

STATE: Maryland
 COUNTY: Cecil
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory
 AND/OR HISTORIC:
Old Bohemia

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North end of Church Road, two miles north of Md. Route 299
 CITY OR TOWN: Warwick CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First
 STATE: Maryland CODE: 24 COUNTY: Cecil CODE: 015

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The Catholic Diocese of Wilmington
 STREET AND NUMBER:
1925 Delaware Avenue P. O. Box 2030
 CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Cecil County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER:
East Main Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Elkton STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
 STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland
 COUNTY: Cecil
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY NUMBER:
 DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CE-60 and
CE-60A

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered part	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered part	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Old Bohemia consists of a late eighteenth century brick church and an early nineteenth brick rectory connected by a one story hyphen. On the far end of the rectory is a one story kitchen wing, also built of brick. A brick path leads from the road up to the church door. It is flanked by old boxwood which tower above one's head and nearest the church are two very large Irish yew bushes. Southeast of the church is the public graveyard. Behind the church is a small area covered with magnificent boxwood indicating the resting place of the early priests who administered Old Bohemia and adjacent areas in Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

St. Francis Xavier Church consists of a four bay deep by three bay wide brick structure with a three story brick tower added on the southwest facade of the church subsequent to its original building in 1792. The southwest and northwest sides of the building are laid in Flemish bond; the southeast is laid in Flemish and common bond and the southwest is stuccoed. There is a molded water table around the structure. The windows have twenty over fifteen pane sash, with louvered shutters and a semicircular stationary louvered shutter obscuring the upper part of the sash. The arches above the windows are made of gauged brick. An area of brickwork above the windows of the southeast side has been relaid. In the center of the two long sides is a brick chimney built after the fire of 1912 which consumed all but the brick walls of the church. The tower is laid in English bond and has pilasters at the four corners, belt courses between the three stories, and a projected area in the center of the facade. The tower was erected during the period when Father George Villiger, S. J., was superior from 1856-1878. The bell was also installed during this period. The main entrance has leaded fanlight, double doors and narrow paneled trim. On the second story is an arched window with tablet beneath bearing a quotation from Genesis. On the third story of the facade is a half circle recess; on the two sides are windows. Atop the modillion cornice stands an octagonal belfry, each side having a classically trimmed arch. A dentil cornice separates the belfry from the steep roof upon which is a copper cross.

The rectory is a five bay long, two-and-one-half story brick building with a two bay long hyphen on one end and a two bay long kitchen on the other. The entire structure is laid in common bond without water table or belt course. Above each of the windows and doors is a jack arch of regular brick. The door to the rectory is in the center bay. The cornice consists of three courses of corbelled brick. On the first floor the windows have nine over six sash; those of the second story have six over six sash. There are two dormers on the southwest

(See continuation sheet NO. 1)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

CE-60-7 CE-60A

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

side of the "A" roof and three on the opposite side, each with six over six sash. A large stuccoed chimney rises from each gable.

Beneath the "A" roof of the kitchen is the basement entrance and frame entry to the kitchen. The window and door frames appear to be of an earlier date, possibly reused from the former building when the present rectory was built in 1825. At one time the kitchen was two stories as shown in old pictures and because of the presence of a door window in the gable of the rectory. Likewise, the hyphen was also two stories which is outlined in stucco on the opposite gable of the rectory.

The interior of the church consists of a vestibule in the tower, and a nave and sanctuary in the main body of the church. Access to the balcony is gained from an open string stair in the vestibule. Between the vestibule and church is a double door with a fanlight, the same size and shape as the main entrance. The pew plan consists of four tiers of open benches with three aisles. In the two side tiers, about center is a section of brick floor and walls indicating the position of former heating stoves. The benches are painted white with natural wood trim. The floor is 3 inch wide yellow pine.

Turned posts flanking the center aisle support the balcony which occupies the rear bay of the structure. The balustrade of the balcony consists of narrow headed boards typical of the early twentieth century. At window sill level is a molded chair rail which stops at the position of the former stoves. In the south corner, beneath the balcony, is a plain wooden confessional. Located one step higher than the nave, and separated by a bold balustrade, the sanctuary contains a large tiered altar with pedimented Ionic baldachin. At the level of the cornice of the baldachin, the dentil cornice continues around the base of the arched pressed tin ceiling. Iron tie rods were added for support prior to the fire of 1912 as shown in early pictures. The reconstructed interior of 1912 was not based upon either an academic study of its original appearance or its appearance prior to the fire. From old photos in the collection of the historical society, the church apparently was remodeled late in the nineteenth century. The architect for the reconstruction is not known.

The sacristy is a small square room with ceiling following the roof line. It has plaster walls, wood floors, and is lighted by a window on each side. Access to the church, outside and the rectory is gained through paneled doors. In the

(See continuation sheet No. 2)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #2

CE-608, CE-60A

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

room is the furnace for the church and an oak vestment case. The floor plan of the rectory consists of a central stair hall with a large room on the northwest and a room and hall on the southwest. Northwest of the larger room is a kitchen.

The northwest room has a fireplace with a period mantel. On the north side is a door to the kitchen and a cabinet. On the other side are two cabinets, the one closest the fireplace being recessed from the face of the chimney. Both sides of the fireplace were alike originally, but access to the kitchen eliminated one of the cabinets. Both cabinets in the corner have doors with an earlier molding and the raised paneling typical of the eighteenth century. The remainder of the woodwork has raised panels with beaded trim typical of the early nineteenth century. The doors are hung on "H" hinges except the recessed cabinet mentioned previously, which is hung on butt hinges. In the center of the ceiling is a nineteenth century plaster medallion in the Gothic style. The original window trim consists of a beaded board and ovolo molded backband. The walls of the first floor have been furred out some time prior to 1953. A wide beaded baseboard separated the plaster wall from the wide yellow pine floor.

Brick interior partition walls separate the stair hall from the flanking rooms. The door jambs have recessed panels with beaded trim. The open string stair has two balusters per step and a simple double carved step end. There is a large nearly-round walnut handrail. The triangular area beneath the stair has diagonal beaded boards. Both front and back doors have three-pane transoms and recessed panel doors. The door beneath the stair has a four panel door of eighteenth century design hanging on "L" hinges. From the closet access at one time was opened to the east room. Over 90 percent of the fabric of the rectory is original to its construction in 1825.

The second floor plan is the same as the first, although there were originally two rooms above the northwest room. Fireplaces exist in the two northerly rooms. The treatment is plainer than the first floor, and the ceilings are lower. A partition has been added across the southwest end of the third floor which has three plastered rooms lighted by the dormers mentioned earlier. The floor boards on the third floor vary in width from 12 inches to 20 inches and appear to be white pine. According to Jesuit records the timber used in the church and rectory was cut from the woodland on the plantation and fabricated in the water powered saw mill.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #3

STATE	Maryland
COUNTY	Cecil
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

7. DESCRIPTION, continued

The building is well maintained by the Historical Society.

Located northwest of the rectory are two barns and machinery sheds housing a display of early hand tools and farm equipment. A twentieth century house is located west of the rectory. The Historical Society has reacquired the farm (which was sold in 1931) bounded by two branches of the Little Bohemia River and the country road.

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

remaining from the eighteenth century. (The academy was demolished and its bricks used in the 1825 rectory). Some of the woodwork and cabinets of the earlier building were also moved into the 1825 rectory. Drawings made by Pope and Kruse in 1956 as a result of their research and exploratory work show the foundations of the original house-chapel-academy building. Its presence provides a reminder that the Jesuits served as parish priests in addition to being missionaries and educators. The church drew worshipers from the northern Eastern Shore, including Kitty Knight who defied the British when they threatened to burn her home during the War of 1812.

Many of the Jesuits associated with Old Bohemia stimulated the growth of the Roman Catholic Church. Joseph Greaton founded Old St. Joseph's Church in Philadelphia (1733). John Lewis became vicar general of the Roman Catholic missions in the English colonies after his tenure at Old Bohemia (1753-1764).

Mathias Manners established the first Catholic church in Delaware (1772). Charles Whelan was instrumental in the founding of Old St. Peter's Church in New York City. The cemetery at Old Bohemia contains the graves of all of these men. Other notable personages associated with Bohemia were:

Joseph Mosley, S. J., Superior at Bohemia 1764-65. He established the following missions farther down the Eastern Shore: St. Joseph's at Cordova, St. Peter's at Queenstown and St. Mary's at Meekin's Neck (Dorchester County).

Robert Molyneux, S. J., Superior at Bohemia 1788-1790 and later fifth president of Georgetown College. Ambrose Marechal, S. S., Superior at Bohemia 1793-1799. He completed the present church which had been started in 1792, member of St. Mary's Seminary Staff in Baltimore and became the third Archbishop of Baltimore 1817-1827.

2. SIGNIFICANCE

CE-60
CE-60A

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian; | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

St. Francis Xavier Jesuit Mission, more commonly called Old Bohemia, is an important site in the eighteenth century history of Roman Catholicism. Beginning in 1704 the Society of Jesus initiated missionary activities on the site, thereby establishing a second mission in Maryland followed by a half a century the Newtown Manor mission in St. Mary's County. The Jesuits' territory included the Eastern Shore, Delaware, and southeastern Pennsylvania. To support their activities the Jesuits acquired almost 1200 acres which they operated as a working plantation. It included a grist and saw mill, brick kiln, blacksmith shop, still, ice house, barns, slave quarters; and a loading wharf on the south branch of the Bohemia River. The Jesuits' efforts, originating from missions such as from Old Bohemia and Newtown, laid the foundation for Roman Catholicism in America.

Following the dual purposes of the Society of Jesus--missionary activities and education--an academy was established while Thomas Poulton, S. J., was the superior (1742-1749). Prominent Catholic families sent their children to be educated at Old Bohemia. Two of the most noted graduates are Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and John Carroll, the first American Roman Catholic bishop, who founded Georgetown University in 1789. This fact, coupled with the Jesuits' major role in eighteenth century parochial education, has created a local legend that Old Bohemia was the predecessor of Georgetown University.

For a brief period at the end of the eighteenth century, the academy and the entire grounds were placed under the control of Ambrose Marechal, a member of the Society of St. Sulpice, a French order founded to educate young men for the priesthood. Sulpicians came to Maryland escaping the sectarian tendencies of the French Revolution. In 1799 Marechal moved to Baltimore and founded St. Mary's College.

During Marechal's tenure the present church was constructed. It is the only building at Old Bohemia

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #4

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Cecil	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Francis Xavier Church and Rectory

James Rumsey, inventor of a steamboat that was demonstrated in 1786 on the Potomac River in the presence of George Washington, was born just across the fields from Old Bohemia.

Kitty Knight defied the British when they threatened to burn her home in nearby Georgetown on the Sassafras River during the War of 1812. A member of the Old Bohemia congregation, she lies buried at the south side of the church. A great wit and admirer of Ambrose Marechal, she once said that she would not attend church unless he returned as rector at Bohemia.

In 1953 the Old Bohemia Historical Society, Inc. was formed to restore and maintain the historic site. During the archaeological explorations in 1956 under the direction of Pope and Kruse of Wilmington, several foundations were unearthed northwest of the rectory and in front of this building. From artifacts found during the dig, the foundations in front of the present rectory are apparently the remains of the original house-chapel-academy building.

The site is open to the public every Sunday during the summer months and by appointment at other times. Mass is celebrated in the church from June through September on the third Sunday of the month at 4 p.m. Weddings and funerals are also conducted in the church.

The following is quoted from the United States Department of the Interior, August 24, 1974:

It is a pleasure to send you the enclosed certificate indicating that the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church (Old Bohemia) in Warwick Vicinity, Maryland, has been recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), a historic preservation program of the National Park Service.

A record of the appearance and condition of the buildings as of 1963 has been deposited in the Library of Congress, where it will be preserved for permanent reference.

11. FORM PREPARED BY, continued

Michael Bourne, Survey and Inventory Coordinator
Maryland Historical Trust
2525 Riva Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
September to December, 1973

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cresap, Joseph Ord and Bernarr Cresap (comp.) The History of the Cresaps. McComb, Mississippi: The Cresap Society, 1937.

"Historic St. Francis Xavier of Old Bohemia Restoration." Warwick, Maryland: Old Bohemia Historical Society, (1961).

Jesuit Records. Archives of Loyola College, Baltimore, Maryland.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	39	25	88	75	48	34			
NE	39	25	84	75	48	05			
SE	39	25	65	75	48	03			
SW	39	25	62	75	48	29			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 123.75

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Frank W. Krastel, President (See continuation sheet No. 4)

ORGANIZATION: Old Bohemia Historical Society, Inc. DATE: March 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 61

CITY OR TOWN: Warwick STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665). I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Arthur C. Townsend

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CE-60 B
CE-60A

CECILTON QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
Scale: 1: 24,000
1958

