wood frame structural system capped by a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The façade is pierced by one paneled roll-up metal door.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-2632

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

**Specific dates** 1876-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1878, 1922, 1927, circa 1980

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

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. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church is representative of many high-style Gothic Revival churches constructed in towns throughout Baltimore County during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The church, which was constructed in 1927 to replace an earlier building on the same site, accompanies an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Gothic Revival style chapel and a rectory, the latter of which was constructed in 1878 for \$3,000.<sup>1</sup>

The Episcopal congregation of St. Mark's on the Hill organized in 1876 and soon occupied a building that was constructed in 1869 by the local Presbyterian congregation on land given to them by James Howard McHenry. From the Presbyterians, the property passed to the local congregation of the Southern Methodist church. It was this latter group that conveyed the land to the St. Mark's congregation. The Episcopalians occupied the building until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, when it was replaced by a Gothic Revival style church of stone construction. The group, however, continued to make use of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century rectory to the west of the church.<sup>2</sup>

The town of Pikesville, located along the Baltimore and Reisterstown Turnpike, dates to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and was established at that time as a military post. The town was already a commercial center in 1877, and it featured a wide array of businesses and other services, including a butcher, carpenter, auctioneer, blacksmith, machinist and four merchants. Additionally, there were two physicians and one hotel listed in the 1877 county atlas.<sup>3</sup> By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the town was densely developed and had a population of 175 inhabitants. In 1881, the town boasted of four churches, public and parochial schools, one private academy, and several

<sup>1</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), pg. 836.

<sup>2</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), pg. 836.

<sup>3</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. BA-2632

Name St. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church, 1620 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, Baltimore County  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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fraternal and benevolent orders.<sup>4</sup> The town continued to expand through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and is now suburb on the north side of the City of Baltimore.

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<sup>4</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), pg. 834.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. BA-2632

*Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.*, Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acres  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Cockeysville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since 1878, the buildings of St. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church have been associated with tax parcel 26 of map 78 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 1, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

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

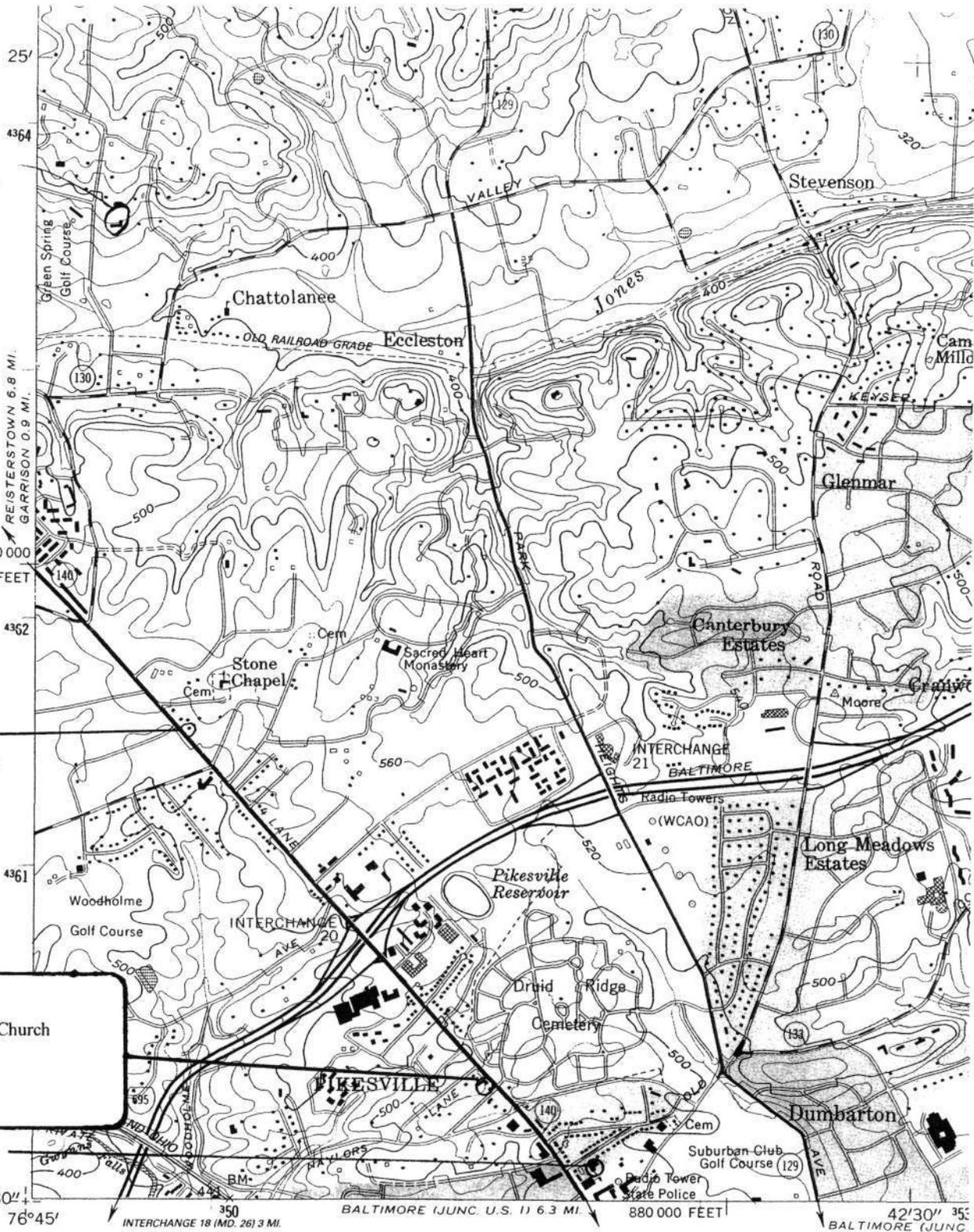
BA-2367  
GLEN OAK

BA-0941  
8919 REISTERSTOWN ROAD  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-2632  
St. Mark's on the Hill Episcopal Church  
1620 Reisterstown Road  
Baltimore, Baltimore County  
USGS Quad Map: Cockeysville

