NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name St. Thomas' Church

other names PG:86A-7
~~PG: 86A-27~~; Page's Chapel

2. Location

street & number 14300 St. Thomas Church Road ☐ not for publication

city or town Upper Marlboro ☒ vicinity

state Maryland code MD County Prince George's code 033 zip code 20772

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying office/Title — Date 11-14-00

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying office/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:
- ☐ entered in the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
- ☐ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	Buildings
		Sites
	1	Structures
		Objects
1	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resource previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religious facility/church

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Religious facility/church

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL: Georgian
MID-19TH CENTURY: Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK
roof CONCRETE (fireproof shingles)
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☒ B Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property as yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☒ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Religion

Period of Significance

1742-1905

Significant Dates

1742-45, 1859, 1888, 1905

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Bishop Thomas John Clagett

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Daniel Page, builder

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

PG:86A-7

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 18.75 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) Brandywine, MD quad

		Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1		18			3			
2					4			

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian; *Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., Parish Historian*

organization M-NCPPC; *St. Thomas' Church* date July, 2000

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Dr.; *14300 St. Thomas Church Rd.* telephone (301) 952-3521; *274-4685*

city or town Upper Marlboro state MD zip code 20772

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

St. Thomas' Church is a handsome brick church in a picturesque rural setting; the building reflects its colonial cruciform plan as well as fine Victorian additions. The original building was constructed between 1742 and 1745 as a mission chapel, a one-story brick structure of the same plan as its parish church, St. Paul's, Baden. More than a century later, after St. Thomas' became its own parish, a series of additions were constructed: the easterly chancel in 1859, the west bell tower with entry vestibule in1888, and a small northeasterly sacristy in1905. The alterations of the 1850s included the installation of then-popular Gothic Revival features, e.g., the original round-headed windows were reconfigured to gothic-arch, and stained glass was installed, and decorative vergeboards were applied to the gable eaves. Renovations of the 1950s removed some of the Victorian alterations, but retained the major structural changes of a century earlier. The result is a very handsome church building that tells the full story of its evolution over more than 250 years, standing on a tree-shaded knoll surrounded by a landscaped burial ground. The 18.75-acre property also includes a commemorative monument, a combination school-and-office building, and a small cemetery building.

EXTERIOR

Constructed 1742-45, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church at Croom is a one-story brick church structure of cruciform plan; a series of additions were constructed, including the easterly chancel (1859), the west bell tower with entry vestibule (1888), and a small northeasterly sacristy (1905). This handsome building stands on a tree-shaded knoll surrounded by a landscaped burial ground. The 18.75-acre property includes a separate church hall, a combination school and office building, and a small cemetery building.

Entry to the church is through a gothic-arch double door (each leaf with six horizontal molded panels) in the tower at the west gable front. This three-story tower was added in 1888 as a memorial to Bishop Thomas John Claggett. The door is enframed by a gothic-arch brick surround of alternating stretcher and two headers. Above the door, bounded by two narrow belt courses, is a rectangular marble plaque which reads:

> "This tower was erected by this church and other churches of the diocese to
> the Glory of God and in memory of the right Rev. Thomas J. Claggett. S.T.D.
> First bishop of Maryland and for many years Rector of this Church. A.D. 1888."

There is a gothic-arch window in each of the north and south walls of the tower at first-story level. The brick of the tower is laid in 6:1 American bond.

At second-story level of the tower, a round stained-glass window is centered in the west facade; it has a surround of the same pattern of bricks as that of the double door below. Also at second level, there is a gothic-arch stained-glass window in each of the north and south sides of the tower.

The third level of the tower consists of a belfry with gothic-arch openings on all four sides; there is a wooden railing at the base of each opening. Below the openings is a decorative band defined by two wide brick belt courses; on the north, west and south faces, decoration is provided by five narrow vertical recessed panels, centered between the belt courses. The tower is covered by a pyramidal roof whose overhanging boxed eaves shelter a narrow frieze. Until recently the pyramidal roof was surmounted by a wooden cross covered with gold leaf.

The main block (original structure) is laid in Flemish bond, and measures 27 by 50 feet. It has a low watertable surmounted by one row of projecting brick headers. The roof covering is new, of synthetic shingles laid to look like wood shingles. The north and south bays on the west gable front (flanking the tower) are filled with gothic-arch stained-glass windows with sandstone sills and brick surrounds of the same pattern as the entry door. These windows and those on the north and south elevations of the original structure had round-arch heads and wooden sills; they were altered during renovations to the building in 1859. The added inner brick surround, as well as the brickwork of the gothic-arch enframement, of each of the windows of the original structure gives evidence that the original windows were wider than the present ones. Each of the west and east gable ends is enclosed by a pent with a deeply overhanging coved wooden cornice and wide molded frieze, which continue around all four elevations of the original structure. The wooden frieze, cove and cornice details are original features of the building's plan.

The cruciform plan of the original structure is formed by a small (ca. 9 ½ by 10 ½ feet) hip-roof projecting porch centered in each of the five-bay north and south long elevations. The south porch has a brick floor and a round-arch opening on the south; leading into the nave from this south porch is a double eight-panel door with HL hinges, brass handles and metal lintel beam. The corresponding north porch is lighted by a gothic-arch stained-glass window in its north wall; a low chimney rises from the east plane of its hipped roof. The north porch houses the heating and cooling systems for the church.

At the east gable end of the original structure is a rectangular gable-roof chancel (ca. 13 ½ by 15 ½ feet), constructed in the 1850s. (At the same time the cornices were replaced with plain bracketed cornices, and trimmed with openwork quatrefoil vergeboards. All eaves and cornices of the main block have since been restored to their original coved profile; the chancel addition is now the only part of the church which retains its 1859 Victorian Gothic decorative cornice.)

The chancel is constructed of brick laid in 10:1 American bond (with many patches), and is lighted by a tripartite stained-glass window with wooden tracery centered in its east gable end. The eaves are supported by arched brackets, and the raking cornice is embellished with cut-out quatrefoil decoration, as noted above. Each of the north and south walls of the chancel is lighted by one gothic-arch stained-glass window.

The latest addition to St. Thomas' Church was the small sacristy, constructed on the north side of the chancel. The sacristy is a low one story high, with hipped roof, built of brick laid in an irregular 6:1 American

bond. Constructed in 1905, the sacristy is entered by a door in the north wall, and lighted by a stained-glass 1/1 double-hung-sash window on the east.

INTERIOR

One enters the church through the double door in the west bell tower. The entry vestibule is lighted by the stained-glass windows to north and south. Its walls below the chair-rail are sheathed with vertical board wainscoting, and there is a molded baseboard. From the entry vestibule, a double door leads into the nave; each leaf of the door has four vertical molded panels, and the opening is surmounted by a gothic arch transom with clear-glass tripartite window. The door has a large brass box lock with a round brass seal which reads "Ball and Ball, Whitford, Pennsylvania." The butt hinges are painted over but have faint evidence of a decorative surface design in the metal.

The church has a brick floor. The walls have the same vertical board wainscoting with chair-rail and baseboard as the entry vestibule.

Above the west end of the nave is the fifteen-foot deep gallery, supported by four slim Tuscan columns. The stair to the balcony, an original feature, rises toward the south along the west wall (diagonally across the south window of the west gable front); at the southwest corner the stair turns 90 degrees to the east, and rises along the south wall to the second-story balcony. The upper run of the stair is enclosed.

The church has a central aisle, lined by white-painted paneled wooden pew boxes that were installed in 1958. The doors of the pews have "HL" hinges and are held closed by a wooden toggle on the inner side. There is a north-south aisle at the center of the building, leading to double doors centered in the north and south walls that give entry to the north and south porches (see above). A tablet in the floor by the south door commemorates Benedict Calvert (ca .1724-1778). His wife is also buried there. The stained-glass windows lighting the north and south walls have an upper fixed panel and a lower casement. The glass was installed between 1859 and 1862. The window sills are 14 inches wide, indicating the thickness of the brick walls. Some of the windows are painted with commemorative inscriptions.

The ceiling is a half-round or barrel vault, reconstructed in 1958 to conform to the church's original specifications. The wooden cornice, of multiple courses of moldings, projects inward, hiding indirect lighting of the room. The pulpit is in the northeast corner of the nave in an enclosed wood-paneled six-sided box raised on a pedestal and reached by a flight of four steps. A high round-arch opening in the east wall leads into the chancel, which has a gothic-arch ribbed ceiling, and is lighted by the centered tripartite east window. There is a low balustrade of turned balusters across the altar area, and paneled wainscoting and a dark wood chair-rail match the treatment of the pew boxes. A memorial tablet in the brick floor of the chancel marks the burial place of Reverend John Eversfield.

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SETTING

The church is surrounded on three sides by the cemetery, which contains the graves of many prominent citizens and old county families. Large oaks and cedars shade the church yard, which is enclosed by a wrought-iron fence. The fence and the cast iron gate posts with Gothic designs was installed in 1907. The gate has "St. Thomas" worked into its design.

Within the fenced area and south of the church is a modern (1984) bronze bas relief set into a pink granite monument, dedicated to Bishop Claggett. Its inscription reads "How awesome is the dawn sky above the hills of Croom . . . . It makes my heart sing 'Praised be God'."

