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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

Historic name St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District

Other names/site number PG:86A-059

2. Location

street & number Extending from the east side of Croom Road along the north and south sides of St. Thomas Church Road eastward for approximately 1,500 feet ☐ not for publication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, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** ✓ **local**

Signature of certifying official — Date 11-8-11

Title — State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official — Date

Title — State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

___ entered in the National Register _____

___ determined eligible for the National Register _____

___ determined not eligible for the National Register _____

___ removed from the National Register _____

___ other (explain:) _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [ ] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal
- [X] private

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [X] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	9	buildings
3	1	sites
		structures
		objects
7	10	**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 resources previously listed in the National Register

1 (St. Thomas' Episcopal Church)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility; Church-Related Residence
FUNERARY: Cemetery
DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
EDUCATION: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Religious Facility
FUNERARY: Cemetery
DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL: Georgian

MID-19th CENTURY: Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK; STONE

walls: BRICK; WOOD: Weatherboard; Shingle

roof: WOOD; ASPHALT; METAL

other: BRICK (Bell Tower); WOOD (Porch)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District includes approximately 43.77 acres situated in the rural village of Croom in southeastern Prince George's County, Maryland. The district is centered on St. Thomas' Church, erected ca. 1742-1745 as a "Chapel of Ease" for St. Paul's Parish at Baden, Prince George's County, Maryland. In 1850, the church became the parish church for the newly created St. Thomas' Parish, and continues this purpose in 2009. Shortly after the creation of St. Thomas' Parish in 1850, a rectory was built. In 1894, the parishioners of St. Thomas oversaw the construction of St. Simon's Mission Chapel, a chapel for African-American worshippers in St. Thomas' Parish and one of only three African-American Episcopal congregations in Maryland after the Civil War. St. Simon's Mission continued to serve the African-American communicants of the parish until the congregation merged with that of St. Thomas' Church in 1964. St. Simon's Mission and St. Thomas' Church are associated with the Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, which occupies the southeastern edge of the district. The school was established in 1902, first under the aegis of the Episcopal Church and later as a nonsectarian institution, to teach practical education to African-American children from Prince George's County, other neighboring counties, and Washington, D.C. The school continued until 1952; several buildings remain extant on the former school property, which now functions as a private residence. St. Simon's Mission Chapel was demolished ca. 1974, and an associated cemetery, as well as a historical marker, provides the only physical vestiges of the former church.

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets 7.1 through 7.8.

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)

- [X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [X] 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 whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- [X] A owed 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY
EDUCATION
ETHNIC HERITAGE: AFRICAN AMERICAN

Period of Significance

1742-1959

Significant Dates

1742; 1745; 1853; 1859; 1888; 1896; 1903; 1905; 1940

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Unknown

Architect/Builder

Page, Daniel; Builder
Priest, John W; Architect
Grigg, Milton; Architect
Tayman, Harry P.; Builder
Armstrong, H. and J.; Builders

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1742, with the commencement of construction of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, and ends in 1959, as St. Simon's Mission Chapel continued to contribute to the growth of Croom throughout the early 1960s, and St. Simon's Cemetery, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church and Cemetery continue into the present day. Therefore, the period of significance extends to the fifty-year age criteria consideration.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of signficance and applicable criteria)

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District is significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History for its broad impact on the development and history of the rural village of Croom and its significant contribution to the larger African-American community. The district is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Education for its unique efforts in providing practical education to African-American children for the first half of the twentieth century leading up to the eve of school desegregation in Prince George's County. The district is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its notable examples of the Georgian and Gothic Revival styles of architecture, as well as for its exemplification of a specific type and period of construction. The district meets Criterion Consideration A for religious properties as the district derives its primary significance from its historical importance to the community of Croom(e) and the larger African-American community as well as from its architectural distinction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

Social History

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District is significant as the focal point from which the rural village of Croom developed. The construction of St. Thomas' Church (Page's Chapel) in the mid-eighteenth century provided the impetus for the nineteenth-century development of Croom, a substantial African-American rural community. In the late-nineteenth century, the African-American communicants of St. Thomas' Church formed St. Simon's Mission Chapel, only one of two Episcopal chapels established in Prince George's County for African Americans in the nineteenth century. The site of the chapel provides evidence as to the early African-American community of the Croom area. St. Thomas' Church and St. Simon's Mission Chapel served as the center of social life for rural residents.

Education

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District is significant for its history in the practical education of African-American children prior to the county's desegregation of schools in the late-twentieth century. The Croome Industrial and Agricultural School, initiated from the St. Thomas' Sunday School led by Susie and Katherine Willes, sisters of the then rector of St. Thomas' Parish, was established in 1903 by Susie Willes. The mission of the school was to provide the extension and improvement of industrial, agricultural, and domestic education as a means of opening better and wider avenues of employment for African-American children. The school was the only of its type in Prince George's County. In 1918, the school left the aegis of the Episcopal Church and became the nonsectarian Croom(e) Settlement School, which again attracted African-American children from throughout Southern Maryland and Washington, D.C. The students lived on the school grounds, where they obtained skills in various agricultural and industrial sciences and learned general household skills.

