

HA-28

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church (Rock Spring 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: 02-12-2013

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Christ Protestant Episcopal Church Inventory Number: HA-28
Address: Box 215 City: Forest Hill, MD Zip Code: 21050
County: Harford USGS Topographic Map: Jarrettsville
Owner: Vestry of Christ Church, Rock Spring Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes
Tax Parcel Number: 169 Tax Map Number: 40 Tax Account ID Number: 034410
Project: MD 24: Spenceola Parkway to Jarrettsville Road Agency: FHWA/SHA
Site visit by MHT staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property is located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes Name of District: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐ yes

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district) Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:
Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Christ Church was surveyed by Harford County in 1977 and is included in "An Architectural History of Harford County, Maryland" by Christopher Weeks (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Press, 1996). Presumably inclusion in the County's history meant that the County determined it to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, however, there is no formal determination of eligibility.

As noted on the original Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, the Church remains a grey granite, Gothic Revival style building, dating from 1875. The bell tower was added in 1901. It is an integral part of the building, so it has not been surveyed separately. Furthermore its addition strengthens the Gothic Revival style of the building. There are also two outbuildings, one an L-shaped one storey building with a basement on the northeast side of the church while the second is a side gable one storey building which serves as the Parish House. Both buildings have asphalt shingle roofs, and the Parish House is partially clad in stone. These buildings are less than fifty years of age and are not contributing resources to the historic property. However, their construction does not lessen the architectural qualities of the church. The cemetery surrounds the church on three sides, and the graves date from the nineteenth century to the present. Because of the cemetery's relationship with the church, it is included as part of the historic property.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

MHT Comments

Jim Van Curen
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

B. Kuntz
Reviewer, NR Program

8/15/03
Date

8/15/03
Date

200302352

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church

Inventory Number: HA-28

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In the interior, the church has two organs and the choir pews are perpendicular to the body of the church at the back. The walls are painted white throughout the building. Decorative painting includes an example from the nineteenth century using the scripture verse "The Lord is in His Holy Temple" on the chancel wall. There are five memorial windows in the nave of the church. Four of the windows show Biblical scenes which were designed by H.T. Gernhardt and Company Art Glass Works, Baltimore, Maryland.

The Church's setting was at one time rural. However, due to its location in the western part of the county, late twentieth and early twenty-first century commercial and residential development is beginning to surround it. At the present time, the Church retains a large field in the northeast quadrant of the MD 23/MD 24 intersection. The church cemetery provides a buffer between the new developments and the building.

Christ Church is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, architecture, as an excellent example of third quarter nineteenth century Gothic Revival style. Research did not identify associations with Criteria A (events) or B (people) that would also make Christ Church eligible for the National Register under these criteria. Research was not conducted under Criterion D.

Prepared by: Anne E. Bruder, SHA Arch. Hist.