NECK

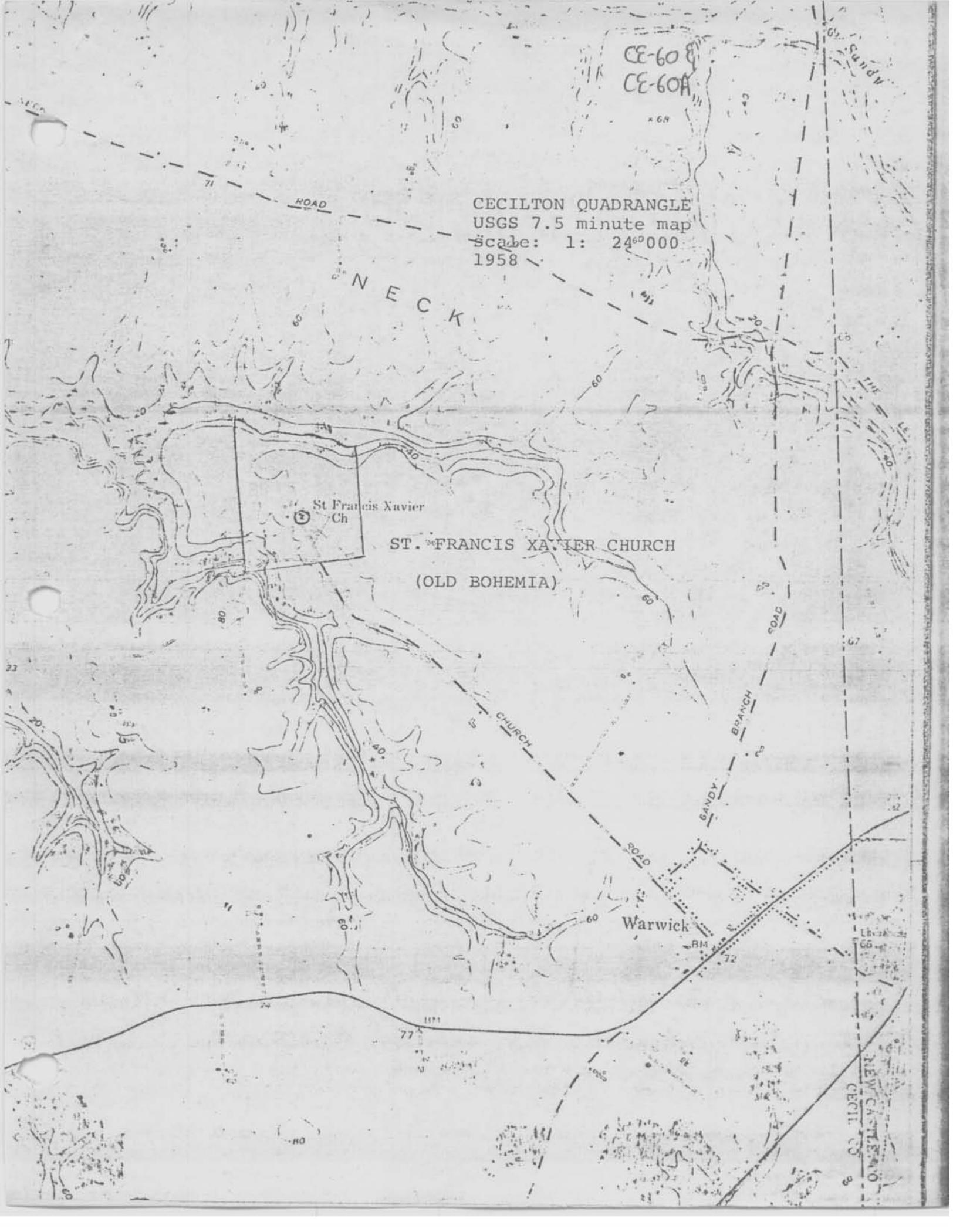
St Francis Xavier
Ch

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
(OLD BOHEMIA)

SANDY
BRANCH

Warwick

NEW CASTLE
CECIL CO



CE-60 + CE-60 A

CECILTON QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
Scale: 1: 24,000
1958