The church office and nursery school building, constructed in 1980, is a long one-story brick building, five bays by one. It was designed in a colonial style compatible with the church. The unfenestrated south gable end has a centered exterior brick chimney with weathering. The west (main) facade is sheltered by a five-bay facade-wide shed-roof porch supported on wood posts.

The cemetery building, constructed in 1995, is a small (ca. 18 by 20 feet) one-story brick building located north of the church on sloping ground in the northerly section of the cemetery. The building has a gable roof, and a shed-roof porch sheltering the principal south facade. It is compatible in style with the school/office building to the west.

The church stands at the high point of the land, shaded by ancient trees, its immediate grounds planted with boxwoods and flowers. The carefully kept cemetery grounds gently slope away from the church on north, east and south. The school building is located to the northwest, directly accessible from the gravel entry space, so that the immediate view of the church is uninterrupted by any modern structures.

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SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

St. Thomas' Church is significant under Criterion B in the area of Religion for its association with Bishop Thomas John Claggett, first Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church consecrated in the United States, who is credited with leading the American Episcopal Church through a period of transition following the American Revolution. The church derives additional significance under Criterion C for its architectural character. The original cruciform-plan main block was constructed in the 1740s, and is one of the earliest Episcopal churches in Southern Maryland. The mid-19th century Gothic Revival renovations exemplify a trend which affected many Colonial period churches in the Chesapeake Tidewater region; in this case, the work was carried out under the direction of New York City architect John W. Priest, an associate of A. J. Downing, and influential in the promotion of early Gothic Revival architecture. Priest's renovations included the replacement of the original windows with gothic-arch shapes, and the addition of the apse. In 1888, the frontal bell tower was erected in memory of Bishop Claggett. Recent restoration work, in 1954, was based on the specifications of the original 1740s building contract, but retained Priest's Gothic Revival additions. The building embodies the architectural evolution of an important ecclesiastical landmark.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The village of Croom is located in the rural southeasterly section of Prince George's County, an area that was occupied for thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived. There is considerable evidence of Native American settlements along the Patuxent River; prehistoric sites indicate the presence of many villages and temporary camps in the centuries before the arrival of the first European colonists. The first places settled by the new colonists in the seventeenth century were along the waterways, the principal arteries of transportation in those early years.

As the seventeenth century came to an end, the important establishments in the southeast section of the County were along the Patuxent River or its principal tributaries. The earliest towns were established on these waterways - Charles Town was first established in 1683 at the confluence of the Western Branch and the Patuxent River, in that part of Calvert County which would subsequently become Prince George's County. In 1692, the Church of England became the established church of the Maryland colony through an Act of the Provincial Assembly. By this time, 10 counties had been established in the colony, and those counties were divided into 30 parishes. When Prince George's County came into existence in 1696, two parishes had already been established within its boundaries; one of these parishes was St. Paul's, along the Patuxent River in the area that had been Calvert County. At that time, there was already a small church at Charles Town, the busy port town on the Patuxent which was to be Prince George's County's first County seat. This small church building was used as a meeting place for the new County Court until a new courthouse was completed in 1698. There was also by 1693 a rural chapel for residents of the more remote regions, at "Brightwell's" about 12 miles south of Charles Town. In 1704, St. Paul's Parish was reduced in size by the creation of Queen Anne Parish in its

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northern section; the small chapel in the Collington Hundred became Queen Anne Parish church, now St. Barnabas' at Leeland.

In 1706 and 1707, six additional port towns were established in Prince George's County, two of which, Marlborough (soon to be known as Upper Marlborough) and Nottingham, were located in the area near Croom. Nottingham was located on the Patuxent River, and Upper Marlborough on the Western Branch, the major tributary of the Patuxent. The rivers and their tributaries were the essential avenues of commerce between these and other port towns, but a network of roads was beginning to develop by this time, establishing overland connections between the several port towns, the Anglican chapels, and the developing tobacco plantations in the area. In 1718, county residents petitioned for the removal of the county seat from Charles Town to Upper Marlborough, approximately three miles northwest (and inland) on the Western Branch. In 1721 this change took place, and Upper Marlborough became the County Seat; with the seat of government, commercial, economic and social prominence was also removed from Charles Town. Within a decade it was decided to build a new parish church in the newly developing inland region, to replace the original small church building at Charles Town. A site was chosen, nine miles southwest of Charles Town and four miles east of the Patuxent River; St. Paul's at Baden, begun in 1733, was completed in 1735. The bill by which funding for St. Paul's Church was approved also included approval for the construction of a future chapel-of-ease, to replace the earlier 1693 chapel. The building contract for the chapel-of-ease was nearly identical with that of the parish church (St. Paul's).

St. Thomas' Church (originally known as Page's Chapel) was completed in 1745. It served as the chapel of St. Paul's for more than a century, then became the church of its own St. Thomas' Parish, established in 1850. Since then, Victorian additions and embellishment have changed the appearance of the colonial chapel, but the essential form of the original building is preserved, and the present picturesque building exemplifies the architectural evolution of an important ecclesiastical landmark.

The period of significance of St. Thomas' Church extends from 1745, with the completion of the chapel, until 1905, when the last addition to the church building was completed.

RESOURCE HISTORY

St. Thomas' Church (constructed 1742-1745) in St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish (established 1850), Prince George's County, is the second oldest ecclesiastical structure in the county. Its associations with John Eversfield (1702-1780), Bishop Thomas John Claggett (1743-1816), the first Episcopal bishop consecrated on American soil, and the Benedict Calvert family of Mount Airy among others, make it one of the most historic ecclesiastical buildings in the county.

St. Thomas' Parish was originally a part of St. Paul's Parish which was established as one of the thirty original Maryland parishes in 1692. The congregation had its beginnings before that at the tract known as

Mount Calvert Manor (then in Calvert County) on the Patuxent River. The parish at its creation in 1692 consisted of one structure, the parish church in Charles Town, a port town established at Mount Calvert. In 1693, the vestry authorized a chapel-of-ease to be built at Richard Brightwell's plantation in the southern part of the parish near present day Poplar Hill. In 1696, Charles Town became the county seat of the newly established Prince George's County. The County Court met at an older church at Charles Town until a court house could be constructed. The population of the parish and the county continued to increase and the town of Upper Marlborough and Nottingham soon eclipsed the port of Charles Town. In March 1721, the county seat was moved from Charles Town to Upper Marlborough and, although the St. Paul's congregation remained at Charles Town, the town's fortunes began to decline.[1]

In May 1728, John Eversfield, the sixth rector of the parish, was inducted into the living of St. Paul's Parish by Governor Benedict Leonard Calvert, son of the 4th Lord Baltimore. Eversfield was born 1701/02 in County Offally, Ireland; orphaned at an early age, he went to live with relations and was educated in Southwark near London, England. In 1723 he was admitted to Oxford University, and received his B. A. degree in 1727. During his time at Oxford, Eversfield was under the tutelage of the Reverend Mr. Thomas Bray, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge; Bray had visited the Maryland colony in 1700. Bray took John Eversfield into his care and tutored him, preparing him for Holy Orders, and for travel to the colony. Eversfield was ordained in 1727, set sail and arrived in Maryland in February 1728. A few months later he was inducted into the living of St. Paul's Parish, Prince George's County.[2]

It was under Eversfield's direction that St. Paul's Parish decided in 1730 to petition the Maryland Assembly to enact an additional tobacco poll tax to replace the parish church at Charles Town. Then in the throes of a tobacco price depression, the Upper House of the Assembly rejected the parish's petition without comment. In 1731, the parish again petitioned the Assembly to build a new church, requesting a tax of an additional 10 pounds of tobacco per poll to build a new church, no mention being made of a new chapel-of-ease. When the formal bill was prepared, however, it requested the additional tax for the building of a new church and a new chapel-of-ease. This bill did not pass.[3]

St. Paul's petition was finally passed in 1732. The bill specified that the new church would be built first, then the chapel-of-ease. In August 1732 the Upper House endorsed "An Act for the Assessment of so

[1] *Archives of Maryland*, Prince George's County Court Records; Land Records of Prince George's County

[2] John Eversfield's ordination papers, Guildhall Library, London, MS 10326/58; *John Eversfield's Journal*, pp.697,701,710,715-16, Eversfield Collection, Maryland State Archives.

[3] *Archives of Maryland*, 1731, pp.259, 262, 270, 305-06, 309, 318

much Tobacco on the Inhabitants of St. Paul's Parish in Prince George's County as will build them a new Parish Church and Chappele of Ease."

> "Whereas the Vestrymen Church Wardens and other the Inhabitants of St. Paul's Parish in Prince Georges County have by their petition to this General Assembly set forth That their Parish Church and Chappele of Ease are so Extreamily out of repair that there is an Absolute Necessity for building new ones And have prayed That An Act may pass that so much Tobacco may be Levyed on the Taxable persons of the said Parish as will Enable them to build first a new Church and afterwards a Chappele in such places in the said Parish as shall be Thought most Convenient by the Majority of the Parishioners Be It Therefore Enacted . . . (sic)"

And the Justices of the County were to

> "Assess and Levy on the Taxable persons of the said Parish any Quantity of Tobacco not Exceeding Twenty Thousand pounds of Tobacco in any one year and to Continue so doing yearly until there shall be a Sufficient quantity of Tobacco Levyed to Erect and Compleat a new Church and Chappele . . . . And the said Tobacco when so Collected shall be paid yearly to the Vestrymen and Churchwardens who are hereby Authorized and required to apply the same to the building and finishing first a new Church and then a Chappele in the said Parish (sic)."[4]

The new parish church was built (1733-35) on two acres of Thomas Truman Greenfield's plantation, "Golden Race," in what is today the village of Baden. This is the current St. Paul's Parish Church. The chapel-of-ease at Brightwell's was abandoned and the congregation moved to the new St. Paul's Church. It was almost ten years before the contract for the new chapel-of-ease, to be located in the northern part of the parish, was addressed. Until that time, the congregation at Charles Town continued to meet in the old parish church there.

