Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

BA-48

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. Thomas' Church; St. Thomas Parish, Baltimore County

AND/OR COMMON
St. Thomas' Church, Garrison Forest; Garrison Forest Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Owings Mills — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Second

STATE
Maryland

CODE
24

COUNTY
Baltimore

CODE
005

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	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	X YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Vestry of St. Thomas Parish

STREET & NUMBER
St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road

CITY, TOWN
Owings Mills — VICINITY OF

STATE
Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Chesapeake Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Towson

STATE
Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Thomas' Church is located at the intersection of St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road in Garrison, Maryland. There are three major sections of the church - the original part (now the nave) built 1743-44, the trancepts and chancel built in 1890 and the narthex in 1970.

The original Georgian church built of salmon red brick measures 56' by 36'. It had a gambrel roof, hipped at the ends. There are eight, large, round-arched windows in the nave, four in the north and four in the south walls. The top portion of the window including the arch have clear, hand blown, leaded glass in a diamond pattern; the bottom sections have rectangular panes with wooden mullions. Much of the glass is original and was installed in 1743. An original arched doorway remains as the central exterior bay of the south wall. During the late nineteenth century, this door was sealed and plastered over inside and the principal entrance moved to the west wall. The nave has a wide central aisle of brick. On either side of the aisle are box-type, panelled pews with doors.

In 1890, through the generosity of one of the parishoners, the church was enlarged by the addition of a chancel and trancepts. The steep gable roof was added at that time and later the cupola at the intersection of the ridge. The interior shows some Gothic Revival detail. Though the nave and trancepts have a flat ceiling, there are suggestio of molded ribs in a non-structural, rectangular pattern. They are visually supported b others arched from the walls and are decorated with typical late nineteenth century carving. The south trancept has a brick aisle and pews similar to those in the nave. In the north trancept is the choir and organ. The barrel vaulted chancel has a ceiling with the rectangular rib pattern. Its three round-arched, opaque stained glass windows, made by the John LaForge studios of New York in 1893, show Jesus in the center with angels and disciples in the smaller flanking windows. In the south trancept is a stained glass window, depicting an angel and a small child, made by the Tiffany in 1913. Both trancepts have rose windows.

In 1970, a narthex and gallery were added to the church and a basement dug under the nave. After 1890, there were four small windows and the principal entrance in the west wall. They are now covered by the new addition.

Surrounding St. Thomas' Church on three sides is a graveyard. Southwest of the church is the parish hall, built in 1877. Additions to it during the 1920's and 1950's provide church offices and Sunday school rooms.

Facing southeast toward the front walk to the church is a large, stone mausoleum in memory of Richard Henry Moale, Jr. (1802-1848). Built of large blocks of cut sandstone, the mausoleum's design is that of a small chapel with a stocky tower over a shallow, projecting narthex. The entrance and the three vertical belfry openings above it are slightly pointed. Both nave and tower have a gable roof. The roof of the building and the door are cast iron. Surrounding the building is a prominent water table. Between it and the cornice are marble panels -- two vertical ones flanking the front tower, two horizontal ones on each side and three vertical in the rear. These give family Heaths from 1853 through 1964.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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
x_1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
x_1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
x_1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1743-44, 1890, 1970 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Thomas' Church is located in Garrison Forest at St. Thomas Lane and Garrison Forest Road in Baltimore County, Maryland. This church, authorized by an act of the colonial legislature on October 22, 1742, was built just west of the main road from Baltimore to Hanover, Pennsylvania. The new parish, initially part of St. Paul's in Baltimore, was requested by people in the expanding settlements north and northwest of Baltimore.

In the area later known as Garrison Forest was a military post to protect the tobacco planters and others moving to the interior. Because the trip to Baltimore was too long and difficult, the settlers requested a "chapel of ease" be built. It was actually a mission of St. Paul's parish.