NECK



St Francis Xavier
Ch

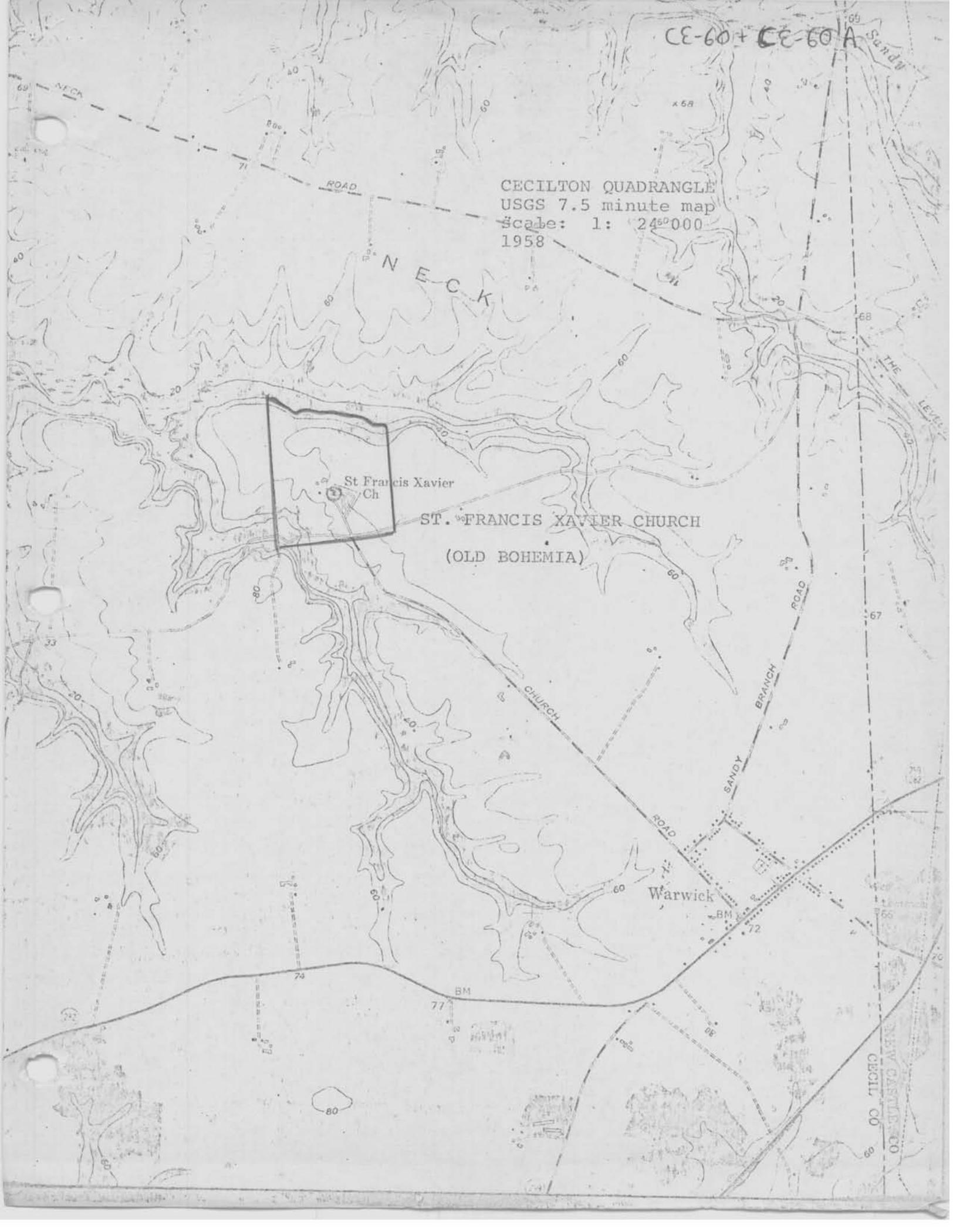
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
(OLD BOHEMIA)

