Survey No. WO-326

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ST. PAUL'S BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 302 North Baltimore Avenue ___ not for publication

city, town Ocean City ___ vicinity of **congressional district** First

state Maryland **county** Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	x religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Vestry of Worcester Parish c/o Rev. John C. Zellner

street & number 302 North Baltimore Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Ocean City state and zip code MD 21842

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber FHP 12

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 604

city, town Snow Hill **state** MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town **state**

7. Description

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Condition
__x__ excellent
____ good
____ fair
____ deteriorated
____ ruins
____ unexposed

Check one
____ unaltered
__x__ altered

Check one
__x__ original site
____ moved **date** of move _____

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

St. Paul's By-The-Sea Episcopal church stands on the northeast corner of North Baltimore Avenue and Third Street in the center of Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story, ell-shaped frame church faces south with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Erected in 1900, the wood shingled frame church is supported on a raised and rusticated concrete block foundation, and the building is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. Rising on the southwest corner of the main block is a two-story entrance and bell tower topped by pyramidal spire.

The south facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a double-door entrance topped by a pointed arch colored glass transom. Marking the second level or belfry is a tripartite louvered vent with Gothic points as well. The eave to the tower is trimmed with small brackets, and a cross rises from its top. Pointed arch colored glass windows pierce the adjacent wall surface between the entrance and the projecting ell that faces Third Street. The gabled Third Street elevation is marked by three colored glass windows. A round arched window is flanked by two Gothic arched windows. Piercing the foundation are two-over-two sash windows. The corners of the church are trimmed with plain boards, and the eaves are slightly extended.

The west elevation fronting North Baltimore Avenue features the west face of the tower as well as a four-bay gabled facade of the main block. The first floor of the tower is defined by a single Gothic arched window, and like the south side, the belfry is marked by a tripartite Gothic vent. The sanctuary is pierced by four Gothic arched, colored glass windows, and a round colored glass window is fixed in the upper gable. Two-over-two sash windows pierce the foundation wall.

The east wall of the church is partially covered by a shorter single-story apse which connects a modern church hall. The north side is covered by an attached church residence and office.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	x religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	x architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
x 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates 1900 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B x C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: x A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

St. Paul's By-The-Sea Episcopal church is a prominent historic and religious landmark in Ocean City. The turn of the century Gothic Revival frame church has survived with only minor changes to its wood shingled exterior. The corner entrance and bell tower is distinguished by pointed arch openings, and the sides of the church are defined by pointed arch colored glass windows.

The Episcopal Church was one of the earliest congregations to erect a house of worship in the new seaside resort. Initially located at the southern end of the city, the vestry of Worcester Parish was ~~acquainted~~ donated two lots in the north end of the community by John F. and Alice V. Waggaman as a memorial to their daughter Alice Virginia. The deed, executed in September of 1899, included a provision that read,

> ...that the Vestry of Worcester Parish commence the erection of an Episcopal Church upon said property within one year from the date of these presents and that said church is complete & ready to hold sacred service therein, within 3 years from the date hereof in default of which conditions, said property shall revert to the said grantors their heirs & assigns...(FHP 12/604)

The church was built during the following year.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

A	Zone	Easting	Northing	B	Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Worcester County	**date**	2/15/90
street & number	Worcester County Courthouse	**telephone**	632-1194
city or town	Snow Hill	**state**	MD 21863

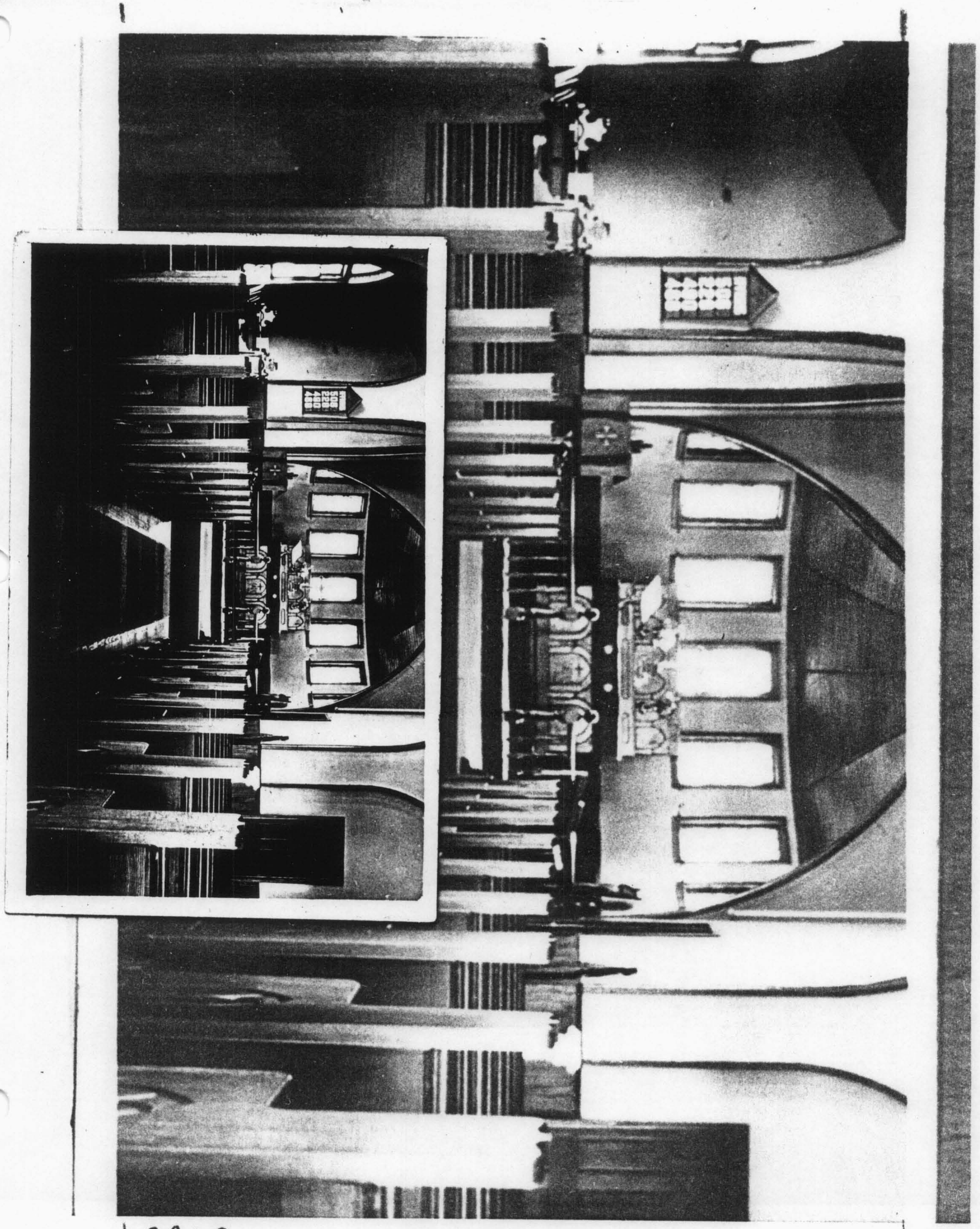
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PS-2746

