

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC St. Luke's Church

AND/OR COMMON

St. Luke's P.E. Church, Church Hill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMB West side Maryland Route 213, at its intersection with
Maryland Route 19

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE
24

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

CODE

035

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Wardens and Vestry of St. Luke's Episcopal Parish

STREET & NUMBER

c/o The Rev. William E. Ticknor, Church Lane

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

STATE

Maryland 21623

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

Maryland

21617

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-51

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD-exterior	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR-interior	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Luke's Episcopal Church stands on the west side of Old Maryland Route 213 at its intersection with Maryland Route 19 in the town of Church Hill, Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Built between 1729 and 1732, the church is one story high, five bays long and three bays wide, with brick exterior walls laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers. Narrow buttresses separate the windows on the side; the tall windows, topped with semi-circular brick arches, have twenty-two-over-sixteen sash, and were originally partially shuttered. The church was constructed with three entrances: large doors in the centers of the north and south walls, and a smaller slaves' entrance in the west end. The side entrances have been converted into windows, however, and the west door enlarged to form the main entrance. Its double doors with fanlight give access to a square Italianate tower that was added in 1881, and which features narrow, recessed windows on its second-story level, decorative brickwork below the cornice and a low hip roof. The gambrel roof of the main structure is distinctive in itself, and its use on the semi-circular apse, as well, is an unusual feature on the Eastern Shore. It is covered with cypress shingles and has a simple wooden cornice. The roof originally featured a bell cote on the west gable that supported a 180-pound bell; this was removed, however, only ten years after the building was completed.

The interior of St. Luke's has been considerably altered in the course of several renovations. Its aisle plan was originally more complex, with two aisles running the length of the building, and bisected by another aisle connecting the north and south doors. The tall pulpit with reading desk below was located on the north wall, immediately to the east of the north entrance. Brick tiles were used to pave the aisles, and the floors of the forty-four box pews were paved with stone. The interior walls were plastered and the ceiling barrel-vaulted then, as now, but a slave gallery stood at the west end of the church.

In 1841, a wooden floor and double-hung sash were installed in the church, and the roof and pews were reconditioned. Heavily damaged by its use as a billet for Union Cavalry during the Civil War, St. Luke's was thoroughly renovated in 1881: on the outside, the entrance tower was added, the north and south doors were eliminated, and new windows with stained glass were installed. The current seating plan was instituted, with a single center aisle and walnut bench pews; the slave gallery was removed, the chancel furniture replaced, and wainscoting added. St. Luke's was partially restored to its 18th cent. appearance in 1957, when small-paned sash with clear glass replaced the nineteenth-century stained glass. The church sits on a well-landscaped two acres, sharing the property with a small cemetery and an early nineteenth-century brick schoolhouse that is used as a parish house. In excellent repair, St. Luke's is an active church and is open to visitors.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
—1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Sept. 1730-1732

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Rev. John Lang (Rector)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One of the oldest colonial Episcopal churches still in use, St. Luke's Church in Church Hill, Queen Anne's County, Maryland, is interesting both from the standpoint of architecture and of history. The design of the building, featuring a gambrel roof, high barrel vault ceiling and semi-circular apse, is unusual for the period: only two other eighteenth-century Maryland churches, for instance, incorporate the semi-circular apse, known at the time as the "circle". This was a medieval holdover, of sorts, and frowned upon by proponents of the academic style. St. Luke's is made more distinctive by the use of a gambrel roof on both the main structure and the apse.

From the late seventeenth century, this had been the site of one of the three chapels of ease of St. Pauls' parish. A simple log building, called the "Up River Chapel", was sufficient for the needs of the inhabitants of the area around present-day Church Hill. By 1728, however, the local population had outgrown the chapel, and the incumbent's once-monthly visits. Two hundred fifty-four Queen Anne's County inhabitants of St. Paul's Parish petitioned the Maryland Assembly in that year, seeking the establishment of a new parish. Their request was granted, and in 1729 the Reverend John Lang was sent from England to supervise the erection of St. Luke's parish and the new parish church. Area residents raised the money for the building by subscription. When completed in 1732, St. Luke's Church had cost 140,000 pounds of tobacco, or about 584 pounds sterling. It was built on a hill near the head of Southeast Creek, a tributary of the Chester River, in the northern part of Queen Anne's County. There was no town at this early date but gradually the hill came to be called Church Hill, and a village of the same name grew up around the parish church.

St. Luke's was used regularly until 1791, when it was virtually abandoned for thirty-two years; once again between 1830 and 1840 the church was not in use. Since 1841, however, when a revival and renovation took place, St. Luke's has been continuously staffed, and has had an active congregation. The extant parish records, preserved in the county courthouse in Centreville and at the Hall of Records in Annapolis, reflect this uneven history.

See continuation sheet #1

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St. Luke's Church
Queen Anne's County
Maryland

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The church was used as a billet for a company of Union Cavalry during the Civil War; it is said that at this time the original window panes were broken and the pews and pulpit used for firewood. In 1881 the church was considerably altered in the course of another renovation: the last twenty years have seen some efforts at restoring the church and grounds to their eighteenth-century appearance.