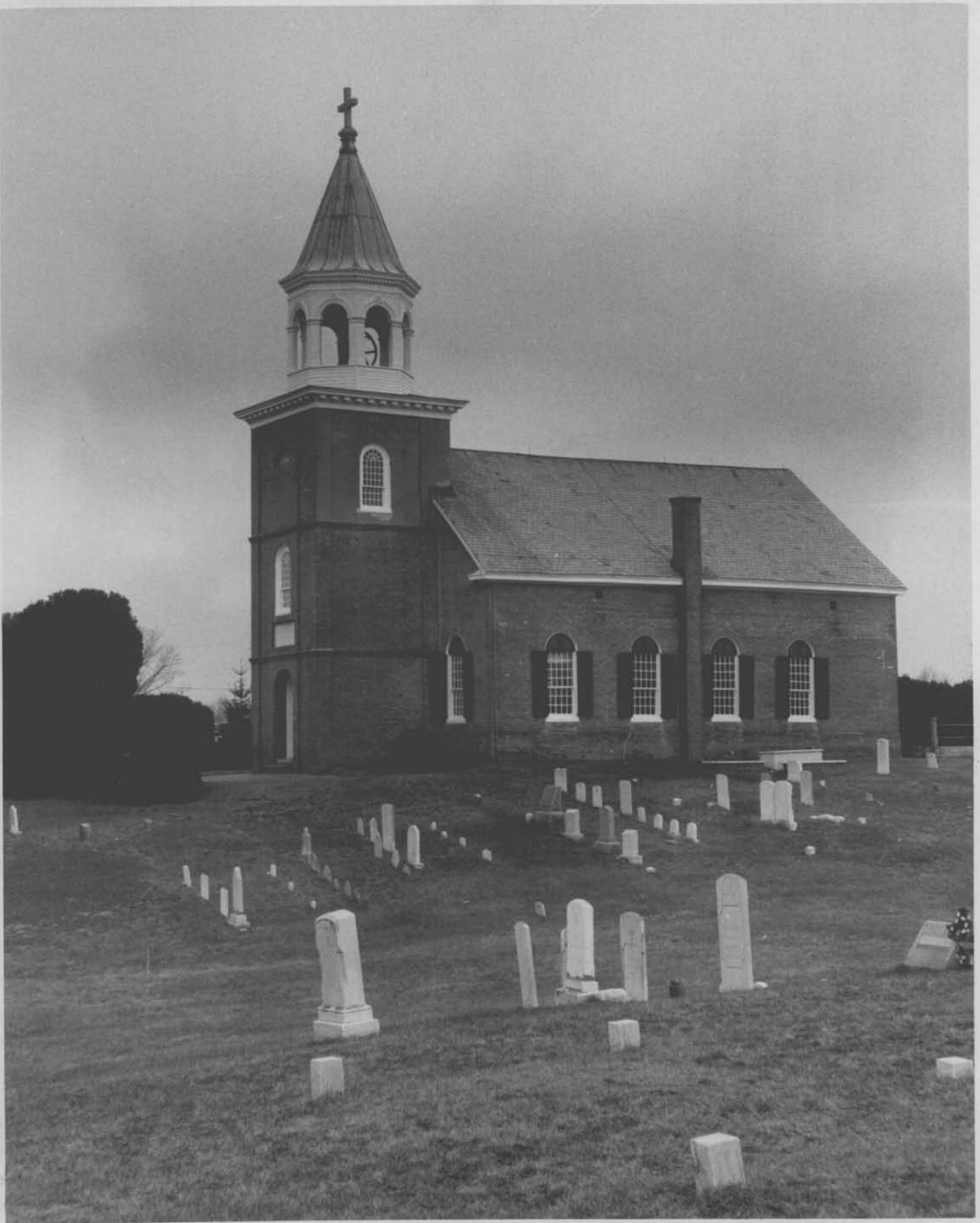
CHURCH

SANDY
BRANCH
ROAD

Warwick

NEW CASTLE CO
CECIL CO





EAST FACADE
(VIEW FROM SOUTH EAST)
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
(OLD BOHEMIA)

CECIL CO, MD (CE-60)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

PAUL A BRINKMAN

12/67



NORTH ELEVATION
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
(OLD BOHEMIA)