Date Prepared: 05/23/2003

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G ____ None

MHT Comments

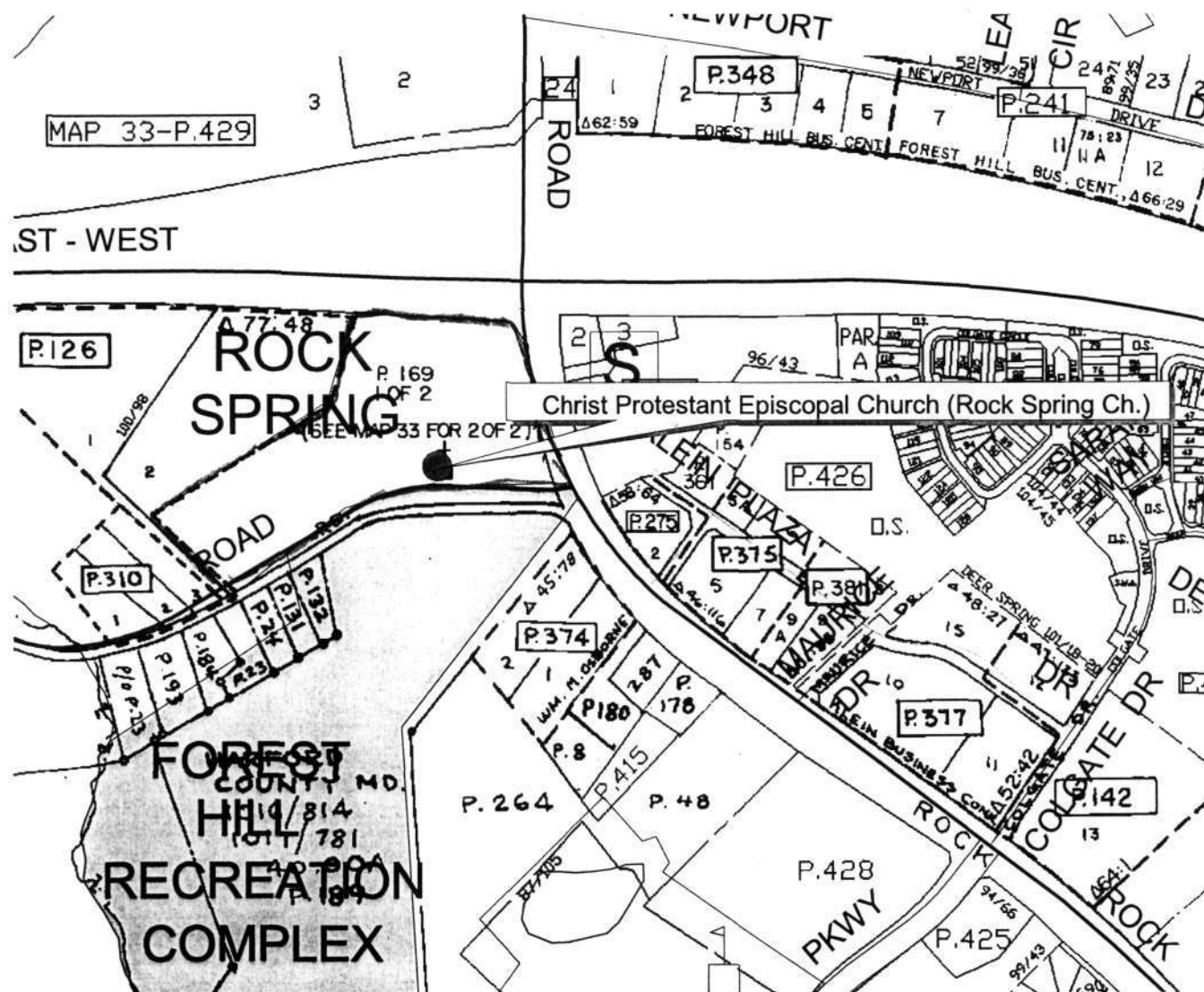
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