In September 1742, the vestry minutes noted that the location of the new chapel was to be at "Gough's old fields," part of a tract called "The Cuckold's Rest," owned in 1742 by Daniel Page. It was located in the area which would become the village of Croom. In a contract of October 1742 (see Appendix) the vestry agreed with Daniel Page to construct the chapel-of-ease on two acres of Page's property.[5]

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[4] *Archives of Maryland, Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, May 1730 - August 1732*

[5] *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819; Prince George's County Court Records, June 1742 - June 1743, pp. 587-89; Prince George's County Deed BB#1:199-200.

The contract for the new chapel was almost identical to that which was used for St. Paul's Church ten years before. The biggest difference was in the decision to construct cove cornices instead of the modillion cornices at St. Paul's. The new chapel was to be completed by 25 December 1745. Since Page owned the land and was contracted to build the new chapel, the building came to be known unofficially as Page's Chapel. By 13 August 1745, five of the six vestrymen met with Reverend Eversfield at the chapel to view the finished work. Finding it satisfactory, they ordered persons interested in building the pews to appear before the vestry on the first Tuesday in September. Daniel Page was contracted to build the pews in the chapel he had just completed; he was to be paid three pounds current money per pew by the pew owners. It is generally acknowledged that the first service in Page's Chapel took place 25 December 1745, the very date when the chapel was to be completed.[6]

Page's Chapel changed little over the next few years. The windows were repaired in 1760-61 by sexton Michael Cobb, using painted canvas, and in 1765, oznabrig, tar and tacks were used to repair them. By 1769, new windows were badly needed, and Phillip Hodgkin and Thomas Brightwell were engaged to construct them at both church and chapel using only the best pine planking and Bristol glass. Shutters were also repaired and painted and the leaks in the porches were stopped up.[7]

The coming of the American Revolution saw the voluntary resignation of Eversfield from his priestly duties in 1775. In 1776, he was called before the Committee of Observation for Prince George's County, presumably for his Loyalist sympathies. He was taken into custody and presented before the Convention in Annapolis in May 1776. The Convention resolved "that in consideration of the age and infirmities of the said John Eversfield and his want of abilities to exert any dangerous influence, that he be discharged, on paying the expenses of his confinement." Eversfield retired to his plantation, "Eversfield's Map of Italy" near Page's Chapel, for the remainder of his life. He died 8 November 1780, having held the distinction of the longest rectorate in the history of St. Paul's Parish, a record which remains unbroken to the present day in both St. Paul's and St. Thomas' parishes.

In his will, Eversfield directed "And as for my Body I desire it may be decently Interred in my Parish Chappel under the communion table . . ." The communion table in 1780 would have been located on the east wall directly in front of the current post-1850 archway leading into the present day chancel. During the remodeling of the 1850s the vestry offered the Eversfield family the opportunity to transfer Eversfield's remains to a location in the new chancel under the communion table. Tradition held that his remains were moved and reinterred under the present day altar, a fact verified during the renovation of the 1950s. His resting place

[6] *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819

[7] *ibid.*

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remained unmarked until the late 1980s when a gray granite memorial tablet was placed in the brick floor of the chancel.[8]

The parish went without an incumbent minister until the hiring of the Reverend Mr. Thomas John Claggett in 1780. Thomas John Claggett was one of the most prominent and important personages of his period in Prince George's County and surrounding areas, particularly in guiding the American Episcopal church through its transition after the American Revolution. Claggett was born in October 1743 in Prince George's County, son of the Reverend Samuel Claggett, who served parishes in Calvert and Charles Counties. With his father's death in 1756, the younger Claggett inherited the 500-acre plantation, Croom, from which the small village around Page's Chapel took its name.

Claggett was tutored in his youth by his uncle, Reverend John Eversfield of St. Paul's Parish. At the age of 17, he entered the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) where he received degrees in 1764 and 1765. He returned to Prince George's County and studied for the priesthood with his uncle Eversfield. In 1767, Claggett travelled to London to be admitted to Holy Orders. He was ordained to the diaconate in September of that year, and to the priesthood the following month. Upon his return to America, he served first at St. Anne's in Annapolis, and then at All Saints Parish in Calvert County (1769-1776).

With the outbreak of the American Revolution and the Declaration of Rights in 1776, Thomas John Claggett retired to his Croom plantation, but in 1780, after the Vestry Act of 1779, he approached the Vestry of St. Paul's Parish in Prince George's County, and was given the two pulpits of St. Paul's Parish. Through the remaining years of the war, and the subsequent formation of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States in 1789, Claggett remained Rector of St. Paul's Parish, serving both pulpits and residing at his Croom plantation.

In May 1792, the Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church elected Thomas John Claggett as Bishop, and in September of that year he was consecrated at Trinity Church in New York City as the first Bishop of Maryland. He was the first American Episcopal Bishop to be consecrated in the United States; all previous Bishops had been consecrated in the British Isles. Claggett continued his stewardship of St. Paul's Parish, holding ordinations at Page's Chapel as well as the usual duties of a parish priest. In 1800 he was appointed chaplain of the U. S. Senate at its first session in the District of Columbia.

In 1810, Claggett established a new Episcopal congregation in Upper Marlboro, the County seat, using a small frame building which had been abandoned circa 1800 by an earlier Presbyterian congregation. This became Trinity Church, which figured prominently in the British invasion during the War of 1812, and was

[8] *Archives of Maryland*, 78:141; Prince George's County Will T#1:131-33; *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819.

subsequently (in 1846) replaced by a brick church designed by Robert Cary Long, Jr. Bishop Claggett served as the Rector of Trinity Church until his death in August 1816.

Bishop Claggett was interred in a small family graveyard at his Croom plantation. His influence, not only in his Prince George's County churches, had been great. He is credited with saving the Anglican/Episcopal church in Maryland, by bringing its various factions together. At the time that he was consecrated as Bishop, there was a need for a strong leader, and by his strength and evident goodness, he was able to push the church forward and reestablish its respectability after the Revolution.

In 1888, St. Thomas' Church and other congregations from the Diocese of Maryland honored Thomas John Claggett by the construction of a memorial bell tower at St. Thomas' Church (cf. infra). In October 1898, after a resolution of the House of Bishops, the remains of Bishop Claggett and his wife were removed from the graveyard at his ancestral property and were subsequently reinterred in the crypt of the National Cathedral in Washington. In 1984, an additional memorial was erected to honor Bishop Claggett: the bronze bas relief sculpted by Felix de Weldon, and mounted in a marble monument in the south churchyard at St. Thomas' Church.[9]

Returning to the sequential history of the chapel at Croom, it is interesting to note that in 1788, a second interment took place within Page's Chapel. Benedict Calvert (ca. 1724-88) of Mount Airy in Prince George's County was an illegitimate and acknowledged son of Charles Calvert, 5th Lord Baltimore. Known as Benedict Swingate in his youth, Calvert arrived in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1742, and within a few years began his political career. He held a number of political appointments, married his cousin Elizabeth Calvert, and raised a large family at his Mount Airy plantation. The social life at Mount Airy would have been the most brilliant in the area of Page's Chapel, including visits from the family of George Washington, whose step-son, John Parke Custis married the Calverts' daughter Eleanor in 1774. Benedict Calvert refused to sign the Maryland Oath of Fidelity in 1778, but his property was not confiscated. At the time of his death in January 1788 he owned in excess of 18,000 acres of land in Maryland. He was buried under the floor of Page's Chapel in the nave under the south aisle.[10]

The vestry had appropriated money for unspecified repairs of Page's Chapel in 1784, and circulated subscription lists for additional repairs in 1787. Short of money, the vestry authorized the sale of the parish library in March 1791 to pay for the repairs at the church and chapel. Enlargement of the chapel was authorized in 1793 but the work was never carried out due to lack of funds. William J. Greer supplied chestnut shingles for repair of the chapel roof in 1794. At the same time, the vestry authorized the chapel's

[9] Utley, *Life of Bishop Claggett*; Fulham Palace Papers; *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819.

[10] Paperfuse, Stiverson, Day and Jordan, *Maryland Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature*, Volume I.

cove cornices to be taken down and new ones built in "the present mode of building the plain and neat suitable to the building . . ."[11]

In 1798 a third interment in Page's Chapel took place, that of Elizabeth Calvert (1730-98), widow of Benedict Calvert. Her father had been Governor of Maryland from 1720 to 1727, and as mistress of Mount Airy plantation she had been hostess to many distinguished guests. She was interred in the nave of the chapel under the south aisle beside her husband.[12]

Bishop Claggett informed the vestry in October 1801 that on his own initiative he had taken up a collection to have the chapel windows repaired. He collected twelve dollars, repaired the windows and had enough left over to purchase velvet hangings for the chapel pulpit and reading desk. Bishop Claggett died 2 August 1816, and was interred at the burial ground of his Croome plantation.[13]

The first major change in the interior of Page's Chapel came in 1817. Theodore Wall and William Strickland secured a contract that year to accomplish repairs described as follows:

> "...the pews all to be taken down and new sills of white oak for the flooring of the same and put in complete order a desk and pulpit to be fixed where the communion table now stands and pews be erected where the old pulpit now is, windows to be in complete repair the shingling to be repaired on the north side of the house say about 20 shingles wanting brackets under the eaves where necessary one post under the gallery and the others firmly repaired replaced . . ."