BA-2195  
9 WALKER AVENUE  
BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

ELLICOTT CITY  
5662 IV SE



Mapped by the Army Map Service  
Edited and published by the Geological Survey

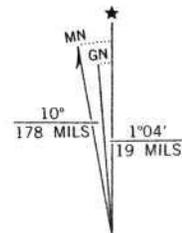
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1943. Field checked 1944  
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Maryland coordinate system  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 7 meters south and 27 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



UTM GRID AND 1986 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



BA-2632

ST. MARK'S ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1620 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

1927 CHURCH, CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

1 of 5



BA-2632

ST. MARK'S ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1620 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

1927 CHURCH, CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

2015



BA-2632

ST. MARK'S ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1620 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

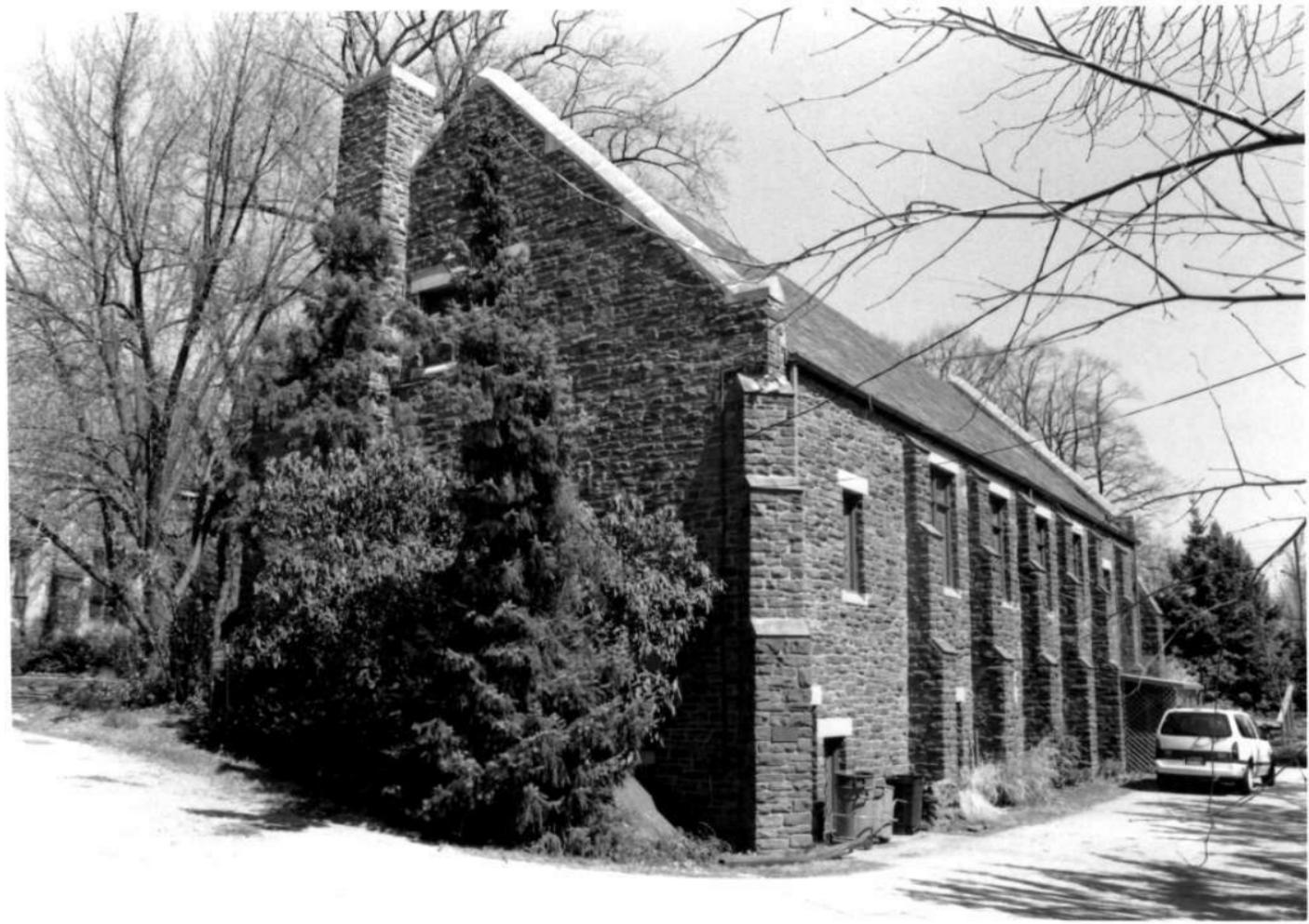
TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

1922 CHURCH, CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

3 of 5



BA-2632

ST. MARKS ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1620 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, BALTIMORE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

1922 CHURCH, CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST.

4 of 5



BA 2632

ST. MARK'S ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1620 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

RECTORY, CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST