

Saint Mary's Catholic Church of Petersville
Petersville
Private

St. Mary's Catholic Church is a local landmark of Petersville and is particularly significant as an early Roman Catholic Parish outside of Frederick having been established like its Episcopal counterpart St. Mark's Church by the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

According to local tradition the original founders of the church were Thomas Sim Lee, Governor of Maryland 1779-1782, 1792-94 and his wife, Mary Digges, who lived at the nearby estate of Needwood.

The building which was constructed in 1826 had substantial changes made to the building in the late nineteenth century. One of the most radical changes was the movement of the main entrance from the northwest side of the building to the southeast side. An overhanging porch was also constructed at the time to shelter the main entrance.

Centered at the base of the tower is the original deep paneled entrance with five molded cornice, original wide pegged inset six panel door with transom which has been boarded shut covered by an eight light storm window. Ghostings on the face of the belfry tower wall indicate that there once existed a simple large segmented circular window surrounded by brick headers. Set on top of the brick tower is boxed framing supporting an octagonal frame belfry with eight arched openings and plain three sided wood columns separated by inset panels. An octagonal spire covered with plain wood shingles is kicked out at the base with a beaded boxed column.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Saint Mary's Catholic Church of Petersville

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East Side Catholic Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Petersville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

M 83

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Frederick

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 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME St. Mary's Catholic Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

113 First Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Brunswick

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21716

— VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Frederick County Courthouse

Liber #: CM 8

Folio #: 506

STREET & NUMBER

North Court St.

CITY, TOWN

Frederick

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

8 SIGNIFICANCE

F-2-13

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 1826

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Mary's Catholic Church is a local landmark of Petersville and is particularly significant as an early Roman Catholic Parish outside of Frederick having been established like its Episcopal counterpart St. Mark's Church by the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

According to local tradition the original founders of the church were Thomas Sim Lee, Governor of Maryland 1779-1782, 1792-94 and his wife, Mary Digges, who lived at the nearby estate of Needwood.

According to Bevans, A History of the Catholic Community of the Frederick Valley, the existing building was built in 1826 under the direction of Father McElroy, Rector at St. John's Church in Frederick.¹ It was built on land donated by a "Mr. West" who was probably Thomas H. West, who in 1847 platted part of the town of Petersville.²

¹Bevans, A History of the Catholic Community of the Frederick Valley, p. 27.

²Frederick County Land Records, Liber JS 38; Folio 535.

7. DESCRIPTION

F-2-13

Saint Mary's Catholic Church of Petersville

Centered at the base of the tower is the original deep paneled entrance with five molded cornice, original wide pegged inset six panel door with transom which has been boarded shut covered by an eight light storm window. Ghostings on the face of the belfry tower wall indicate that there once existed a simple entrance porch over this door. Set into the tower at the second level is a large segmented circular window surrounded by brick headers. Set on top of the brick tower is boxed framing supporting an octagonal frame belfry with eight arched openings and plain three sided wood columns separated by inset panels. An octagonal spire covered with plain wood shingles is kicked out at the base with a beaded boxed column. A copper (?) cross stands on top of the spires.

A modern vertical panel frame shed stands at the base of the tower in the northwest corner of the building.

Four bracing rods are located on either side of the tower supporting the northwest gable end. Three bracing rods run through the belfry tower, north to south.

The entire building is slightly banked with a random stone foundation covered by concrete. The roof is covered by a front gable replaced asphalt roof with two stepped brick cornice. A single brick chimney rises from the northwest corner of the building.

The church is surrounded on the north side by a small graveyard.