The earliest extant pew assignments for Page's Chapel date from July 1818.[14]

The fourth and last known interment within Page's Chapel was that of Eleanor Calvert Custis Stuart (1754-1811) in 1848. Eleanor Calvert was the second child born to Benedict and Elizabeth Calvert of Mount Airy, and as a child attended nearby Page's Chapel. In 1774 she married John Parke Custis, step-son of George Washington, and after the death of Custis in 1781, married Dr. David Stuart of Virginia. Mrs. Stuart died in 1811, expressing her wish to be buried with her parents in Page's Chapel. It was not until 1848, after

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[11] *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819

[12] *Ibid.*

[13] Utley, *op.cit.; Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819; Bishop Claggett was later reinterred at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

[14] *Records of St. Paul's Parish*, 1733-1819

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the persistent requests of her family, that her remains were reinterred in the chapel. The locations of these four burials were verified during the renovations to St. Thomas' Church in the 1950s.[15]

Until the 1850s, and its independence from St. Paul's Parish, Page's Chapel saw no further major structural alterations. Due to the poor financial condition of the parish, repairs were carried out infrequently, often only when desperately needed.

At the Maryland Diocesan Convention held in Baltimore in May 1850, the upper portion of St. Paul's Parish petitioned the convention to be allowed to form its own parish. The convention approved a division, and Page's Chapel became St. Thomas' Church, parish church of the newly created St. Thomas' Parish. The physical appearance of the church in 1850 differed little from when it had been constructed more than a century earlier. The only changes were the loss of its cove cornices during the repairs of 1794, and the reworking of the interior floor plan with regard to pew and pulpit arrangement in 1817.[16]

The ten years between 1850-1860 saw great changes in the church's appearance. In 1851, the Vestry appointed a committee to contract for and superintend repairs and additions to the church. A chancel was to be built first and then other repairs "as means will allow." The first major change to the church was the addition of the chancel. Fielder Bowie, a vestryman and descendant of the colonial rector John Eversfield, then living at "Eversfield's Map of Italy", donated the bricks from Eversfield's study which stood on the property. The Reverend Samuel R. Gordon (1816-1886) became rector of St. Thomas' Parish in 1852 and instituted many of the architectural changes to the church during the next ten years. In February 1855, contractor Robert Thompson received payment for thirteen feet of walnut railing and banisters, which were installed in the chancel.[17]

In 1858, John W. Priest, a noted ecclesiastical architect and associate of Andrew Jackson Downing, with offices in New York City and Newburg, New York examined the church and made proposals for renovations. Reverend Gordon was then authorized to instruct Priest to prepare working drawings for the roof and cornices of the nave and chancel. These drawings, no longer extant, presumably redesigned the church along Gothic Revival lines. William H. Allen of Baltimore was contracted to accomplish the work. The vestry also authorized Gordon to collect donations for new stained-glass windows for the nave and chancel, and contract for them when he thought he had sufficient funds. By September 1859, the chancel window had been installed as a gift of Mrs. William D. Bowie of nearby Bellefields. The church was closed for plastering between 7 April 1861 and 26 May 1862 which suggests that the other stained-glass windows had been installed in the nave and

[15] *St. Paul's Vestry Minutes 1847-1912*

[16] *Vestry Minutes of St. Thomas' Parish, Vol. 1.*

[17] *Ibid.*

chancel by that time. Five of the twelve stained-glass windows are memorials -- to Bishop Thomas J. Claggett, the Reverend Mr. John Eversfield, the Reverend Mr. Thomas Jackson, Priscilla Skinner, and Sophia O. Calvert.[18]

In 1888, St. Thomas' acquired its most distinguishing feature. A bell tower in memory of Bishop Thomas Claggett was erected on the west side of the church. The tower was designed in the Gothic Revival style by Thomas Buckler Ghequier, architect, of Baltimore. The tower was paid for with donations from the congregation and other congregations in the diocese and elsewhere.[19]

The tower was dedicated 19 July 1888. An account from the 20 July 1888 *Baltimore Sun* describes the tower and its dedication:

> The tower of St. Thomas's Church, near Croome, Prince George's County, Md., ... was dedicated yesterday in the presence of a large congregation. St. Thomas' Church is a brick cruciform structure, dating back one hundred and fifty years, and stands on a knoll within a burying ground, where many graves are unmarked save by slight depressions or elevations of the ground.
>
> Its Tower is a memorial to the Right Reverend Thomas John Claggett, first Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and the first bishop consecrated in America. He officiated for years at St. Thomas' which was in his time a chapel of St. Paul's parish, and his remains lie in the family lot, surrounded by a wall and iron railing, on the Croome estate, five hundred acres in extent, which was willed to him by his father and which was his home. . . .
>
> Prior to the administration of the holy communion, the Rev. Dr. John H. Elliott preached a sermon, his theme being the struggle for the episcopate before the revolution. . . .
>
> Congregation and clergymen lunched under the trees, and at three o'clock another service was held, and the Rev. Thos. O. Tongue preached the sermon.
>
> The new tower is of brick, in style conforming to the ancient architecture of the church, and is surmounted by a belfry, in which hangs a sweet-toned bell, a memorial of the late William D. Bowie. T.B. Ghequier, of Baltimore, was the

[18] Ibid. and Record book of the Rev. Mr. Samuel R. Gordon, St. Thomas' Parish Archives.

[19] Vestry Minutes of St. Thomas' Parish, Vol I.

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architect and Messrs. W. Whittington, E.J. Selby and John Wilson were the contractors. The cost was $675, of which $350 were raised by the congregation, $200 were given by other congregations and other money has been promised.[20]

The tower eventually lost its Gothic Revival balustrade which was later replaced by a Colonial style equivalent. For a few years there was no balustrade in the bell-tower and in 1995 the Colonial version was restored to it.[21]

In 1896, when the Episcopal Diocese of Washington was created out of the Diocese of Maryland, it included the counties of Prince George's, Charles, St Mary's, Montgomery and Washington, D.C. From 1896 to the present day, St Thomas' Parish has been part of the Diocese of Washington. In the latter nineteenth century, Bishop Claggett's remains along with those of his wife, Mary Gantt Claggett, were removed from the burial ground at Croome and reinterred on the grounds of the Washington National Cathedral. At that time, Bishop Satterlee, the first Bishop of Washington, donated to St Thomas' Church a brass plaque replica with the inscription from Bishop Claggett's tomb. The original inscription, written in Latin by Francis Scott Key, was incised on a solid brass plaque and hung on the east wall of the nave of the church.

In 1905 a brick shed-roof sacristy was constructed at the northeast corner of the chancel. A fine, Victorian stained-glass window provides light to the room. This was the final addition to the church building to the present day.[22]

Three mission chapels of St. Thomas' were established during the period between 1874 and 1916. The first, the Church of the Atonement, was built in 1874 for the western portion of St. Thomas' Parish, in the community of Cheltenham. It closed in 1925, and was deconsecrated and demolished in the 1940s, although its cemetery continues to be maintained at the site. The second, St. Simon's, was built ca.1894 adjoining the grounds of St. Thomas' at Croom to serve the African-American communicants of the church; this small chapel building was moved in 1902 to a nearby property in the Croom community and a cemetery was laid out near it. St. Simon's was closed in 1972, but the cemetery is still active. The third, Chapel of the Incarnation, was built in the village of Brandywine in 1916 to serve the southern part of the Parish. A picturesque landmark in the Spanish Mission style of architecture, the Chapel of the Incarnation still maintains an active congregation.

By the early 1950s, the 1860s-1880s Gothic Revival ornamentation of St. Thomas' Church, both interior and exterior, was in need of repair. In June 1952, a group of women from the parish proposed renovations to

[20]"Bishop Claggett Remembered", *The Baltimore Sun*, 20 July 1888.

[21]Vestry Minutes of St. Thomas' Parish, Vol I.