Architecture

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District is significant for its collection of resources that represent several distinctive architectural styles and types. St. Thomas' Church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2000 for its notable representation of a cruciform-church plan that contains Georgian- and Gothic Revival-style features and detailing. St. Thomas' Church Rectory is notable as the only Episcopal rectory in Prince George's County to be erected in the cruciform plan. The rectory is also representative of a mid-nineteenth-century building type featuring Gothic Revival-style detailing, including a steeply pitched roof, centered gable featuring a gothic-arch window, and a one-story entry porch. The ca.-1940 tobacco barn, recently restored, is significant as a representative example of a mid-twentieth-century tobacco barn, once common on the landscape of rural Prince George's County. Collectively, these buildings within the district are significant as a representative collection of eighteenth-, nineteenth- and twentieth-century architectural styles, forms, and methods of construction.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See Continuation Sheets 8.1 through 8.20.

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 file (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
X Local government
___ University
X Other

Name of repository: **Prince George's County Department of Planning Vertical Files; St. Thomas' Church Archives**

See Continuation Sheets 9.1 through 9.4.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): PG: 86A-059

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 43.77 acres
(do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) Upper Marlboro and Brandywine, MD USGS quads

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	347235	4290745	3	18	347549	4289844
2	18	347560	4290510	4	18	347021	4290173

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)
The boundary includes the approximately 43.77 acres situated on the east side of Croom Road (MD 382), on the north and south sides of St. Thomas Church Road, which extend approximately 1,500 feet from the intersection of Croom and St. Thomas' Church roads. The boundary of St. Thomas' Episcopal Historic District is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map entitled "St. Thomas' Episcopal Historic District Boundary Map."

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary includes those properties historically associated with St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish that contributed to the establishment of Croom and supported the African-American community associated with Croom during the period of signficance, from 1742 until 1959.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Emma K. Young/Architectural Historian

organization A.D. Marble & Company date October 20, 2009

street & number 10989 Red Run Blvd, Suite 209 telephone 410.902.1421

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Paperwork Reduction Act 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.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including 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, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District (herein referred to as the St. Thomas Historic District) is located in a predominantly rural area of southeastern Prince George's County in the village of Croom(e).[1] The district is located on the north and south sides of St. Thomas Church Road, which stretches west from Croom Road (MD 382). The district is bordered to the north and east by woodland, to the south by cultivated fields and woodland, and to the west by Croom Road. The topography of the St. Thomas Historic District is rolling, with St. Thomas' Church set on a knoll, overlooking the rest of the parish. Dense woodland intersperses and surrounds the associated buildings and cemetery parcels. Openings in the landscape allow vistas from St. Thomas' Church to the St. Simon's Mission Chapel site located to the southeast and the farm field with tobacco barn situated to the southwest.

St. Thomas Historic District consists of four contributing buildings, two cemeteries, and a chapel site in addition to associated contributing fields and woodland that comprise approximately 43.77 acres. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, erected ca.1742-1745, and its associated cemetery dating to ca. 1745, serve as the figurative and physical heart of the district. The property includes 18.75 acres situated on the north side of St. Thomas Church Road, as well as a ten-acre parcel of woodland located to the east. The church building is located atop a knoll that overlooks the rest of the district. The St. Thomas' Church Rectory, constructed 1852-1853 approximately one-thousand feet to the north of the church, is separated from the church property by dense woodland. The rectory is accessed via Old Rectory Lane, a sand-and-gravel lane that leads west from Croom Road for approximately two-thousand feet, paralleling St. Thomas Church Road. A ca. 1890 frame tenant house is also located on the rectory property, which includes approximately 3.92 acres. A 4.6-acre parcel located at the southeast corner of the intersection of St. Thomas Church and Croom roads includes the ca. 1941 Tayman Tobacco Barn at its southern edge. Cultivated fields comprise the rest of the parcel. A swath of woodland not included within the district separates the tobacco barn parcel from the site of St. Simon's Mission Chapel, located on the south side of St. Thomas Church Road, to the southeast of St. Thomas' Church. St. Simon's Mission Chapel, erected in 1894 on the rectory property, was moved in 1902 and stood parallel to St. Thomas Church Road until it was demolished ca. 1972-1976. The site of the church includes a 1.89-acre parcel. St. Simon's Cemetery includes approximately 2.58 acres that consists of an access road that leads southward from St. Thomas Church Road through woodland to St. Simon's Cemetery, established in 1903. Although St. Simon's Mission Chapel is demolished, the cemetery remains in use. A 1.08-acre parcel borders the east side of St. Simon's Mission Chapel site and contains the property associated with the Croome Industrial and Agricultural School (Croom Settlement School), which operated ca. 1902 - 1952. A dwelling, several workshops, and foundations occupy the property, but due to alterations in design, materials, and workmanship, lack historical integrity.

A more detailed description of each parcel included within the St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District follows.