The proposal for St. Thomas' was approved by St. Paul's Vestry, wardens, parishioners and the rector, Rev. Benedict Bourdillion. The project was financed through voluntary subscriptions to supplement provincial government money. In 1742, the Assembly passed an act which not only permitted certain persons to receive the contributions but gave them the power to assess less willing parishioners. The 1742 act provided for William Hamilton, Christopher Gist, Samuel Owings, Christopher Randall and Nicholas Haile to receive subscriptions to purchase two acres of land and to build a chapel on it. If voluntary contributions were not successful, an assessment on the new parish was granted. It was not to exceed £ 133.65.8d. in any one year for a maximum of three years.

The site for the chapel was selected in 1743. Two acres of land were bought from Christopher Gist for £4, and on July 19, 1743, the deed conveying the land to the vestry was acknowledged before two justices for the county, T. Sheredine and Charles Ridgely. Construction of the Church began, and, by the end of the year, the walls (except for four or five feet at the gables) and the roof were completed.

The 1742 act stated that St. Thomas' chapel and congregation would become a parish independent of St. Paul's upon Rev. Bourdillion's death (January 5, 1745). According to Scharf's History of Baltimore City and County the limits of the parish then extended south to the old court-road leading from the Patapsco Falls to Joppa, north to the Pennsylvania line, west to the Baltimore County line, east to the Big Gunpowder Falls, and "on the northeast to the Western Run, Piney Run, and a line northwest in the same direction, separating it from St. John's parish, now St. James'".

Within the parish when it was formed were 675 taxable persons and a total population of about 1,350. The vestry of the Church of England in Maryland carried out civil functions in addition to church duties. They collected the Bachelor Tax to finance the French and Indian War and investigated behavior of citizens whether church members or not.

See Continuation Sheet 1.

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(Rev. 10-74)

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(SIGNIFICANCE CONTINUED)

On May 28, 1745, St. Thomas' vestry contracted Col. William Hammond to level the church floor with earth within three bricks of the water table, floor part of the church with brick and cover it with pine plank on sleepers of red or Spanish oak and build five pews of panelwork. Because Col. Hammond failed to fulfill part of the contract, the vestry engaged William Cromwell on January 20, 1746, to build all the pews and to make the communion table rails and banisters of walnut. Col. Hammond was later (July 19, 1746) asked to paint the window shutters, doors, window frames and cornice red. By October 7, 1746, nineteen pews were finished and accepted. They were nearly square with seats on three sides with straight backs as high as the person seated.

The minister's salary at St. Thomas' Church was supported by a tax on all parish residents whether they were members of the Church of England or not. The sheriff collected forty pounds of tobacco for every white male and every servant over sixteen years. Records show a great increase in settlers in the area and a corresponding incre of fourhundred percent in the minister's salary between 1745 and 1770.

St.Thomas' Church is significant historically and architecturally. The Church has been used continually since it was built. It was established as a type of mission church, part of St. Paul's parish in Baltimore. Even after St. Thomas' became a separate paris it continued to serve the new population of the settlements expanding northwest of Baltimore. The growth of the church is evident in its architecture. The Georgian nave and late nineteenth century additions are clearly visible. They as well as the recent narthex show good proportion and design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 2.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8 acres

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A				B			
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Rev. Michael G. Rokos, Assistant Rector/George J. Andreve, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION — DATE

St. Thomas' Church/Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER — TELEPHONE