CECIL CO, MD (CE-60)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

PAUL A BRINKMAN
12/67

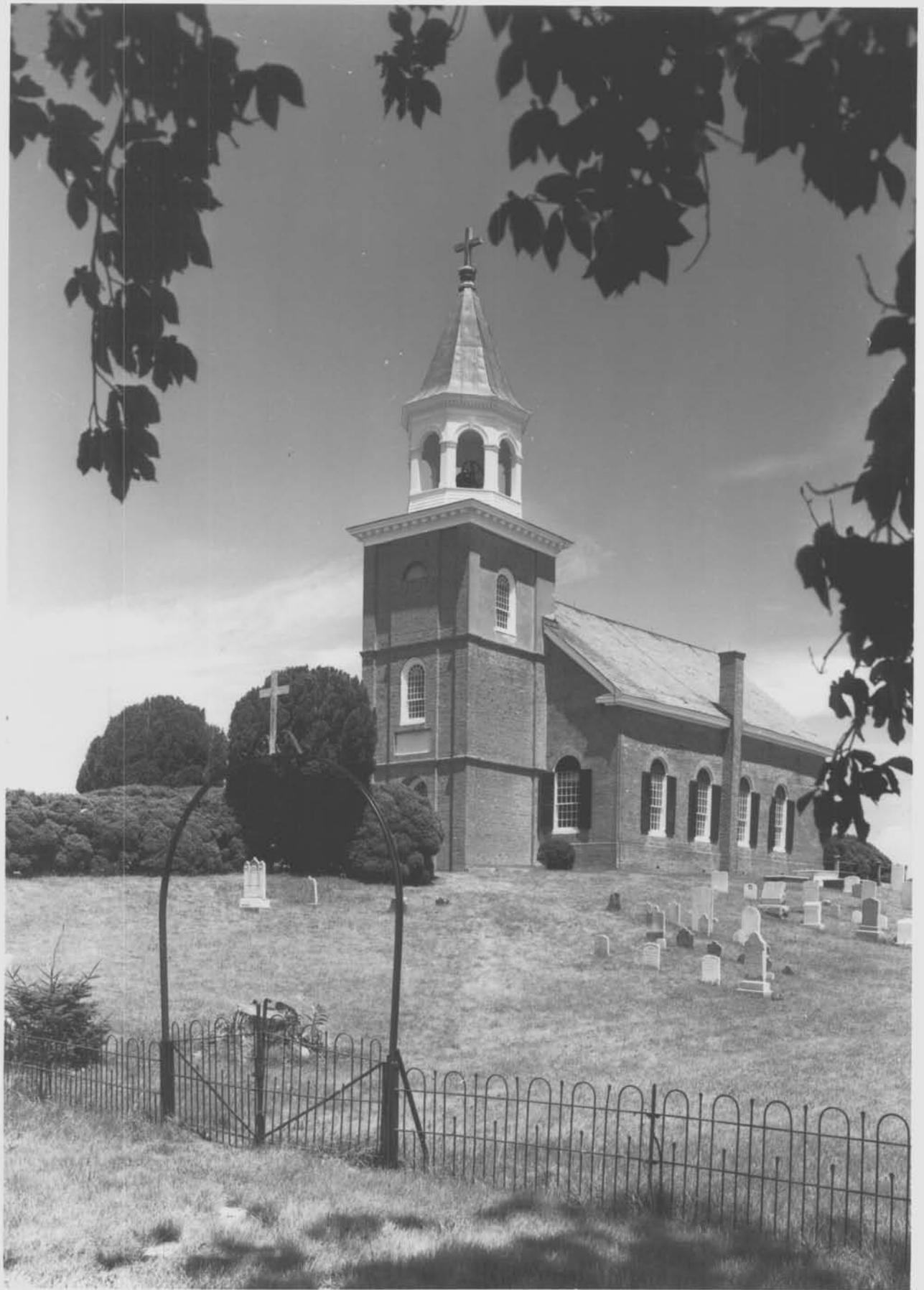


Old Calabria rectory north ic

CE-60

Handwritten notes, possibly describing a location or survey details.

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including the word "Point" and other illegible text.