WO-326 OCEAN CITY LIFESAVING STATION MUSEUM
COLLECTION
ST. PAUL'S BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

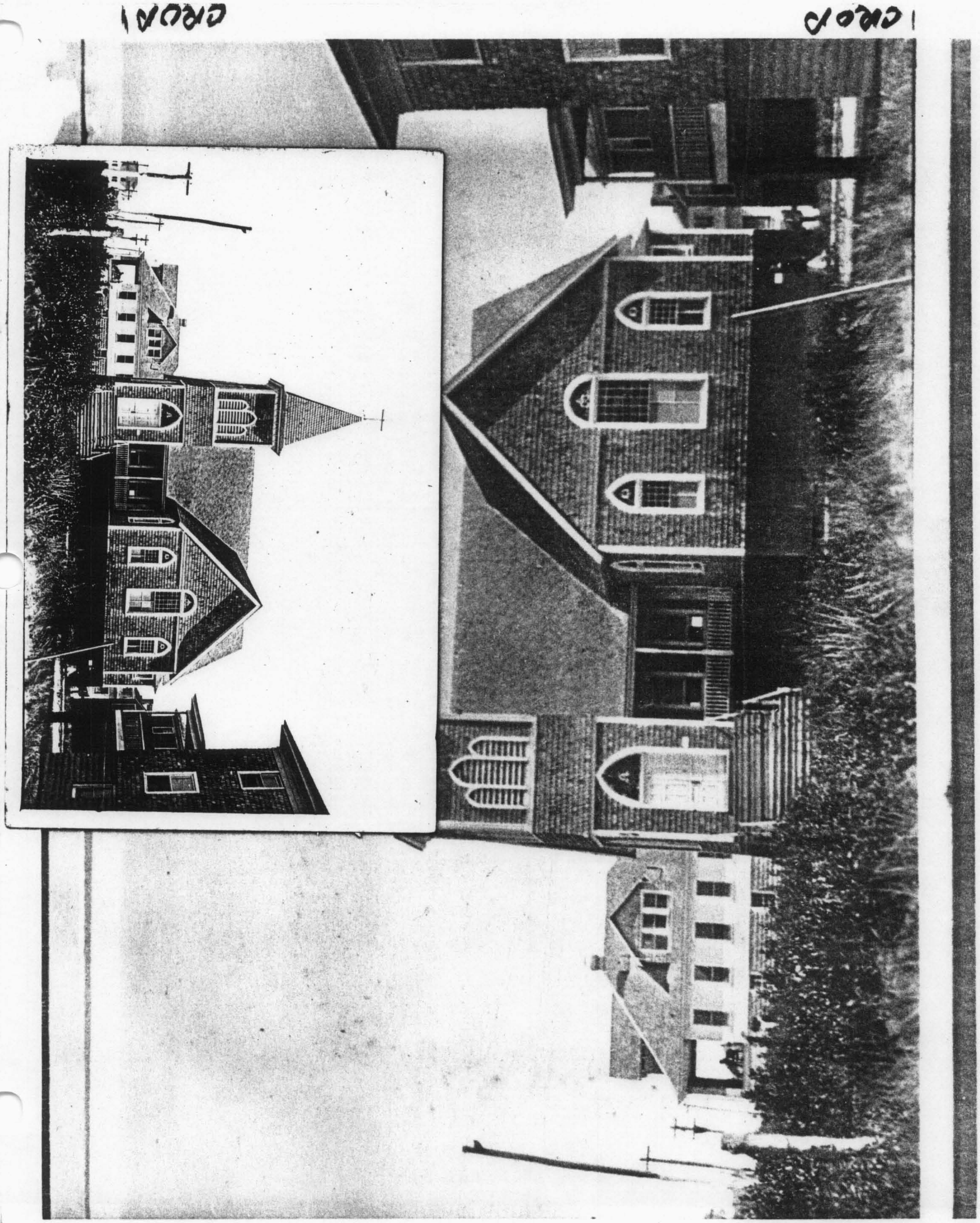


No. 664

CROP

CROP

~~Unit~~ Ocean City Lifesaving Station Museum
WO-326 Collection
St. Paul's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church



No. 662

WO-326
ST. PAUL'S BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle
1964