1 In historical records and manuscripts, Croom is spelled with and without the ending "e." For consistency, Croom will be spelled as *Croom* throughout this nomination.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church (ca. 1742-1745; 1859; 1888; 1905; 1954) and Cemetery (ca. 1745)[2]
St. Thomas' Episcopal Church (St. Thomas' Church) was constructed ca. 1742-1745 as a simplified Georgian-style building replicating the same style and plan as its parish church, St. Paul's, Baden, Prince George's County. In 1850, after St. Thomas became its own parish, St. Thomas Church, now the parish church, underwent a series of alterations and additions. The eastern chancel was erected in 1859; a bell tower with entry vestibule was erected in 1888 on the west elevation; followed by the northeastern sacristy in 1905. The mid-nineteenth-century alterations also included the application of Gothic Revival-style detailing, such as the installation of stained glass, replacement of rounded-arch windows with gothic-arch windows, and installation of decorative vergeboards on the gable eaves. In 1954, the church was partially restored to its mid-eighteenth-century appearance; however, the structural additions, as well as the gothic-arch windows and chancel vergeboard featuring evenly spaced cutout quatrefoils were retained.

The church consists of a one-and-one-half story gabled main block, which measures twenty-seven feet by fifty-feet, with a three-story bell tower appended to the west elevation, a one-story chancel appended to the east elevation, and a sacristy constructed at the northeast corner. The building is oriented west-east, with its rectangular footprint perpendicular to St. Thomas Church Road.

The exterior walls of the main block are sheathed in brick, laid in Flemish bond, with a brick water table topped by a row of projecting brick headers. The walls of the bell tower and additions are clad in brick, laid in common bond. The gabled roof of the main block, the pyramidal roof of the bell tower, gabled roof of the east addition, and hipped roofs of the side additions are covered with reinforced concrete shingles meant to replicate the appearance of Colonial-era shakes. A coved cornice accentuates the roofline of the main block of the church. The chancel features a bracketed cornice, and a plain boxed cornice accentuates the roofline of the bell tower. The steeply pitched gable of the eastern addition retains the mid-nineteenth-century vergeboard.

The *St. Thomas Church National Register of Historic Places Nomination* describes in detail the exterior appearance of the church:

> 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...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:

[2] St. Thomas' Episcopal Church was previously documented for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. See Susan G. Pearl and Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., *St. Thomas Church National Register of Historic Places* Nomination, (Prepared for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and St. Thomas' Church, July 2000; on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland).

> "This tower was erected by this church and other churches of the diocese to the Glory of God and in memory of the right Reverend Thomas J. Claggett, S.T.D. First bishop of Maryland 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...
>
> 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 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.[3]

The pyramidal roof of the bell tower is surmounted by a white-painted Celtic cross.

The main block, or original ca. 1742-1745 portion, consists of a cruciform plan, formed by a five bay-wide section featuring a small hipped-roof projection centered in each of the side elevations. The nomination describes further:

> 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...Each of the west and east gable ends [of the main block] 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.[4]

The south elevation of the main block contains a central one-story, one-bay entry projection, flanked to each side by two gothic-arch windows. The hipped-roof entry, which facilitates entry into the nave, consists of a

3 Pearl and Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., 7-1 and 7-2.
4 Ibid., 7-2.

brick-covered threshold, walls, and a reinforced concrete shingle-clad roof. An arched opening in the south elevation leads to a set of double-leaf, eight-paneled, wood doors featuring brass hardware and topped by a metal lintel. The north elevation of the main block contains the same five-bay configuration and central projection as the south elevation. However, the north projection, which houses the heating and cooling equipment for the church, contains a single, gothic-arch stained-glass window in its north elevation. In addition, a low brick, interior chimney protrudes from the eastern slope of the hipped roof.

The east gable end of the main block is concealed by the gabled chancel. A gothic-arch window is centered in the south elevation, and a tripartite gothic-arch window, featuring wooden tracery, is centered in the east elevation. A small one-story, one-bay sacristy is attached to the north elevation of the chancel. The sacristy is capped by a hipped roof, clad in reinforced concrete shingles. A stained-glass, one-over-one light, double-hung, wood-sash window lights the east elevation. A single-leaf paneled wood door is situated in the north elevation.[5]

A gravel driveway leads northeast from St. Thomas Church Road to St. Thomas' Church and surrounding churchyard, which is shaded by various mature deciduous and evergreen trees, bushes, and shrubs. A wrought-iron fence and gate, constructed in 1907, borders the west, south, and north sides of the churchyard.[6] A sidewalk comprised of brick pavers leads southwest from the cast-iron gate to the west church entry situated in the bell tower, and continues around to the sacristy door situated in the north elevation. The cast-iron gate features the words, "St. Thomas Church" when closed.

The associated St. Thomas' Church Cemetery, which includes the graves of many prominent county individuals and families, surrounds three sides of the church and contains approximately 650 graves. The congregation established the cemetery ca. 1745, and the most recent burial dates to 2009. The grave markers utilize a variety of styles and materials, including stone tablets, bronze and granite ground-level plaques, and ornate sculptures. Some of the family cemetery plots are encircled by nineteenth-century wrought-iron fences constructed by G. Krug and Son of Baltimore, Maryland.[7] The carefully kept cemetery grounds slope downward, away from the church, to the north, south, and east sides. The cemetery is dotted with mature deciduous and evergreen trees.

Within the fenced-in churchyard, just south of the church, is a monument installed in 1984. The monument, which is dedicated to Bishop Thomas Claggett, features a bronze bas-relief set into a granite surround. Incised lettering into the granite face below the bas-relief reads, "How awesome is the dawn sky above the hills of Croom....It makes my heart sing 'Praised be God.'"