On the same property stands a small brick building which is used as a parish house. Built in 1817 as a schoolhouse, the building still contains blackboards and benches of that era, and is reputed to be the oldest school in Queen Anne's County.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

QA-51

Church Records, Hall of Records, Annapolis
 Emory, Frederic, ed. Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Baltimore: The
 Maryland Historical Society, 1950.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	41,4	7,6,0	4,3	3,2	8,0,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C							D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Mrs. Robert B. Hilleary, President/Randolph M. Cornell, Intern Summer	8/76	bjn
ORGANIZATION	Episcopal Churchwoman of St. Luke's/Maryland Historical Trust	DATE	758-0897
STREET & NUMBER	Waltham Farm/21 State Circle	TELEPHONE	267-1438
CITY OR TOWN	Centreville/Annapolis	STATE	Maryland 21617/21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

John N. Pearce 4/14/77

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

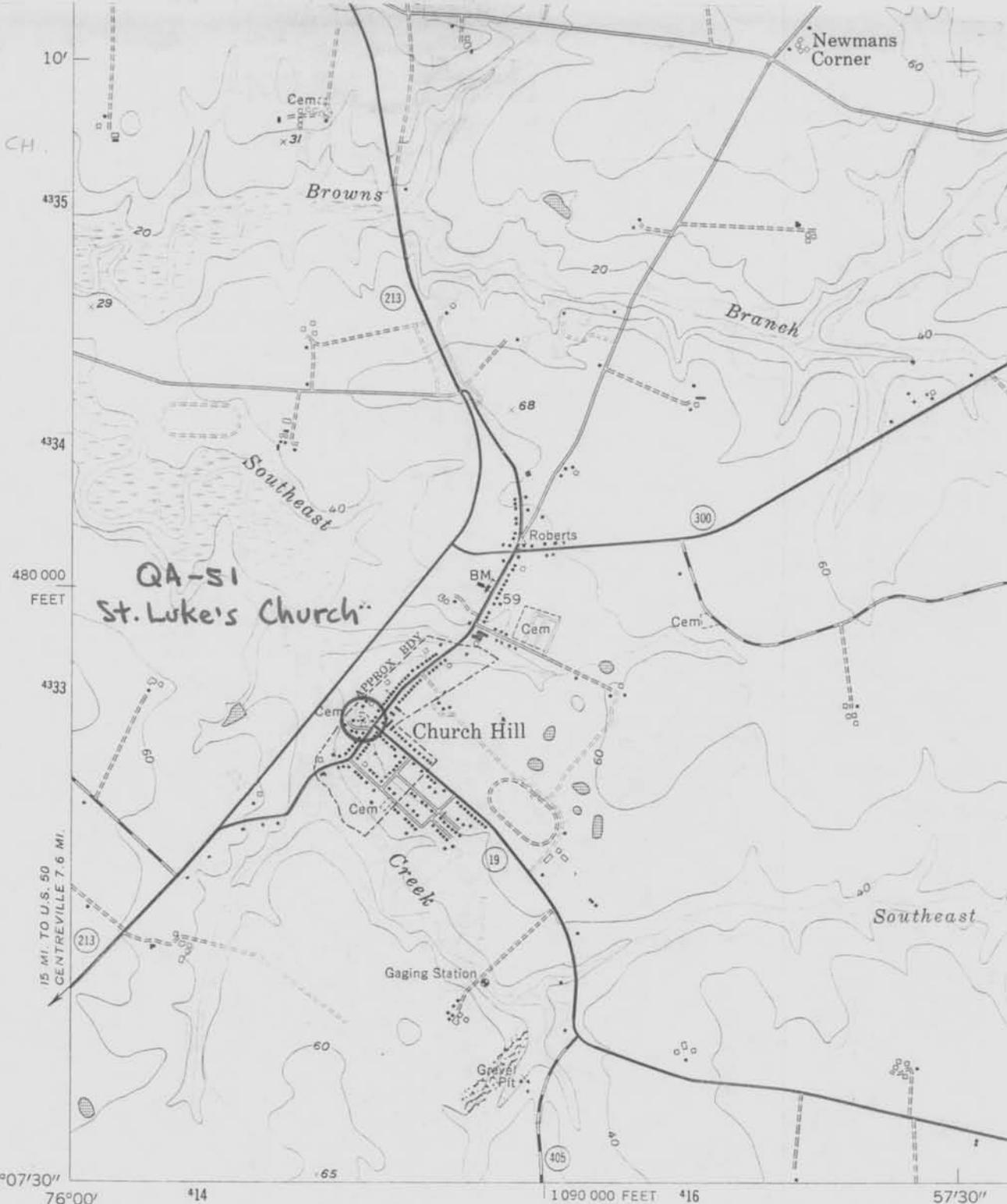
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

QA-51
ST. LUKE'S CH.



(CENTREVILLE)
5762 II SE

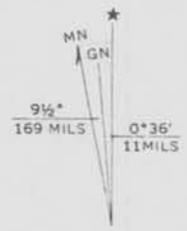
Mapped by the Army Map Service
Edited and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1942. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1958
Hydrography compiled from USC&GS chart 548 (1953)

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked

Church Hill Quad



UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

QA-51

St. Luke's Episcopal
Church

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT



QA-51

St. Luke's
Episcopal Church

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-51

St. Luke's Church
East

MOB 6/1983



QA-51 St. Luke's Church
North

MOB 6/1983