212 St. Thomas Lane/ 21 State Circle, Shaw House /301-269-2438

CITY OR TOWN — STATE

Owings Mills/Annapolis Maryland 21117/21401

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

TITLE — DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

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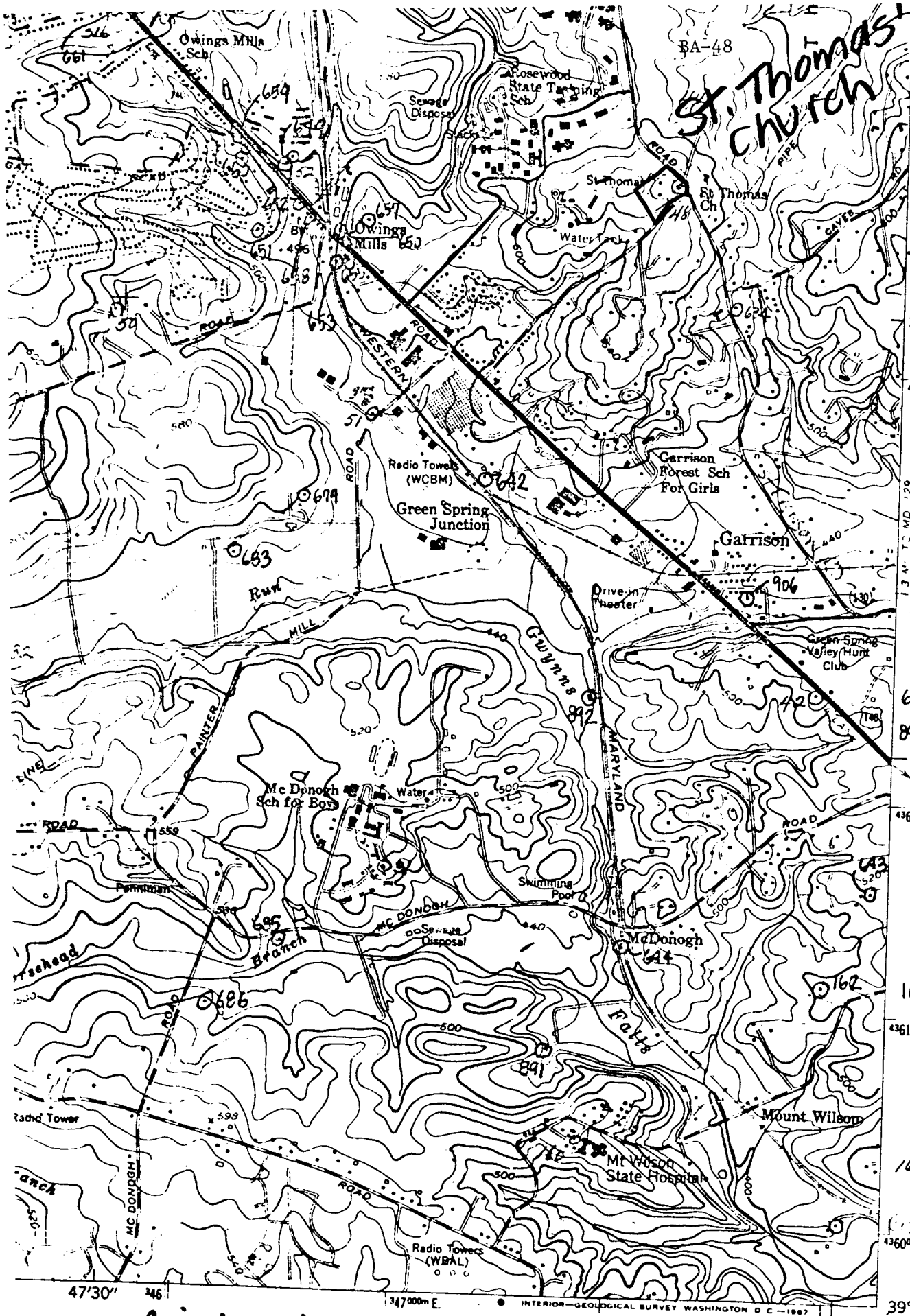
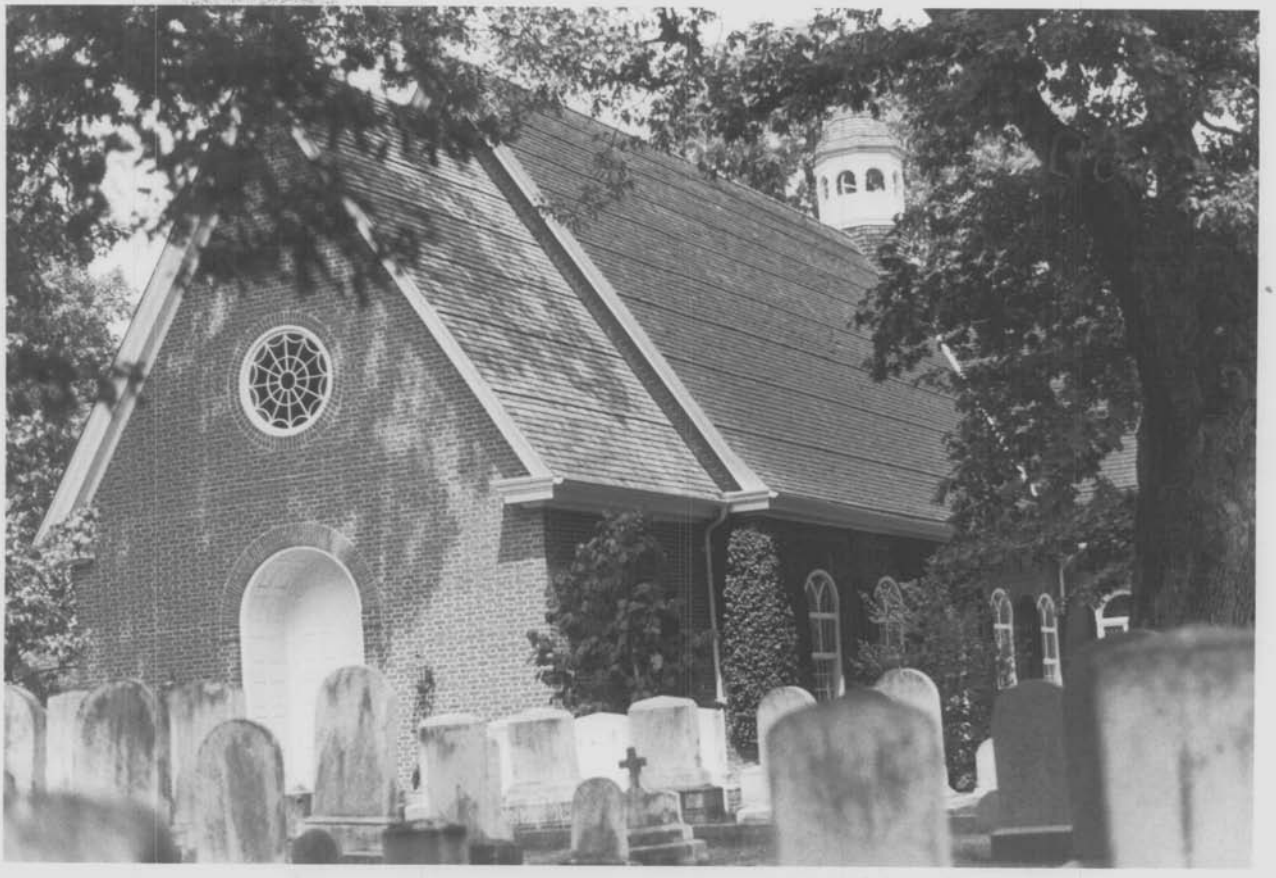
The Garrison Church, Sketches of the History of St. Thomas Parish, Garrison Forest, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1742 to 1852. New York: James Pott and Co., 1898.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County, Part II. Originally published in one volume in Philadelphia, 1881. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1971.