[22]Ibid.

the church and suggested the raising of funds through a tour of historic homes in the Croom area. The vestry approved the fund-raising plans, and the first house tour to benefit the renovation was held in October 1952; it met with resounding success.[23]

Milton Grigg, F.A.I.A., architect of Charlottesville, Virginia, was engaged to prepare proposals for the St. Thomas' Church renovations. In August 1953, the committee for the renovation project presented the congregation with Grigg's four alternative renovation plans. The majority of the congregation voted for the proposal ("Restoration Touches") which would restore most of the colonial simplicity of the original structure, but retain the structural additions (e.g., the apse, gothic-arch windows, and tower) of the past 100 years. Mr. Grigg was contracted to prepare the plans, and a second tour of homes was held in October 1953 to benefit the renovation fund. Grigg, who had worked on the restoration of Jefferson's Monticello, used the extant 1742 Articles of Agreement from the St. Paul's Parish vestry minutes and developed a three-phase approach for the renovation allowing for a possible future full-scale restoration. After some delays, the work was begun, and by 960 Grigg's Phases I and II were complete. Phase III, the complete restoration of St. Thomas' Church to its 1745 appearance, has never been undertaken.[24]

In the intervening years, the church has undergone minor repairs and alterations. The most notable addition, a Lewis and Hitchcock organ, a 540-pipe, tracker-action organ designed by George Paine, was installed in the gallery in 1971. This necessitated the addition of four columns in the nave beneath the gallery to support the additional weight. A colonial style balustrade was also added across the gallery at this time. Also in the latter part of the twentieth century, a memorial window was installed on the south side of the chancel. One of the remaining, undesignated, memorial windows in the nave was renovated and reinstalled in memory of Peter Wood Duvall and Esther Downing Duvall; the restoration of the original window and the creation of the memorial plaque was undertaken by the Willett Studio of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.[25]

In addition to the Reverend Mr. John Eversfield, four other ministers of St. Thomas' Parish have chosen the church cemetery as their resting place: the Reverend Mr. Samuel R. Gordon (1816-1883), the Reverend Mr. John Rigg (1869-1927), the Reverend Mr. William E. Allen (1883-1938) and the Reverend Mr. Francis P. Willes (1866-1940). After more than 250 years St. Thomas' Church remains the focal point of the rural village of Croom. It is the active center of St. Thomas' Parish.

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[23]Ibid.

[24]Ibid., St Thomas' Parish Records, Phases I & II of Restoration1954-1960.

[25]Vestry Minutes of St. Thomas' Parish, Vol. II; St. Thomas' Parish Records, Phases I & II of Restoration 1954-1960.

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St. Thomas' Church at Croom is a unique example in Prince George's County of a colonial cruciform church with Victorian Gothic Revival style additions. The church closest to it in form is St. Paul's Church at Baden, which was constructed from a nearly identical plan; both churches reflect their original cruciform plan, but both have been altered over time. Although the addition of the 1888 entry tower may make St. Thomas' appear to be the more altered of the two, St. Paul's has actually undergone the more drastic alteration, with the elimination and total rebuilding of the south porch, and the reorientation of the building so that entry is through this enlarged south space and the chancel/altar is now in the north. The changes to St. Thomas' have been in the form of additions, and the entire original cruciform structure survives.

Two other colonial brick churches in Prince George's County, St. John's at Broad Creek (ca. 1766) and St. Barnabas' at Leeland (1774) are rectangular (nearly square) in plan with hipped roofs; the former is one story in height, and the latter two stories with hip-on-hip roof. Each has long rectangular double-hung-sash windows, and each has been restored in the last thirty years to its original colonial form. Christ Church in Accokeek was built in 1748 as the "lower chapel" for St. John's at Broad Creek; it also had a rectangular footprint, though longer and further from square than its parish church. This gable-roofed chapel was nearly destroyed by fire in 1856; the surviving brick shell was rebuilt with decorative features of the Italianate style, and a bell tower was added later, giving the present church an appearance greatly altered from its original form.[26]

The only other colonial church surviving in Prince George's County is Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church at Whitemarsh.[27] This stone chapel, originally held in the name of an individual tax-paying priest as part of a large plantation, dates from as early as the 1720s; it is built of dressed stone, with prominent raised stone quoins and semi-octagonal projecting apse, and bears no similarity to St. Thomas' Church. St. Thomas' Church at Croom is therefore a unique example of a colonial cruciform church with important architect-designed renovations of the Gothic Revival style.

[26] See Maryland Inventory of Historic Resources PG#80-24-7, PG#79-59 and PG#83-8.

[27] See Maryland Inventory of Historic Resources PG#71A-19.

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9. Major Bibliographical References:

See footnotes, Section 8

10. Geographical Data:

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is indicated as Parcel 57 on Prince George's County Tax Map 128.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property, 18.75 acres, includes the entire setting of this picturesque and historically important church. The centerpiece of the property is the church which stands on the highest point of land, with huge old trees in the immediate churchyard, and a large landscaped cemetery on grounds that gently slope away from the church. It includes also the stone and bronze memorial to Bishop Claggett just south of the church. The nominated land also includes two other (non-contributing) buildings: the 1980 school/office building northwest of the church and the 1995 cemetery building on lower ground to the north.

UTM Coordinates:

Brandywine, MD and Upper Marlboro, MD quads

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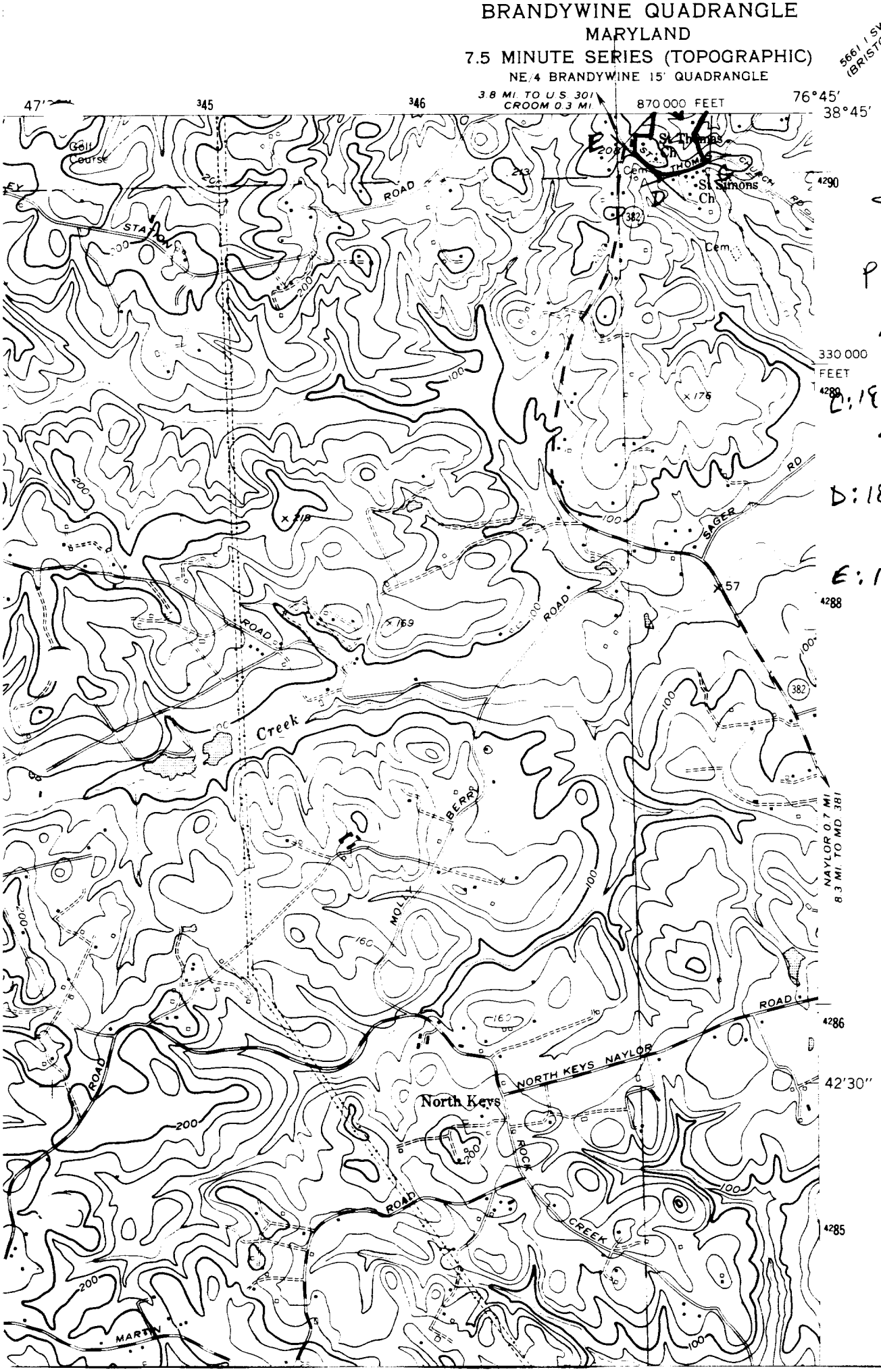
B: 18-347460-4290330

C: 18-347740-4290060

D: 18-347200-4289980

E: 18-347030-4290150



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ST. THOMAS' CHURCH
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