The Willes Church House, which serves as the church office and school building, is located at the northern border of the churchyard, to the northwest of the church building. The building was constructed in 1980 and designed in the Georgian style. The exterior walls are clad in brick, and the south gable features an exterior

5 For a detailed description of the building's interior, see Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 7-3.
6 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 7-4.
7 The nineteenth-century wrought-iron fences were recently repaired and restored.

brick chimney. The facade (west elevation) measures five-bays wide and features a full-width, shed-roof porch supported on ten evenly spaced posts.

The cemetery building, constructed in 1995, is located within the churchyard, at the northern edge of the cemetery, to the northeast of the church building. The small one-story building features Georgian-style detailing. The exterior walls are clad in brick, and a side-gabled roof caps the building. The east elevation features a shed-roof porch that extends the full width of the elevation. The south elevation features an exterior brick chimney.

St. Thomas' Church and Cemetery, which are in good condition, retain their original functions. A ten-acre swath of woodland, included within the district, borders the church property to the east. Dense vegetation screens the church property from the rectory located high on a knoll to the north.

St. Thomas' Church Rectory (1852-1853) and Tenant/Sexton's House (ca. 1890)
St. Thomas' Church Rectory (Rectory) was completed in 1853 to house the rector for St. Thomas' Parish. The cross-gable cruciform-plan dwelling exhibits elements of the Gothic Revival style, including a steeply pitched roof, cross-gable with gothic-arch windows, and a one-story entry porch.[8]

The frame dwelling consists of a two-and-one-half-story, cross-gabled main block, flanked on each side by a two-story, side-gabled wing. A smaller one-story, one-bay addition, featuring an enclosed shed-roof porch, is appended to the east gable. The dwelling sits atop a concrete-parged brick foundation, and small rectangular cedar shingles, painted white, clad the exterior walls. Asphalt shingles cover the roof. Two interior brick chimneys protrude from the roof ridge; one small chimney is located in the east gable, and the second, which features corbelling, is located at the west line of the cross-gabled section.

The dwelling is primarily fenestrated by six-over six-light, double-hung, wood-sash windows, except where noted.

The principal facade, or south elevation, is five-bays wide. The cross-gabled section includes two bays, while the flanking wings each contains one window bay in the first and second stories. The east addition contains a single-leaf screen door, accessed by a set of wood steps and railing, in the enclosed porch and a single window bay.

A one-story hipped-roof porch, consisting of a poured-concrete floor and replacement turned-spindle posts, balustrade, and jig-sawn brackets, shelters the main entry into the dwelling, which occupies the center bay of the cross-gabled section. The entry consists of a single-leaf paneled door, flanked by four-pane sidelights and surmounted by a three-light transom. Two windows are centered in the second story of the cross-gabled section. A triangular-topped, gothic-arch casement window occupies the south gable, centered in the upper half-story.

8 Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), 197.

A one-story entry bay, sheltered by a side-gabled roof, is located on the east elevation of the cross-gabled section. A single-leaf paneled door, sheltered by a wooden screen door and located in the east elevation of the entry bay, provides exterior access into the basement level.

The one-story addition and enclosed porch conceals most of the east elevation of the dwelling. The east elevation of the enclosed porch is clad in aluminum siding. The north elevation of the dwelling is five-bays wide in the main block. The east addition contains two evenly spaced window bays. The cross-gabled and flanking wings each contain two evenly spaced windows in the first and second stories. The north cross gable features a triangular-topped, gothic-arch casement window. The west elevation of the flanking wing contains one window situated in the center of the second story. Overall, the rectory, which serves as a single-family dwelling, is in good condition.

The rectory is separated from the ca.-1890 two-story Sexton's/Tenant House to the north by a horse paddock containing a ca.-1990 horse stable. The frame dwelling sits atop brick piers and is clad in horizontal board siding, missing in places to reveal the balloon framing underneath. Standing seam metal, portions of which are missing, covers the side-gabled roof. An interior brick chimney protrudes from the center of the roof ridge. The dwelling retains the centrally located entry, situated in the south elevation and comprised of a six-paneled door. Boards cover the two window openings in the first and second story that flank the entry. The east and west elevations appear devoid of openings, and any former openings in the north elevation are indiscernible. The dwelling remains vacant and in deteriorated, poor condition.

A ca. 1920 one-story, gable-front milk house, currently used for storage, sits to the east of the rectory. The building sits atop concrete blocks and faces west towards the rectory. Asphalt shingles cover the exterior walls, and standing-seam metal caps the gable roof. A single-leaf vertical-board door centrally located in the west elevation provides access into the building. A shed-roof addition, comprised of vertical boards, extends from the north elevation of the milk house. The addition is accessed via a single-leaf vertical-board door located in the west elevation.

A ca. 1970 one-story front-gabled woodshed is located to the south of the milk house, to the southeast of the rectory. The shed sits atop a poured-concrete slab, and board-and-batten comprises the exterior. Standing-seam metal covers the front-gabled roof. A set of double-leaf vertical-board doors, attached with metal strap hinges, are centrally located in the east elevation. A one-bay, shed-roof canopy supported by two wood posts extends from the north elevation and shelters a woodpile. An additional extension appends the east elevation of the woodshed.