CE-60 St. Francis
Xavier

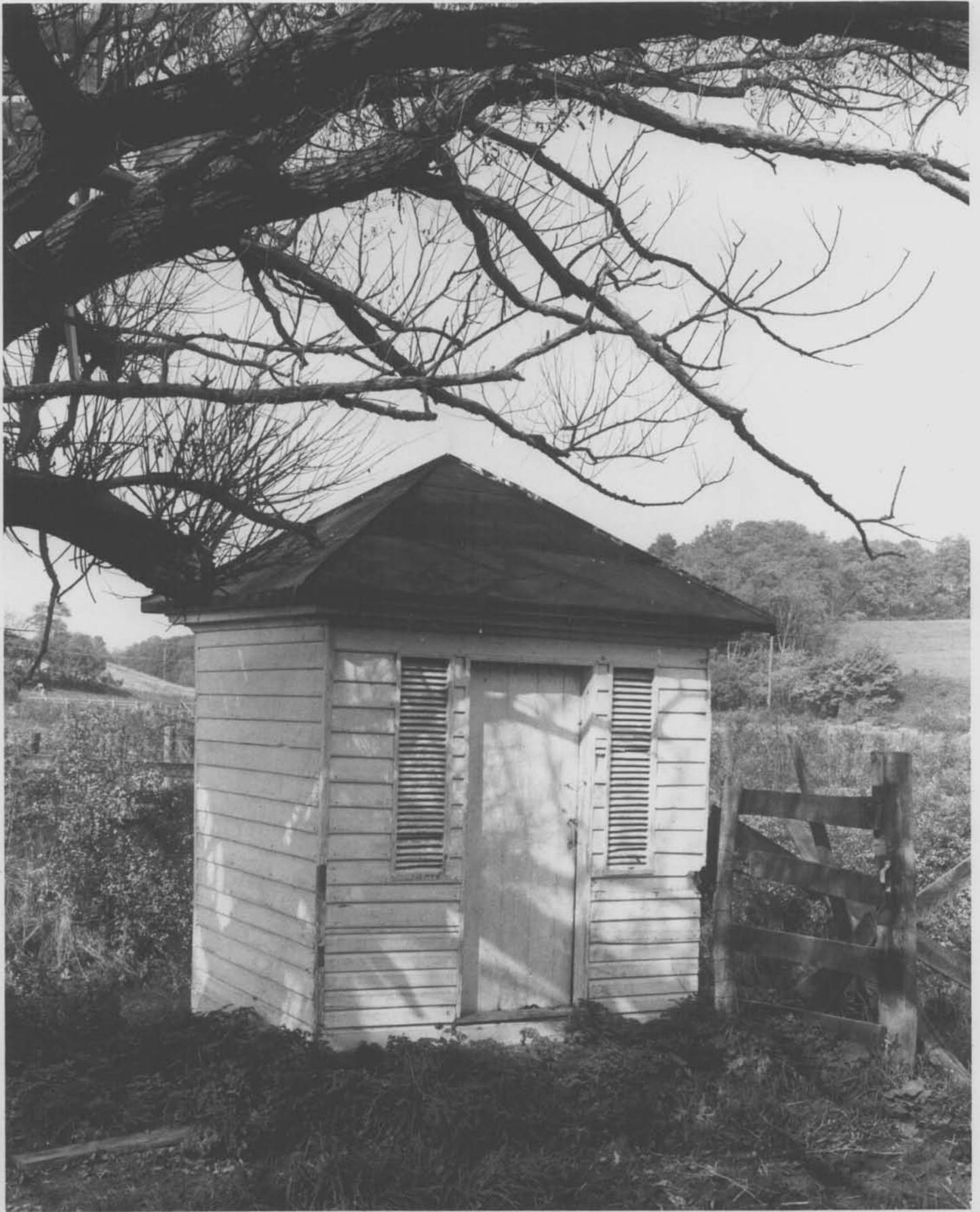
1-1 11/11/12 8 000 50000 1-1



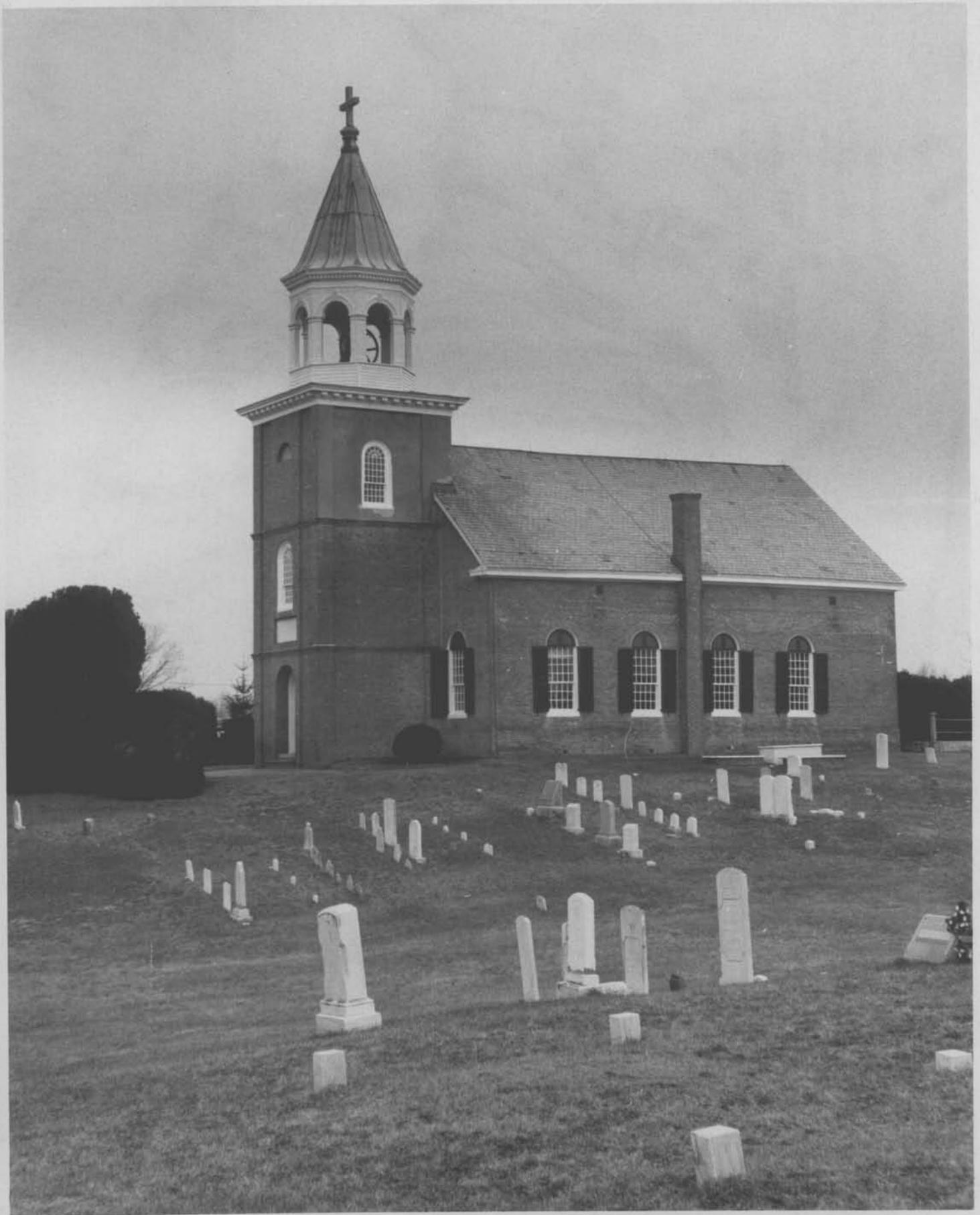
CE-60A



CE-60 St. Francis Xavier Church



CE-60



EAST FACADE
(VIEW FROM SOUTH EAST)
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
(OLD BOHEMIA)
CECIL CO, MD (CE-60)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

PAUL A BRINKMAN
12/67



CECIL COUNTY, EASTERN SHORE, MARYLAND

B-49

(60)

Cent

St Francis Xavier Church
CE-60

406