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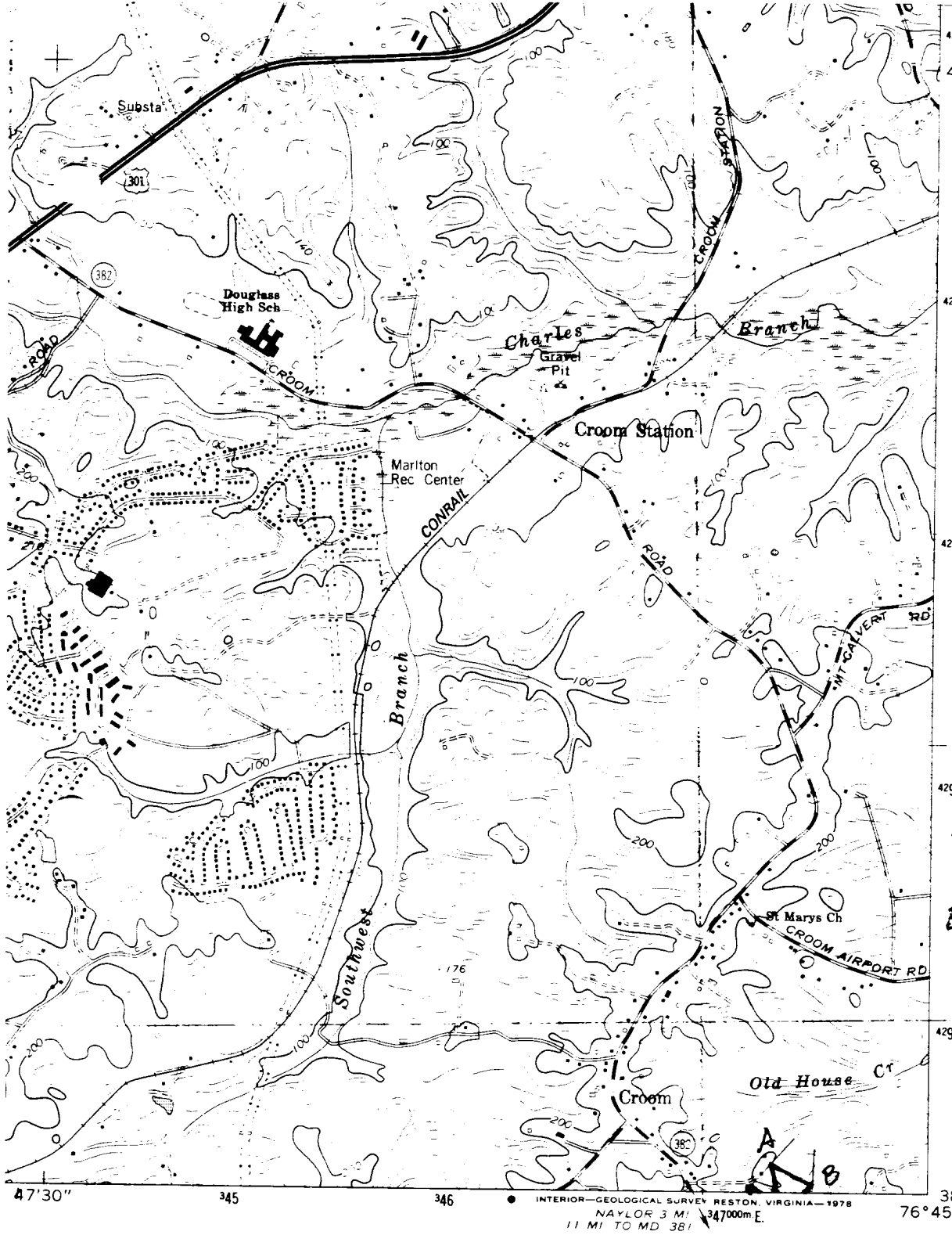
4290060

D: 18-347200
4289980

E: 18-347030
4290150



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ST. THOMAS' CHURCH
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

A: 18-347290 4290420

B: 18-347460 4291330

MILE

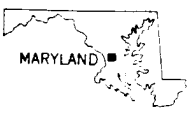
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light-duty

Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt

Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

(LOWER MARLBORO) 5661 II NW



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

UPPER MARLBORO, MD.