Old Rectory Lane provides access to the property, which begins at a metal-pipe gate. The sand-and-gravel lane continues through the gate and circles around to the front (south) of the rectory, enclosing a small yard. Several cedar trees, as well as holly and other evergreen and deciduous trees and bushes dot the yard. Woodland encircles the property. The Sexton's/Tenant House is accessed via a gravel lane that veers to the north of the driveway, approximately fifty-yards west of the rectory. A mature oak tree marks the lane division.

St. Simon's Mission Chapel Site and Cemetery (1894; 1902; 1903)
St. Simon's Mission Chapel was a frame building constructed in 1894 on the grounds of the St. Thomas' Church Rectory. In 1902, the congregation moved the building to the south side of St. Thomas Church Road, at the bottom of hill leading upward to St. Thomas' Church located to the northwest. St. Simon's Mission Chapel occupied this approximate 1.89-acre parcel from the time of its relocation in 1902 until its demolition ca. 1972-1976. A roadside historical marker denotes the location of the former chapel.

A sand and gravel lane situated to the west of the chapel site leads south from St. Thomas Church Road through mature woodland to St. Simon's Cemetery. The cemetery comprises an approximately one-acre cleared lot, one-quarter of a mile to the southeast of the chapel site. The cemetery, which dates to ca. 1903, contains approximately seventy marked graves and an unknown number of unmarked graves. The grave markers utilize a variety of styles and materials, including simple tablets comprised of concrete and held together by nails, bronze and granite ground plaques, and concrete cross-shaped monuments. The earliest marked grave dates to 1929 and the most recent burial dates to 2009.

Croom Industrial and Agricultural School Site (ca. 1903; ca. 1905; ca. 1920)
The parcel formerly associated with the Croom Industrial and Agricultural School is located to the east of the St. Simon's Mission Chapel Site. A line of mature deciduous trees line the west side of the gravel driveway that separates the two parcels. Only a few buildings survive from the Croom Industrial and Agricultural School. The two-story ca. 1905 frame building, converted to a dwelling after the school's closure in 1952, served as one of the main buildings on the school grounds.

The dwelling consists of a two-story front-gabled western section, appended by two smaller side-gabled wings to the east. The foundation of the dwelling is concealed by vegetation. Aluminum siding covers the majority of the exterior walls. The northern end of the front-gabled section contains the original weatherboard siding. Asphalt shingles cover the roofs, and an interior, corbelled, brick chimney protrudes from the western slope. A concrete block chimney extends between the two eastern wings.

The dwelling is fenestrated by a variety of window types including six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash; two-over-two, double-hung wood-sash; and one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum, replacement sash. Some of the windows are flanked by inoperable, louvered or paneled, aluminum shutters.

The north (front) elevation contains three evenly spaced bays in the western front-gabled section, two bays in the center side-gabled section, and one bay in the smaller east section. A one-story, hipped-roof porch supported by wood posts and containing a replacement modern wood balustrade extends the full width of the front-gabled block and wraps around to the west elevation. The three southernmost bays of the porch on the west elevation are enclosed with weatherboard siding, inset with windows. A set of replacement steps at the northeast corner of the porch provides access to the main entry into the dwelling. The entry consists of a single-leaf, two-light over two-panel, wood door, topped by a two-light transom.

The west elevation contains five bays, spaced unevenly throughout the elevation. An additional entry into the porch is situated in the south elevation of the enclosed porch portion. This door consists of a six-light over two-panel, wood door topped by a three-light transom. Two poured-concrete steps, flanked by a metal railing provide access to a secondary entry situated in the eastern bay of the first story of the south elevation. The entry consists of a single-leaf, wood door accessed via a one-light, aluminum storm door and sheltered by an aluminum awning. The east elevation contains three evenly spaced window openings in the front-gabled block and one bay in the smaller side-gabled block. A shed-roof addition, which includes a set of paired six-light, casement windows, is appended to the smaller side-gabled block. Overall, the dwelling is in good condition.

Two one-story former workshops, erected ca. 1920, and several foundations of former outbuildings are situated east of the dwelling. The two extant workshops are banked into a hill that slopes downward from west to east, so that the east elevations measure two full stories in height. The workshops rest on concrete block foundations and contain a variety of wall claddings including aluminum siding, vertical-board siding, and asbestos shingles. The gabled roofs are clad in asphalt shingles. Most of the original six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash windows remain, however, the entries feature aluminum replacement doors.

Tayman Tobacco Barn (ca. 1941)
The mid-twentieth-century Tayman Tobacco Barn occupies the southeastern edge of the 4.6-acre farm field parcel on the south side of St. Thomas Church Road southwest of St. Thomas' Church. The field is currently leased to an organic vegetable grower.[9] The tobacco barn was recently restored through a grant funded by Preservation Maryland and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, with additional funds from St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish and Prince George's Heritage.