Harford County Tax Map 40 with Christ Church bounary outlined

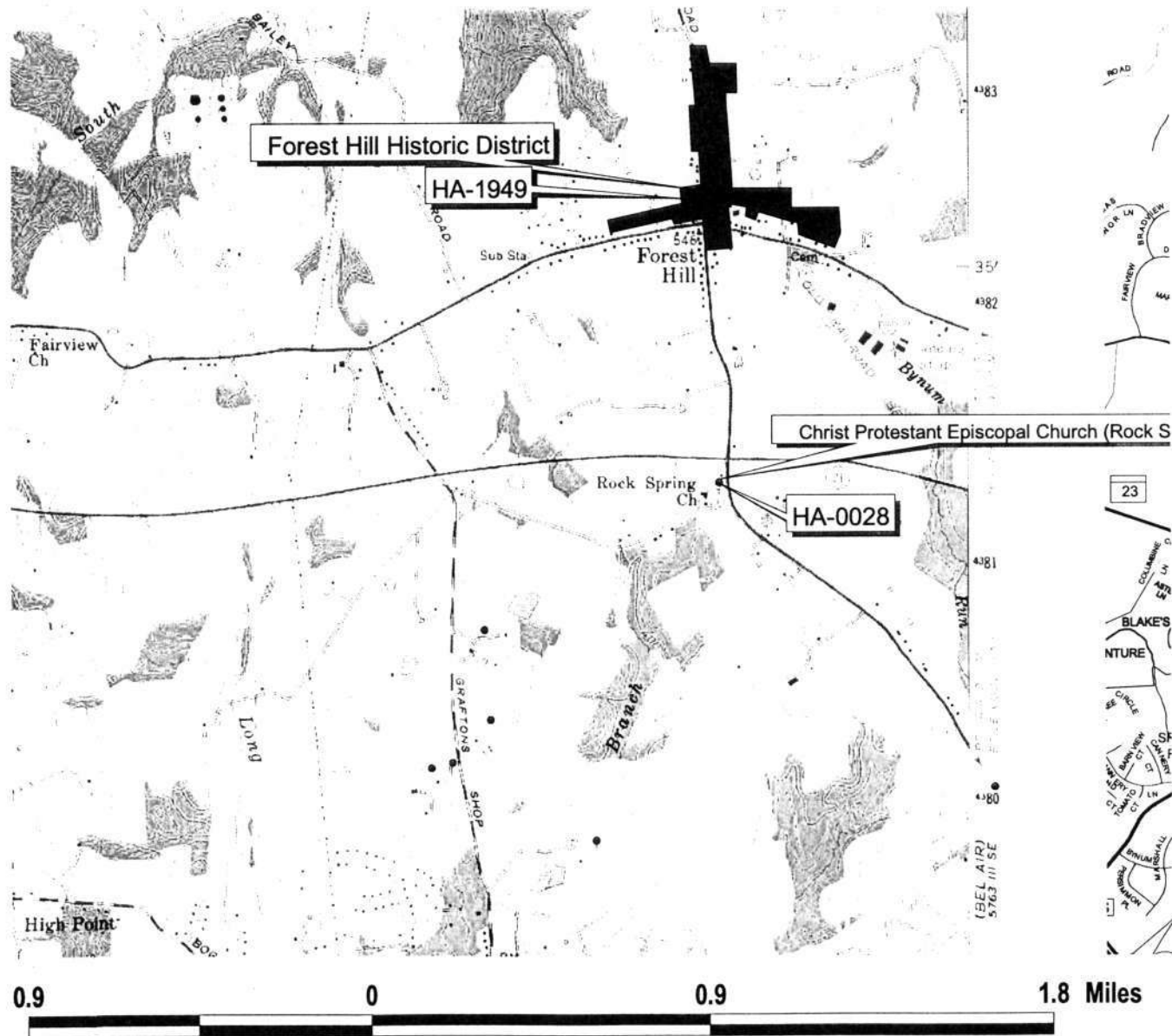


-  Swnrhp3m.shp
-  Mihp.shp
-  USGS Topo Quad Index
-  County

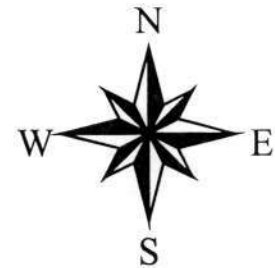


88-28

Jarrettsville USGS Quad



- Swnrhp3m.shp
- Mihp.shp
- USGS Topo Quad Index
- County



HA-28



H&B

CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WAGFORD COUNTY, MD

R. BRUNER

APRIL 2003

VID SHPO

EAST (FRONT) FACADE OF CHURCH
w/ BELL TOWER

X/3

May 8 2011 14:06:25 0611 241



NA-28

CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NAKFOED CO. IND

MAY 8 2003 0075 DEPT 9-1

ARZBUR

4/2003

IND SAFO

CHRIST CHURCH CEMETERY

2/3



NA-28.

CHRIST PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
HICKORY CO, MD.

MEM & BODYPARTS DEPT 21N

A. BENDER

4/2003

MIDSHO

NAME & CHANCEL

3/3.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

Rock Spring Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, Box 215

CITY, TOWN

Forest Hill

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

first

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

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 ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Vestry of Christ Church, Rock Spring

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 215

CITY, TOWN

Forest Hill

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD 21050**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This church faces south and stands on the west side of Rock Spring Road, just north of Rock Spring Church Road.

The original Church structure, built in 1805, was redesigned and rebuilt in 1875 on the original site. The building is made of grey granite. The main structure is rectangular and one story high. Walls are relatively low and thick and support a very steep slate covered roof. The roof has very wide eaves. Three lancets, a taller wider one flanked by two shorter and narrower ones, are located at the center of the south side. The main entrance is now gained through a vertical plank door on the south side of the bell tower, added in 1901.

The tower is grey granite in the Romanesque style. It has louvered, lancet vents.