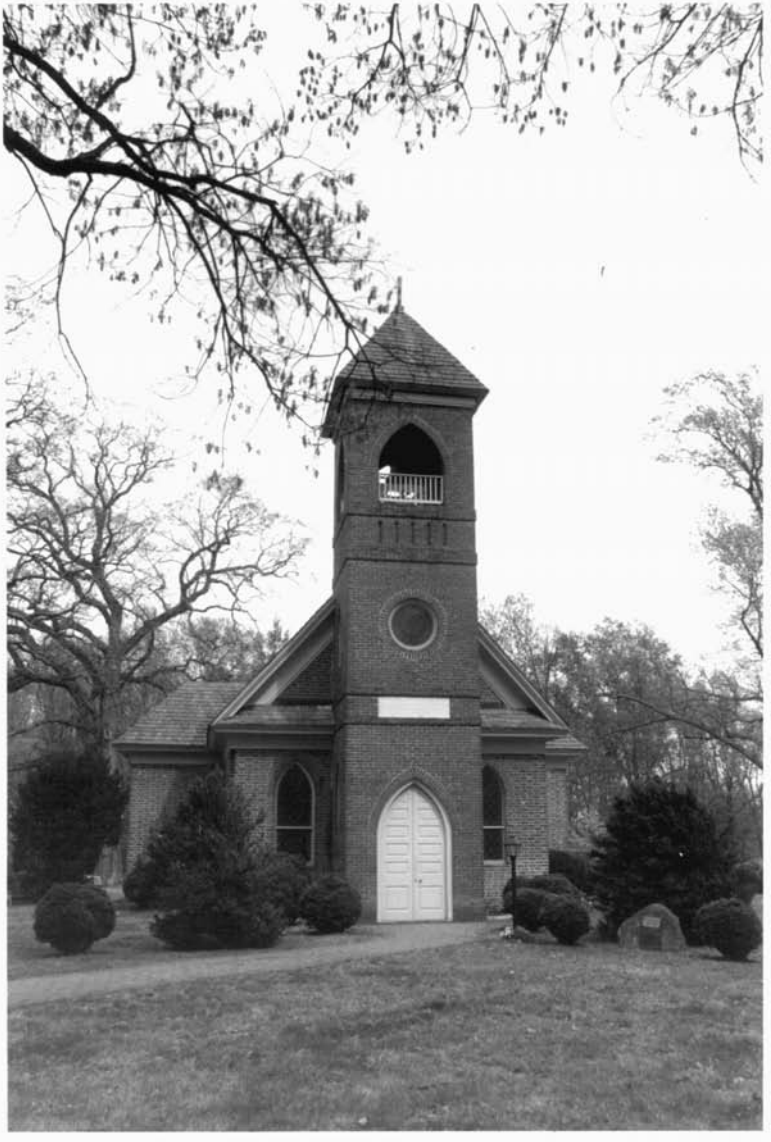
N3845—W7645/7.5

1965
PHOTOREVISED 1978
AMS 5661 IV SE—SERIES V833

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1978

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA—1978



PG #86-A-7

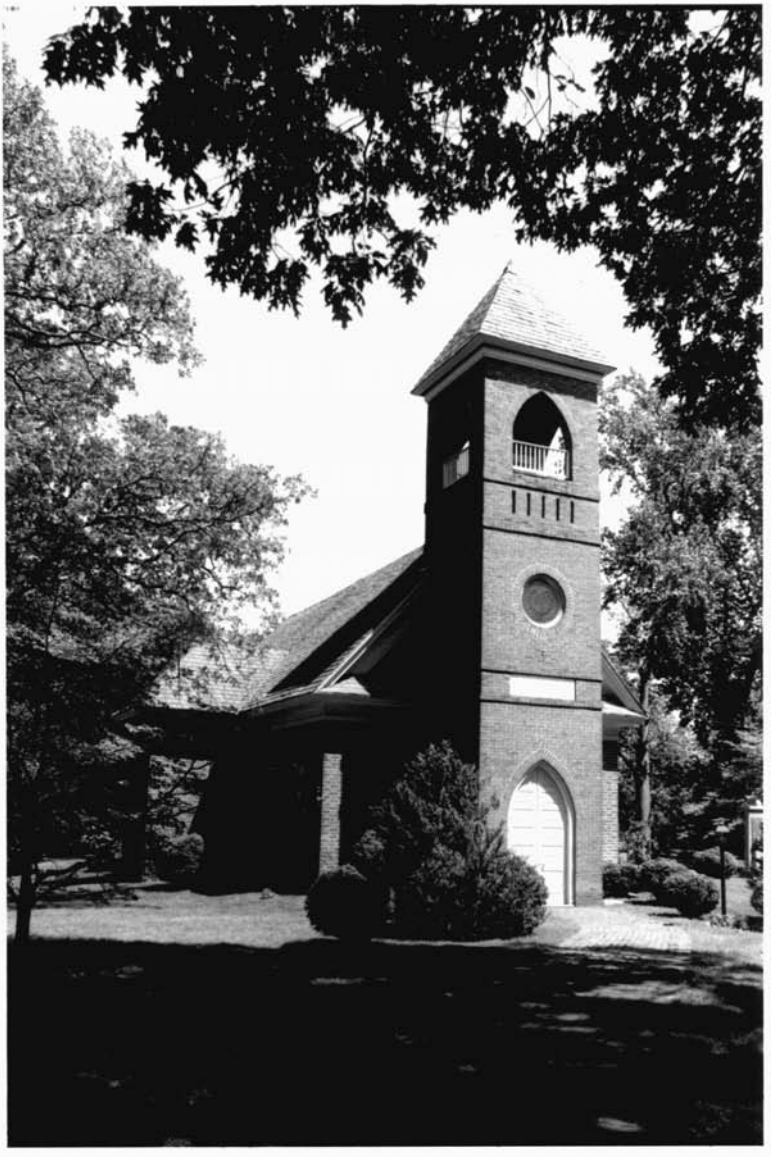
St. Thomas' Church

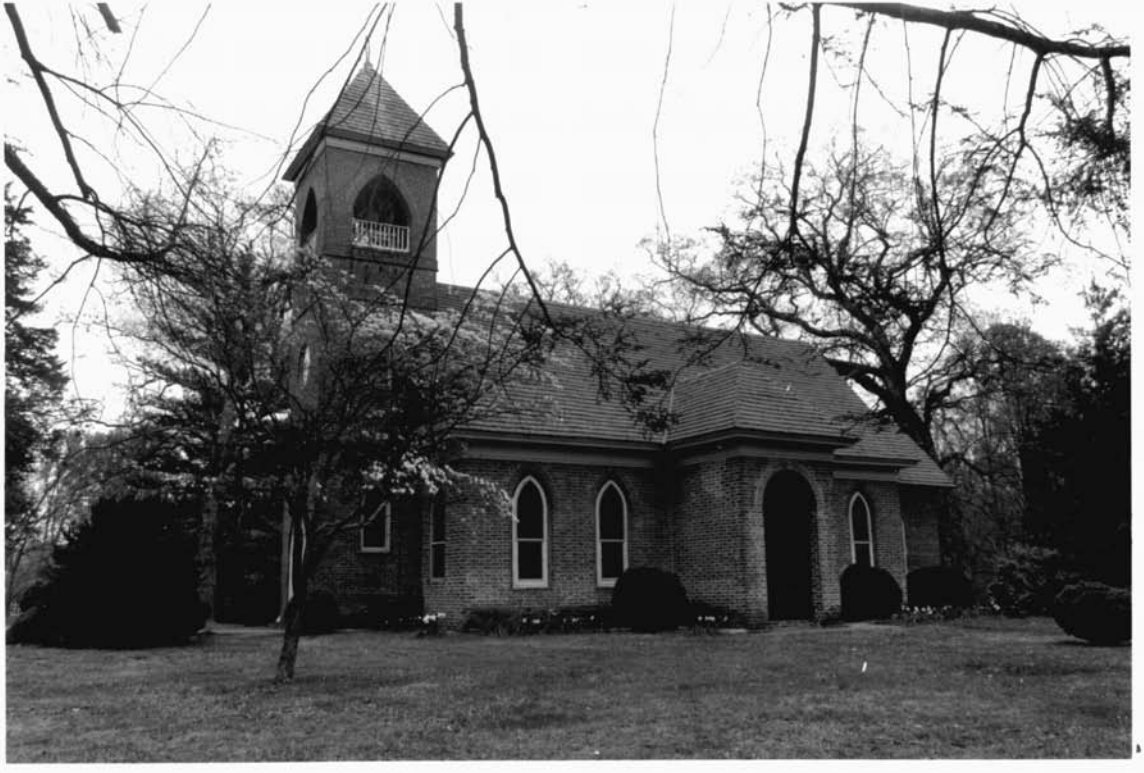
Croom, Prince George's Co. MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1999

West Facade





PG # 86A-7

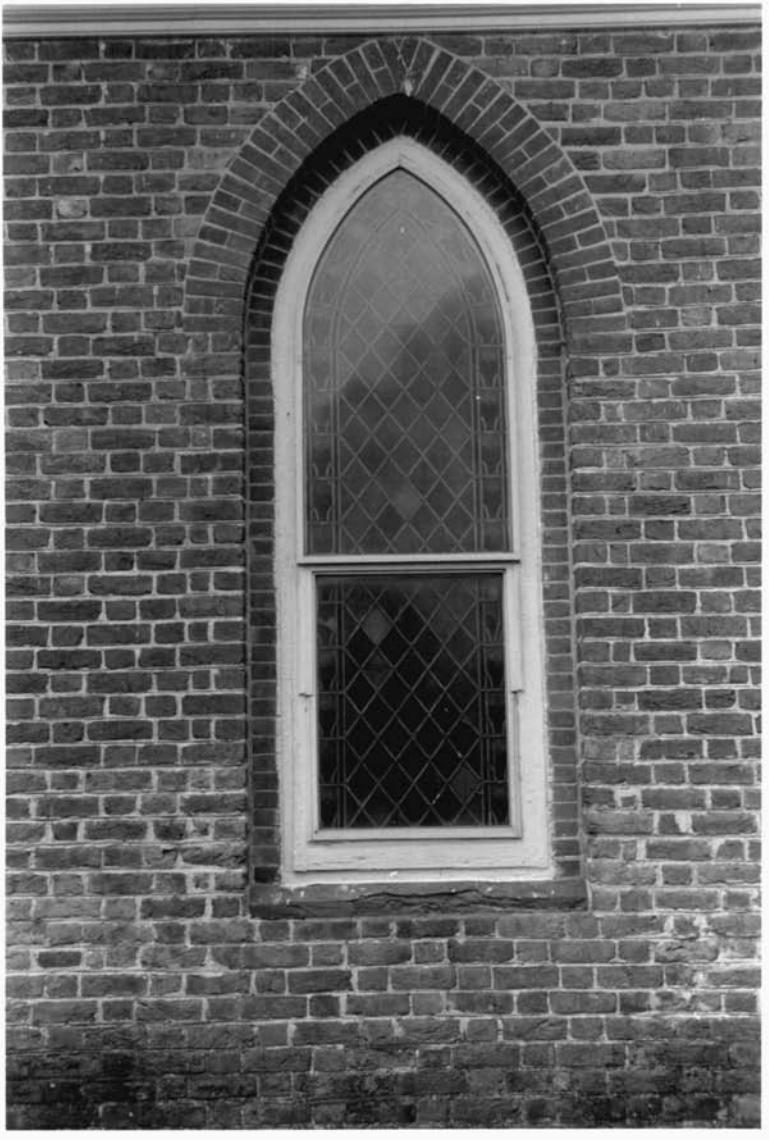
St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince George's Co., MD

Susan H. Pearl

April 1999

South elevation from SW



Pl. #86A-7

St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince George's Co., MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1999

South window

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PG # 86A-7

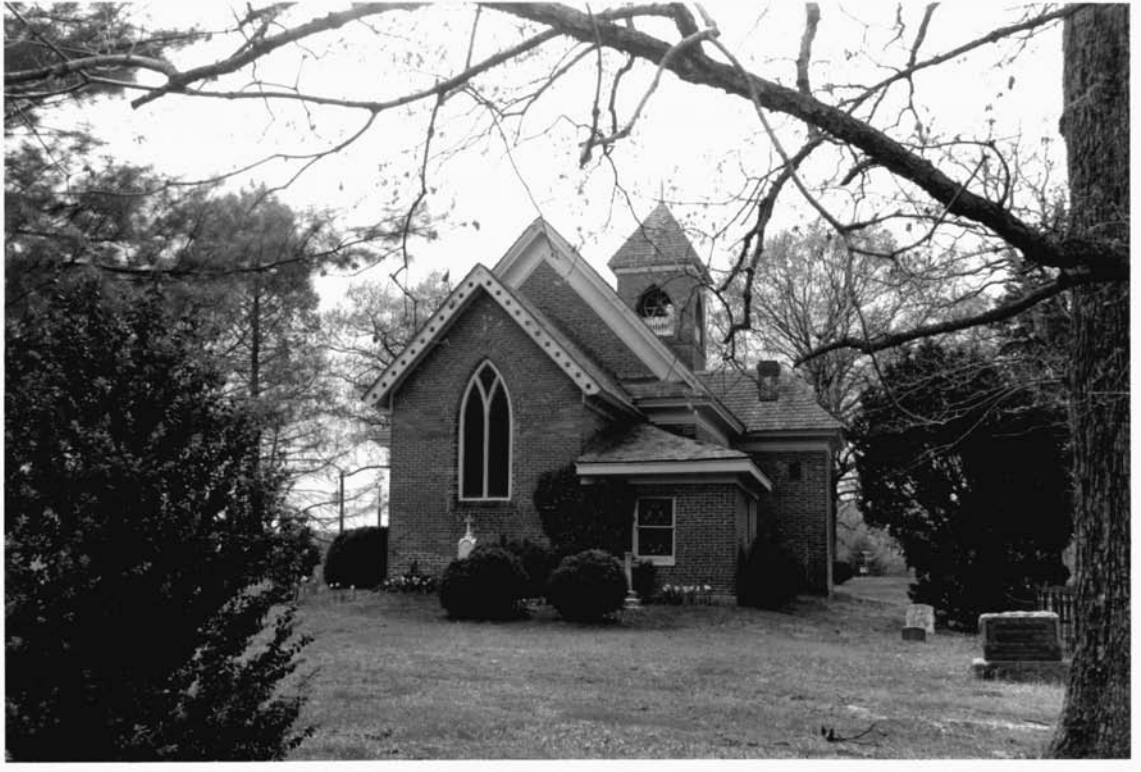
St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince George's Co., MD

Susan L. Pearl

April 1999

View from Southeast



Pg # 86 A-7

St. Thomas Church
Croom, Prince George's Co. MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1997