The one-and-one-half-story, gabled barn sits perpendicular to St. Thomas Church Road. The building sits atop concrete blocks, only visible at the interior. Vertical-board siding comprises the exterior walls, and standing seam metal sheaths the gabled roof. Double-leaf vertical-board doors, attached with metal strap hinges, are situated in the north and south elevations. Window openings, inset with wooden louvered vents, occupy both the north and south gables. The interior of the barn includes a dirt floor and wood framing that serves as racks to dry tobacco. An internal tobacco stripping room is located in the southeast corner of the interior.

Alterations

With the exception of small ancillary outbuildings erected after 1959, St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District contains no modern intrusions such as buildings, structures, or roadways. Those buildings erected after 1959 are small secondary buildings that do not infringe upon or detract from the significance of the buildings, sites, and structures that contribute to the district. In addition, the extant buildings that contribute to the district retain their original location and setting as well as massing, design, workmanship, and overall materials. The

9 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., (St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historian) in conversation with author, 12 June 2009 (Notes on file at A.D. Marble & Company, Owings Mills, Maryland).

lack of alterations and intrusions supports the district's cohesiveness, as connected parcels centered on St. Thomas' Episcopal Church.

Historical Narrative:

History of St. Paul's Parish, Including the Construction of the St. Thomas' Episcopal Church (Chapel of Ease; Page's Chapel), 1692-1850[10]

Throughout the seventeenth century, Maryland colonists practiced a desultory religious life. Advances in the Church of England in the 1670s, Maryland's designation as a royal colony in 1692, and the yielding of political power by those who wished to strengthen ties with England, influenced the Provincial Assembly of Maryland to pass the first of three Establishment Acts in 1692.[11] The Act laid out thirty parishes around the colony's ten counties, with vestruies to collect taxes and manage parish business. Although vetoed by the royal authority, this first Act set the framework for the passage and royal approval of the final 1702 Establishment Act, which established the Church of England as the official religion of the colony. The 1702 Act proclaimed, "the Church of England within this Province shall have and Enjoy all her Rights Liberties and Franchises." The Act also assessed:

> Forty pounds of Tobacco per poll yearly—which shall always be paid and allowed to the minister of each respective Parish—and each such minister is hereby required and enjoined to appoint, and constantly keep, a clerk of such parish church, to pay and satisfy such clerk the sum of One thousand pounds of tobacco a year.[12]

Although charged with managing parish business and collecting taxes, the vestries wielded no control over who was appointed as their minister; the Royal Governor and later Lord Baltimore retained this right.[13]

St. Paul's Parish was one of the thirty parishes established in 1702. The parish encompassed lands north of Swanson's Creek and along the Patuxent River, in what was then part of Calvert County. The parish church was located in Charles Town, a bustling port town established in 1683 at the confluence of the Western Branch of the Patuxent River. In 1693, the vestry erected a chapel of ease for its rural parishioners at Richard Brightwell's plantation in the southern part of the parish near present-day Poplar Hill.[14] By 1696, when Prince

10 For a complete chain-of-title for the St. Thomas' Church property, see Pearl and Robinson, Jr.
11 In 1692, William and Mary of England declared Maryland a royal colony, to be governed as such, instead of as a proprietary colony.
12 St. Thomas' Church, *Pilgrimage for the Restoration of St. Thomas Episcopal Church of Croome, 1732-1954* (Maryland State Archives, Record Group 1004-1-38).
13 John Butler, *Awash in a Sea of Faith: Christianizing the American People* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1992), 102.
14 A chapel of ease is a chapel constructed in a large parish for the convenience (ie: ease) of the parishioners who lived a sizeable distance from the main parish church. Services were typically held at a parish chapel of ease every third Sunday: Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., "Brief Chronology of St. Thomas Church, Prince George's County, Maryland, 1689-2000 (Unpublished, 2000); Available from the St. Thomas' Church Archives, Croom, Maryland and Prince George's County Planning Department Historic Preservation Section Vertical Files, Upper Marlboro, Maryland), 2.

George's County was formed from parts of Charles and Calvert counties, two parishes, including St. Paul's, were located within its boundaries. Charles Town was selected as Prince George's County first county seat.[15]

Although waterways served as vital links for commerce and trade during the first decades after the county's creation, a network of inland roads began to develop by 1710. In 1718, county residents petitioned for the removal of the county seat from Charles Town to Upper Marlboro, located inland along the Western Branch, approximately three miles northwest. In 1721, Upper Marlboro was designated the new county seat, and consequently, the government, commercial, economic, and social prominence characterizing Charles Town waned soon thereafter.[16]

In May 1728, Governor Benedict Leonard Calvert, son of the fourth Lord Baltimore, inducted Reverend John Eversfield into St. Paul's Parish as its sixth rector.[17] Under Reverend Eversfield's direction, the parish petitioned the Maryland Assembly in 1730 to enact an additional tobacco poll tax to replace the parish church at Charles Town. However, the Upper House of the Assembly rejected the petition without comment, most likely due to the tobacco depression affecting the colony. In 1731, the parish again petitioned the assembly for the new church, and again, the assembly denied the petition.[18]

After two attempts, an Act of the Assembly finally passed in August 1732 that allowed for the assessment of an additional 20,000 pounds of tobacco per year to be levied upon the parishioners of St. Paul's for erecting a new church and chapel of ease. The vestry chose part of a tract known as the "Golden Race," which belonged to Thomas Truman Greenfield, located approximately nine miles southwest of Charles Town and four miles east of the Patuxent River in the present day village of Baden. Construction commenced in 1733 and by 1735, the new parish church—St. Paul's Church at Baden—was completed.[19] Shortly thereafter, the church at Charles Town became the chapel of ease thereby abandoning the preceding chapel of ease at Brightwell's Plantation.