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 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

rebuilt 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This church, organized in 1805, was originally served by rectors of St. James on the Manor. The Rev. John Coleman, rector of St. James, had much to do with the organization of this church. Mr. Coleman wrote in his diary of 1804 that he was preaching in homes of the Rock Spring neighborhood pending the building of a new church. Mr. Coleman died in 1816 and was succeeded by the Rev. John Reeder Keech, who continued to serve three churches; St. James, St. John's, and Christ Church. In 1821, a request of the congregation was granted making Christ Church a separate parish.

The original building was remodeled in 1875 by changing the walls and roof and rebuilding them to their present form. The tower was erected in 1901.

The church is similar, in some ways, to St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Emmorton, having some aspects of Early English Gothic Revival style. In the Early English manner most windows are tall narrow lancets. The church also has a very steep roof in that same manner. The tower, added in 1901, is Romanesque in style.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Directory; 1953.

Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage; 1967.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10.30

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Church is bordered on the west by the Vestry of Christ Church; on the east by Rt. 24 (Rock Spring Road); and on the south by Rock Spring Church Road.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian

January 20, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Historic District Commission

DATE

838-6000 ext. 207

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

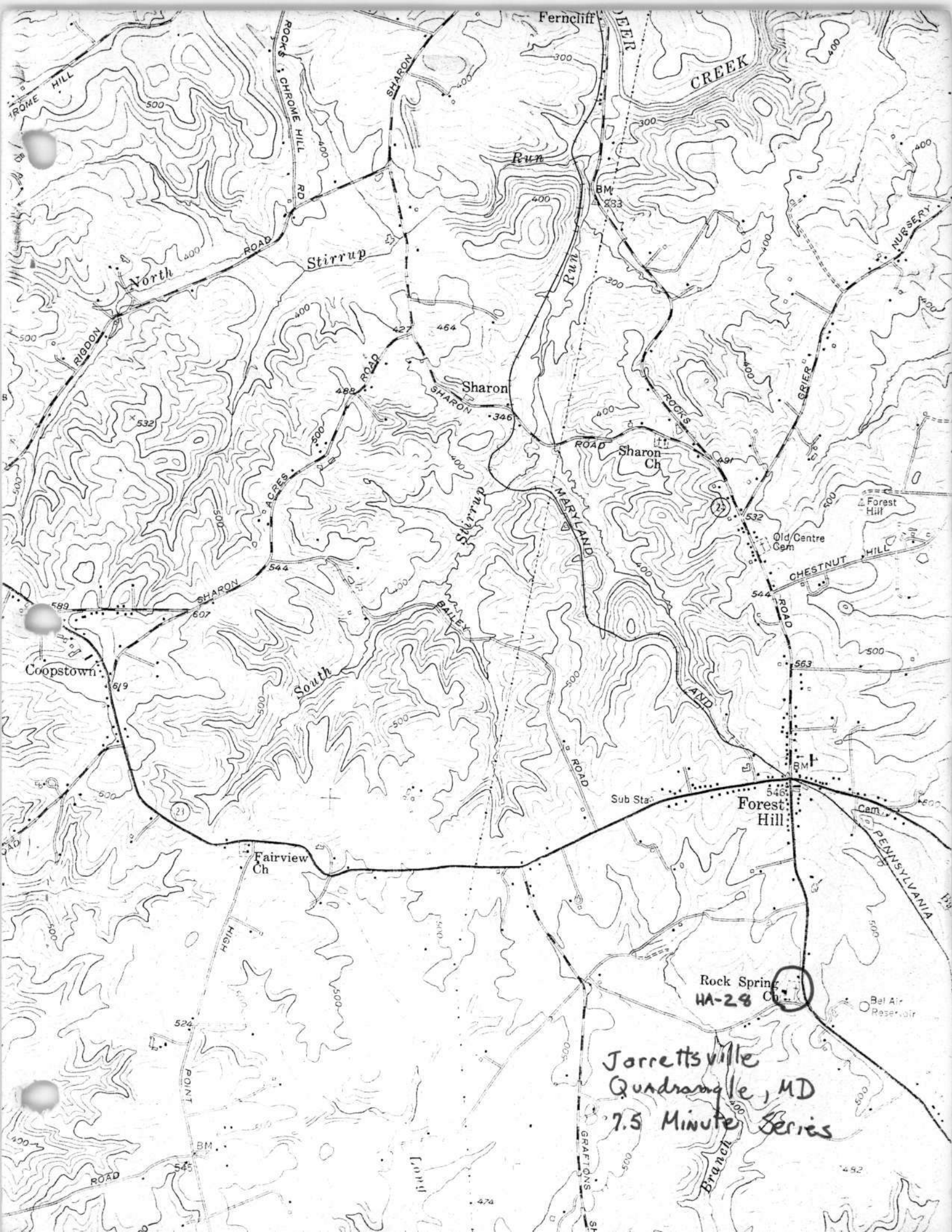
STATE

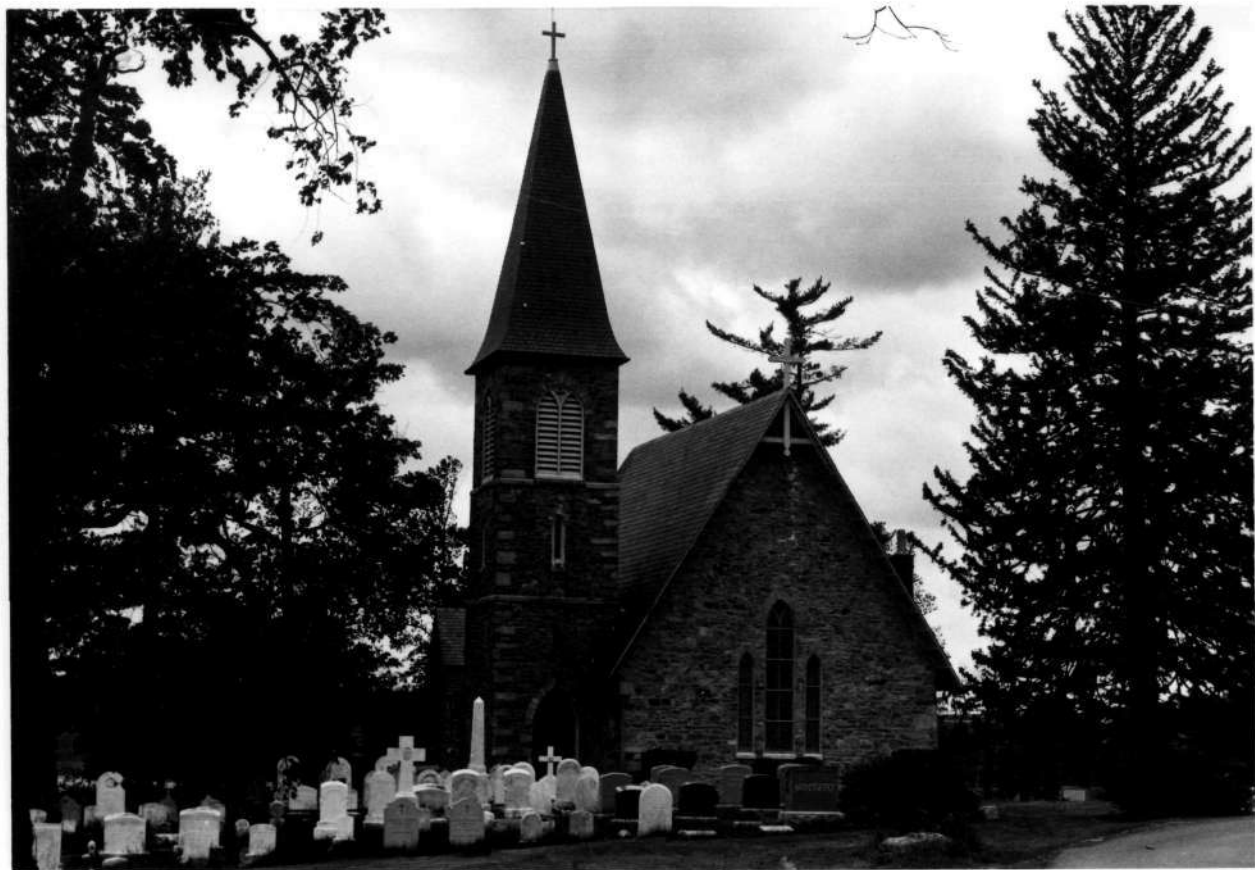
Maryland

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





Christ Episcopal Church HA-28
Forest Hill, MD
Susan M. Deeney
May, 1977
East



00511

HA-28

Christ Church

9 Nov 69 JSE