East elevation

7 of 16

St. Thomas' Church
PG # 76A-7

Cam, Prince Georges
County MD

North elevation
Susan G. Pearl
April 1999

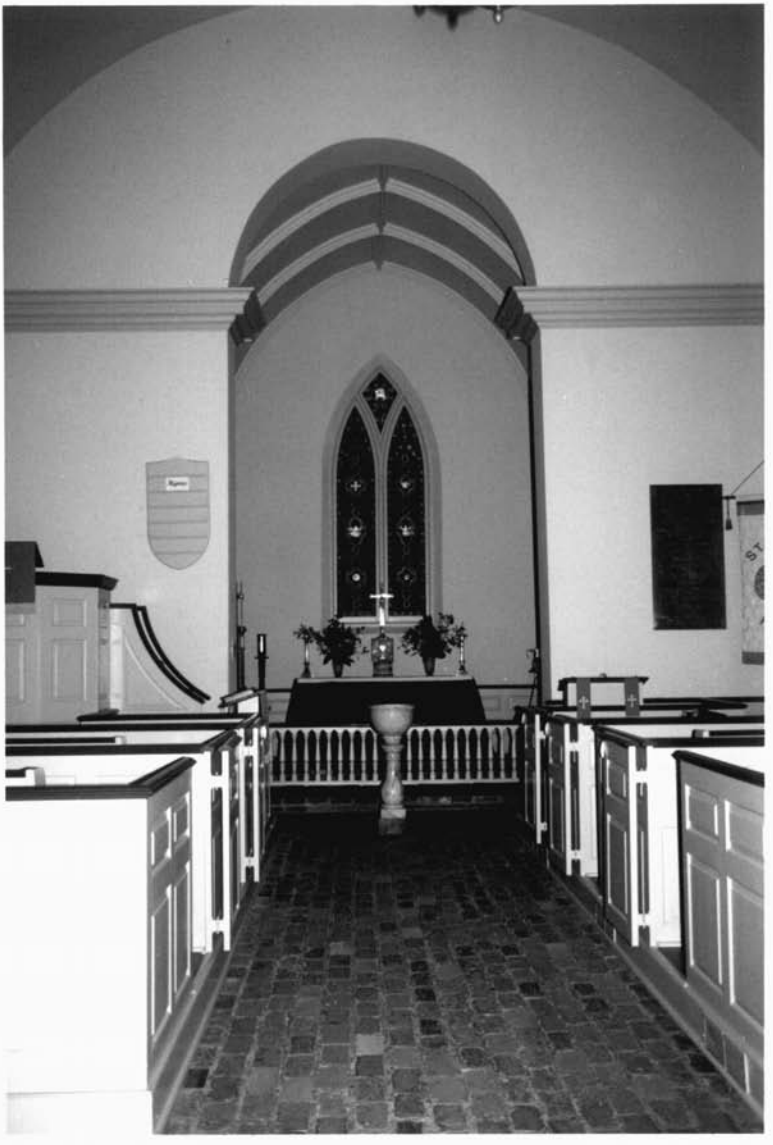
8 of 16

ST. THOMAS
PARISH

Rs # ~~[illegible]~~
86A-7

St. Thomas' Church
Croom, Prince George's Co., MD
Susan G. Pearl
March 1999
Interior view east to chancel

9 of 16



Pa # 86A-7

St. Thomas' Church

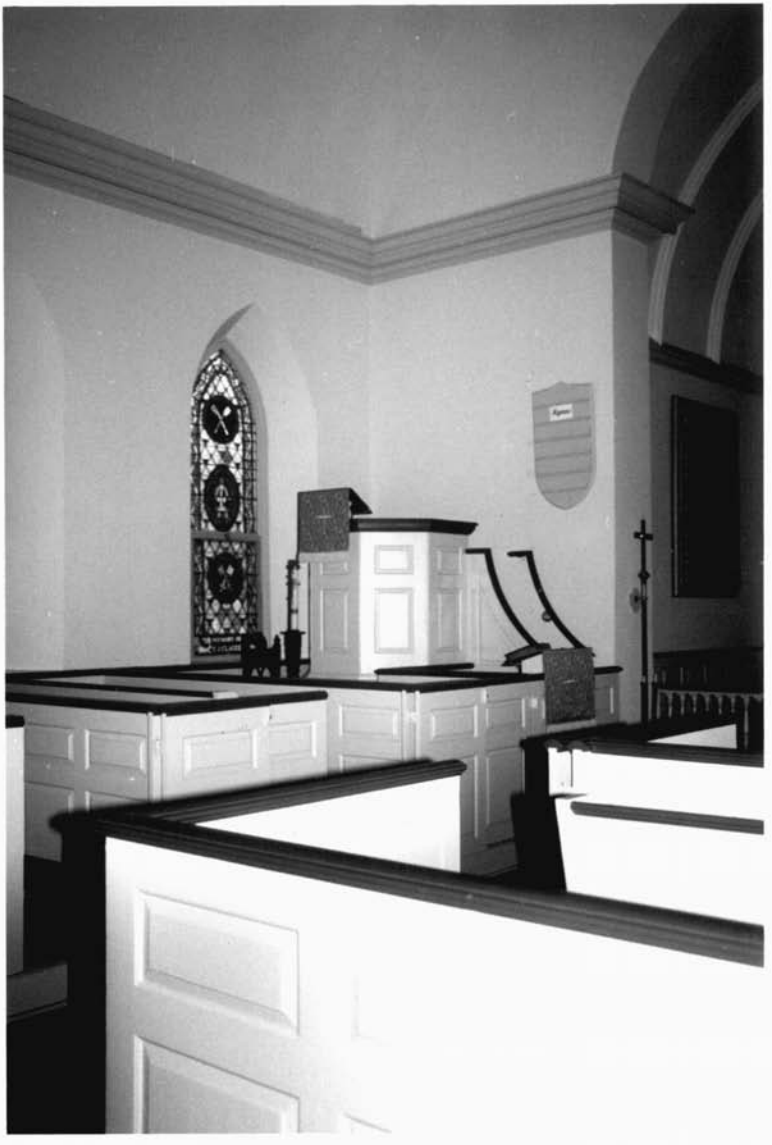
Crown, Prince George's Co., MD

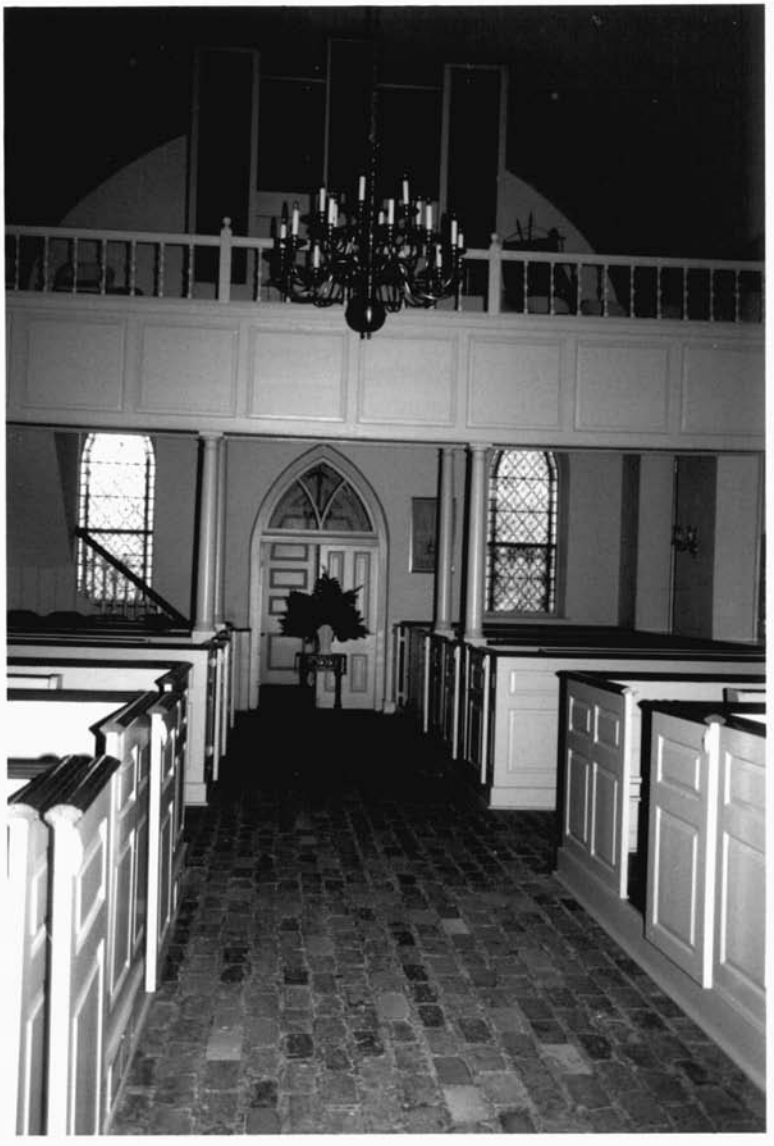
Susan St. Pearl

March 1997

Interior: View east to altar

ST. THOMAS
ANGLICAN





Pl. # 86A-7

St. Thomas' Church
Croom, Prince George's Co., MD
Susan G. Pearl
March 1999

Interior: view west to gallery

Pic # 86A-7

St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince Georges Co., MD

Susan L. Pearl

August 2000

View northeast through cemetery

Pg # 86A-7

St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince George's Co. MD

Susan L. Pearl

August 2000

Cemetery building from SE

Pb # 86A-7

St. Thomas' Church

Croom, Prince George's Co., MD

Susan G. Pearl

August 2000

School/office building from SW

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