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15 Consequently, the parish church in Charles Town also served as the first county courthouse until a new courthouse was erected in 1698; Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-1.

16 Ibid.

17 Ibid.; John Eversfield was born 14 February 1701/1702 in County Offally, Ireland. After being orphaned at a young age, he went to live with relations and was educated in Southwark near London, England. In 1727, Eversfield received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Oxford University. During his studies at Oxford, Eversfield was under the tutelage of Reverend Thomas Bray, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, who had visited the Maryland colony in 1700. Bray took Eversfield into his care, tutoring him, and preparing him for Holy Orders and his eventual travel to the colonies. In 1727, Eversfield was ordained, and by February 1728 had arrived in Maryland. A few months later, Governor Calvert inducted Reverend Eversfield as the sixth rector for St. Paul's Parish. In the Episcopal Church of the United States of America, a rector typically refers to the priest in charge of a self-sustaining parish.

18 Ibid.

19 Mary J. Child and Pamela James, *St. Paul's Parish Church (Baden) National Register of Historic Places Nomination* (Prepared for St. Paul's Church and Maryland Historical Trust, December 1975; on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland), 8-1.

Construction and History of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church (Chapel of Ease, Page's Chapel) under St. Paul's Parish, 1742 -1850

Almost ten years passed from the time of completion of the St. Paul's Church at Baden in 1735 until the vestry addressed the contract for the new chapel-of-ease. Vestry meeting minutes dating to May 1742 note that the vestry "Ordered the Register to put up Advertisement…in order to agree with any person or persons who shall be willing to undertake the Building for a Chapple in this Parish."[20] On October 27, 1742, the St. Paul's Parish vestry entered into a contract for two-thousand pounds with carpenter/builder Daniel Page, as well as builders Thomas Lancaster and William Murdock, for the "Building a Chapple of Ease in the said Parish in Gough's [Goff's] old Field." Goff's field was part of a one hundred-acre tract called "Cuckold's Rest" originally patented by Thomas Hide in March 1682.[21] The site was located approximately nine miles north of Baden, and the chapel of ease was to be situated on a hill knoll, overlooking the rest of the tract below. The site of the new chapel of ease was situated less than five miles inland from Nottingham, the principal Patuxent River port town for the area, and the closest town or village to the new chapel.[22]

In 1742, Daniel Page purchased Cuckold's Rest from Charles and Daniel Carroll for fifty pounds sterling, and therefore, owned the land upon which the new chapel of ease was to be built. Page renamed the tract "Page's Rest," and this coupled with fact that Page was building the new chapel contributed to the chapel of ease being referred to as "Page's Chapel" until the formation of St. Thomas' Parish in 1850.[23] Page had performed work on the county courthouse at Charles Town, as well as on both churches for St. Paul's Parish, so he was regarded as a reputable builder throughout Prince George's County.[24]

The vestry of St. Paul's drafted a contract almost identical to the one used in the building of St. Paul's Church at Baden almost ten years before, outlining nineteen stipulations. These stipulations ranged from the structural components of the building ("To beginning the Brickwall from a good foundation three feet deep or more") to the treatment and application of painted surfaces ("to be painted first with one coat primer and twice with white lead") to the type of locks installed ("One handsome large stock lock to one of the side Doors, the other Doors to be secured with Barrs and Staples"). The biggest architectural differences between St. Paul's at Baden and the new chapel of ease was the application of coved cornices in lieu of St. Paul's modillion cornices and the enclosure of the north porch at the chapel of ease. The nineteenth stipulation of the contract stated that the new chapel be completed on or before Christmas Day 1745.[25]

By August 13, 1745, well before the December deadline, five of the six vestrymen met with Reverend Eversfield to view the completed chapel. Finding it satisfactory, the vestrymen subsequently contracted again

20 Vestry of St. Paul's Parish, *Vestry Records of St. Paul's Parish, 1733-1819* (Maryland State Archives, Record Collection SC 2647).
21 Ibid; Maryland Land Records, Book of Patents, WC5, 265 (Maryland State Archives).
22 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, *African-American Heritage Survey* (Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Prince George's County Planning Department, 1996), 100-101.
23 Franklin Robinson, Jr. (St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historian), in conversation with author, 12 June 2009 (Notes on file at A.D. Marble & Company, Owings Mills, Maryland).
24 Ibid.
25 Vestry of St. Paul's Parish, *Vestry Records of St. Paul's Parish, 1733-1819* (Maryland State Archives, Record Collection SC 2647).

with Daniel Page to build the pews for the chapel he had just finished. The pew owners were to pay Page three pounds current money per pew. On December 25, 1745, the very day when the chapel was to be completed, the first services were reportedly held at St. Paul's Chapel of Ease, unofficially called Page's Chapel.[26]