Reisterstown Quad

BA-48



Bc-42

St. Thomas Church
Balto. Co.
George Andrews
view from the south

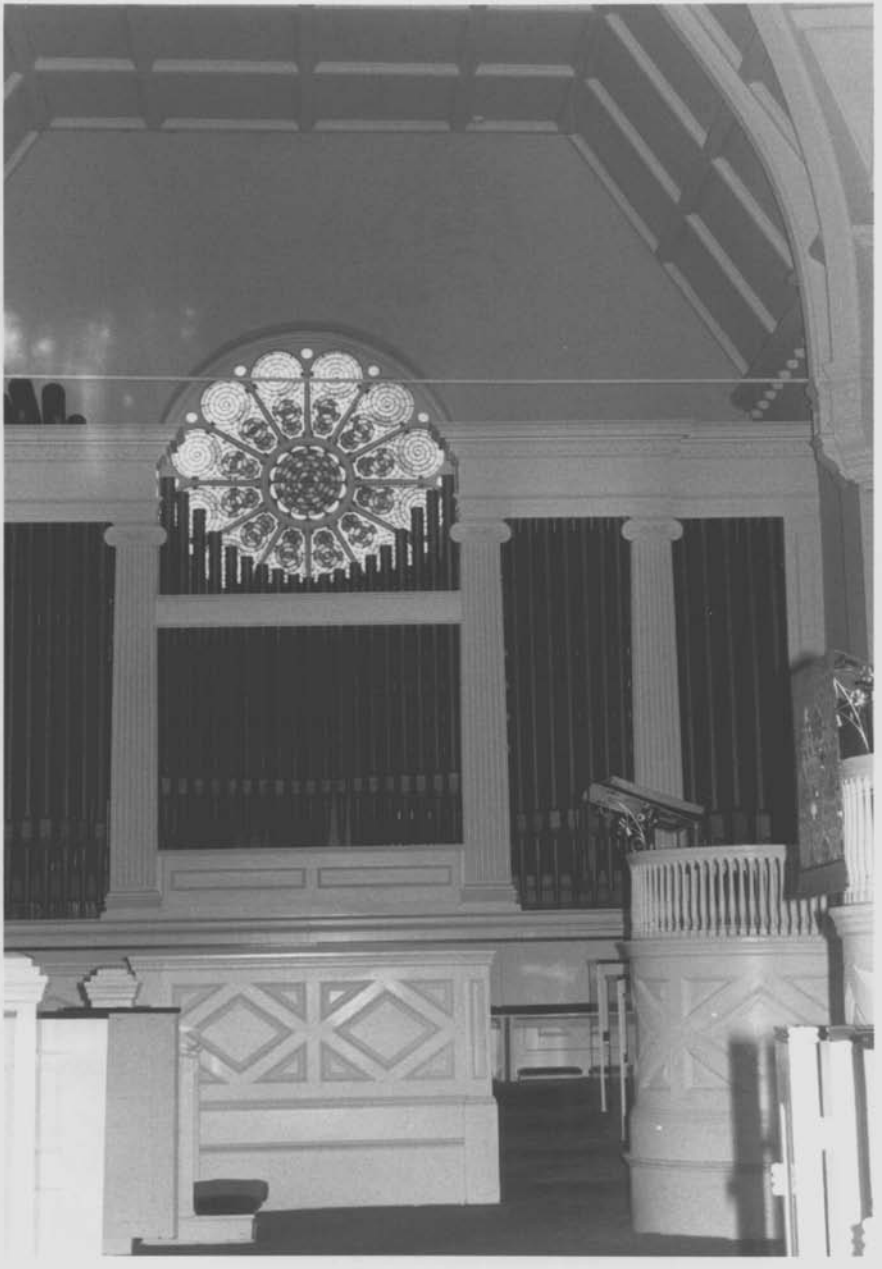
Sept. 1977
Neg. in file - MHT

BA-418

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County
~~Exterior~~ George Andrews
southeast exterior
of the nave

Sept. 1977

negative in file - MHT



BA-418

St. Thomas Church
Balto. Co.
George Andrews
interior of northwest
transept

Sept. 1977
neg. in file - MHT

BP-118

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County
St. George Parish
interior - looking toward
chancel

Sept. 1977
Negative in file - MHT

BA-418

St. Thomas
Church
Baltimore County
Burial Vault

MRE
~~Feb~~ Feb, 1978
Neg in file - MHT

BA-118

St. Thomas Church
Baltimore County

Burial Vault

MRE Feb, 1978
Reg. in file - MHT

BA 48
St. Thomas
Parish Hall
GSVHD
St. Thomas Le
JTW
8/22/79
Md. Hist.Tr.
from S.E.