21 NW
DYSVILLE

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

POINT OF ROCKS
QUAD

77° 37' 30"
39° 22' 30"

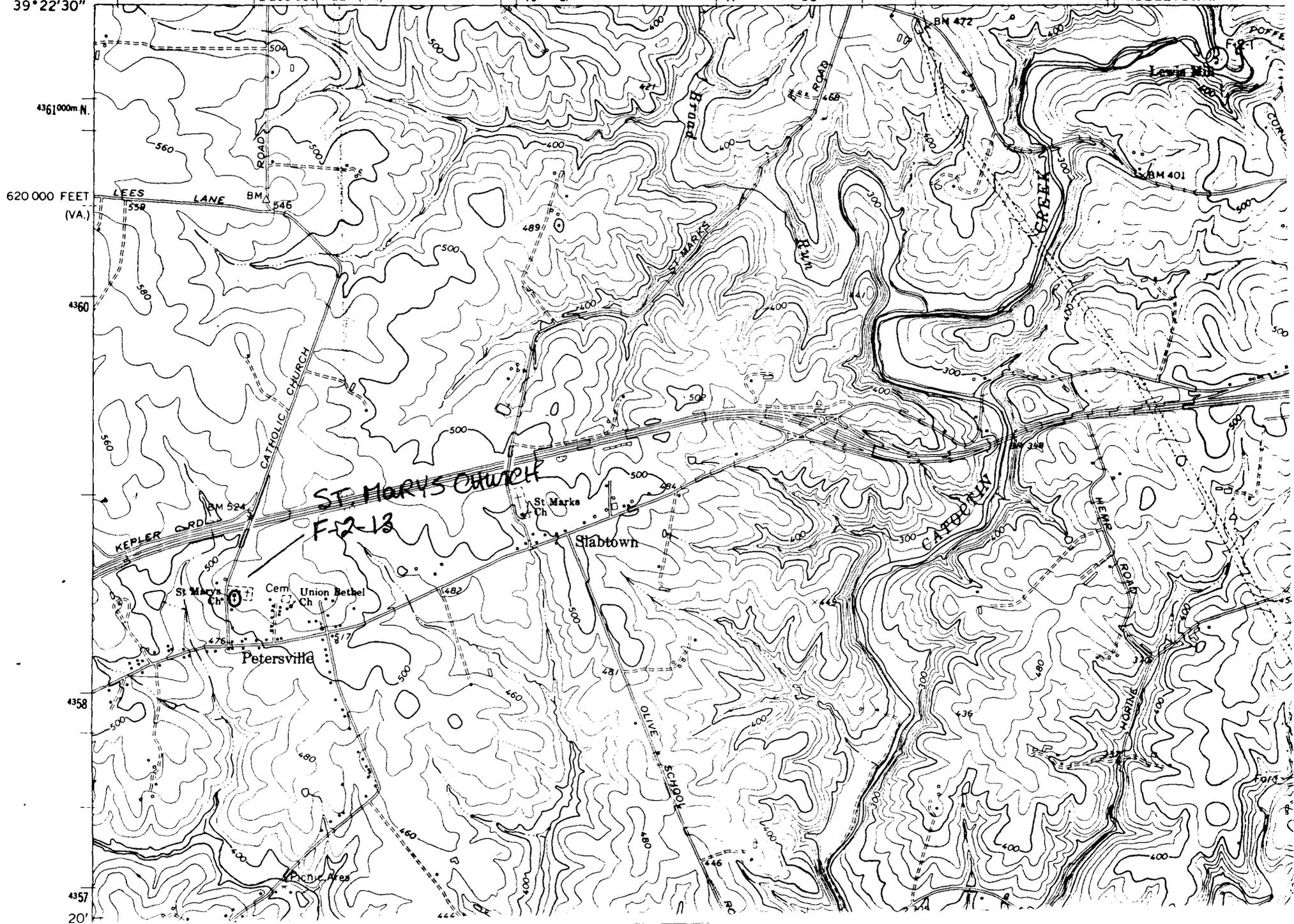
2 250 000 FEET (VA.)

276000m E.

277

35'

5462 1 NE
279 (MIDDLETOWN)





F2-13 ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH

PE/S CATHOLIC CHURCH

RD
SOUTH FIELD

Pekinville

OPEN 6/80



F-2-13 ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
E/S CATHOLIC CHURCH RD
PETTERSVILLE

CEW 6/30

FEAST ELLEN



F-2-13 ST MARKS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

12/S CATHOLIC CHURCH

RD
SOUTH BLEN
Petersville

CRW 6/80