B-2970
Old St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (Trinity Baptist Church)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 05-26-2011
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
HISTORIC
Trinity Baptist Church (Old Saint Paul's Lutheran Church)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
1601 Druid Hill Avenue

CITY. TOWN
Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY. TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LIBER 

FOLIO 

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Records Office Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY. TOWN
Baltimore, Maryland

STATE

21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE
1977

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Commission for historic and Architectural Preservation

CITY. TOWN
Baltimore, Maryland

STATE
21202
DESCRIPTION

Foundation and building walls are laid in stretcher bond. Roof is high pitched gable, and tower culminates in four small gable ends. Tower is defined by four diagonal buttresses. With the exception of the lower bay facades the south and west bays of the tower share an identical design. To the south the facade is punctuated by two flat plate glass doors comprising a double door. The doors surmount eight granite steps and a granite stoop and are housed in a recessed lancet arch with granite trim. A wood tympanum surmounts the doors. The corresponding section of the facade facing west is punctuated by a double hung stained glass lancet window with a molded granite window hood and granite sill. Sloping and projecting band courses define the two tower serbaccs and divided it visually into wall areas of roughly equal height. A double hung stained glass lancet punctuate either facade between the two band courses. These windows are accompanied by granite sills and molded granite window hoods. Directly above the second band course either facade is relieved by a granite tondino with an inset of smooth, dark stone. Above these the facades are relieved by twin lancet apertures that house painted wood grilles. Either set is accompanied by a common granite lintel, and carry molded granite window hoods. The gable end of either facade is punctuated by a diamond shaped aperture with a diamond shaped, granite surround. The gable ends are each capped with wood finials.

Five bays defined by six piers articulate the facade facing McMechen Street. Each bay is visually divided into lower and upper portions by a brick band course. Except for the fourth bay from the tower, the lower part of each bay is punctuated by a double window comprised of two flat double hung windows accompanied by half arch brick lintels and granite sills. An entrance portal projects from the fourth bay from the tower. The entrance is capped in a gable end and is punctuated by a flat, plate glass double door surmounted by a wood tympanum. The upper part of each bay is punctuated by a double window comprised of two double hung stained glass lancet windows. Each window is accompanied by a granite sill and a molded granite window hood. Brick corbelling between the piers caps each bay facade.

The gable end facing Druid Hill Avenue is symmetrically organized. An ornamented gable end projects from the facade to house the entrance portal. The gable end is pierced by a lancet arched aperture that houses a flat plate glass double door and flat plate glass transom. The transom is surmounted by a carved wood tympanum. An engaged, three quarter column with a decorative capital flanks either side of the entrance. Diagonally positioned brick piers flank the gable end to either side. These are capped with granite pinnacles. A double flight of five steps lead to a common landing in front of the double doors. A shallow granite wall parallel to the building facade defines the width of the steps and landing. A blind gothic arch relieves the facade to either side of the entrance portal. Another such arch relieves the facade above the entrance gable and within this blind arch. A lancet arched stained glass window punctuates the facade. The window is accompanied by a granite sill and molded granite window hood. Each of the blind arches is decorated with a diamond shaped, granite keystone. Decorative brick corbelling follows the gable just...
below the roofline. The apex of the gable end is capped in a carved stone cross. The subsidiary tower of the Druid Hill Avenue facade projects from the end at about the same depth as the entrance portal. Granite molding visually divides the tower into an upper and lower portion. Both segments of its facade are punctuated by a double hung stained glass lancet window accompanied by a granite sill and lancet arched brick lintel with a granite keystone. Both windows are set into recessed brick panels. The tower is capped with a molded granite cornice surmounted by a granite capped shallow brick battlement wall. The tower roof is flat. The subsidiary tower of the Druid Hill Avenue facade projects from the gable end at about the same depth as the entrance portal. Granite molding visually divides the tower into an upper and lower portion. Both segments of its facade are punctuated by a double hung stained glass lancet window accompanied by a granite sill and lancet arched brick lintel with a granite keystone. Both windows are set into recessed brick panels. The tower is capped with a molded granite cornice surmounted by a granite capped brick shallow battlement wall. The tower roof is flat.
Trinity Baptist Church is one of the few brick churches in the Upton area. It originally housed Old Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, but was sold to a black congregation in the 1920's. The steeple was damaged by fire in 1945.