Throughout the subsequent years, with the exception of common repairs and maintenance, Page's Chapel changed very little. Reverend Eversfield served St. Paul's Parish until May 1776, after forty-seven years as the rector of St. Paul's Parish.[27] Reverend Eversfield retired to his plantation near Page's Chapel where he died on November 8, 1780. In his will probated on March 3, 1781, Reverend Eversfield directed that his body be "decently Interred in my Parish Chappel under the communion table…"[28]

On August 7, 1780, Reverend Thomas John Claggett succeeded his uncle, Reverend John Eversfield, as the rector of St. Paul's Parish.[29] For the four years leading up to his rectorship, Reverend Claggett lived on his plantation near Page's Chapel called "Croome," which the Clagett family had purchased from Christopher Rousby in the seventeenth century.[30] The outbreak of the American Revolution and the Declaration of Rights in 1776 influenced Reverend Claggett's departure as rector from his Calvert County parish as Anglican clergymen were forced to swear their allegiance to England the king. Consequently, by the end of 1776, Protestant churches were closing, and by 1800, more than half of Maryland's parishes remained vacant. Furthermore, the rectorship at St. Paul's Parish remained vacant from 1776 until Reverend Claggett's appointment in 1780.[31]

Reverend Claggett remained in retirement on his plantation until the passage of the Maryland Vestry Act of 1779, after which he approached the vestry of St. Paul's Parish in Prince George's County.[32] On August 7, 1780, the vestry elected Reverend Claggett as their new rector and gave him the parish's two pulpits at Baden

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26 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-5.

27 Reverend Eversfield holds the distinction of the longest rectorship 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.

28 As quoted in Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-5; The communion table in 1780 would have been located on the east wall directly in front of the post-1850 archway leading into the present-day chancel. His remains were later moved and reinterred under the present-day altar. In the late 1980s, a gray granite memorial tablet was placed in the brick floor of the chancel, providing the first marker for Reverend Eversfield's grave, more than two centuries after his death.

29 Throughout his youth, Reverend Claggett studied under the tutelage of his uncle, the late Reverend Eversfield. In 1764 and 1765, Claggett received degrees from the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University). He subsequently returned to Prince George's County and studied under his uncle Reverend Eversfield, who was ministering to St. Paul's Parish. In 1767, Claggett traveled to London, where he was accepted to Holy Orders. After receiving his ordination and priesthood in September and October 1767, Reverend Claggett returned to America, where he served first at St. Anne's in Annapolis, and then at All Saints Parish in Calvert County from 1767 until 1776; Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-6.

30 Reverend Claggett and his descendants is the only branch of the family to use the double "g" in the family surname. Prior to Reverend Claggett, members of the family spelled their name as "Clagett." Christopher Rousby patented the Croome plantation in 1692.

31 David Hein and Gardiner H. Shattuck, Jr., *The Episcopalians* (New York: Church Publishing, 2004), 59.

32 Ibid; The Maryland Legislature passed the Vestry Act in 1779, which established Select Vestries and vested in them, as trustees, all the property that had belonged to the respective parishes while they were part of the Church of England (prior to the Declaration of Independence). The Vestry Act, as modified in 1798 is still in force in Maryland; Reverend William Pusey Painter, *History of Durham Parish, Charles County, Maryland 1692-1892* (Publisher Unknown, 1894), 8.

and Page's Rest. There he continued as rector of St. Paul's Parish throughout the remaining years of the war, with the exception of a short period in 1781, when he served as rector of Christ Church in the Queen Caroline Parish in Anne Arundel County. In 1786, Reverend Claggett left St. Paul's and became rector of St. James Parish in Anne Arundel County until 1791.[33]

William Duke replaced Reverend Claggett as rector from 1787 until 1791, during which time the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States was established.[34] This formation officially separated the Episcopal Church from the Church of England so that clergymen would not be forced to accept the supremacy of the British monarch. William Duke purportedly resigned his post due to the small salary, and Reverend Claggett subsequently resumed his position as rector of St. Paul's Parish in 1791.

Also during Duke's rectorship, a second interment took place within Page's Chapel. Benedict Calvert of Mount Airy died on January 9, 1788. Calvert, born in 1724 in England, was an illegitimate and acknowledged son of Charles Calvert, fifth Lord of Baltimore. Benedict Calvert arrived in Annapolis, Maryland, in 1742, and subsequently held a number of political appointments, married his cousin Elizabeth Calvert, and raised a large family, including thirteen children, on his Mount Airy plantation, near Page's Chapel. At the time of his death in 1788, Calvert owned more than eighteen-thousand acres throughout Maryland. Calvert was buried under the floor of Page's Chapel, in the nave under the south aisle.[35]

In May 1792, the Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church elected Reverend Thomas Claggett, rector of St. Paul's Parish, as bishop, and the following September, Reverend Claggett was consecrated as the first Bishop of Maryland. Reverend Claggett was the first American Episcopal Bishop to be consecrated in the United States; all previous bishops had been consecrated in the British Isles. Despite his duties as Bishop, Reverend Claggett remained rector of St. Paul's Parish, holding ordinations at Page's Chapel until 1810, when failing health forced him to resign his rectorship in the large parish for a smaller parish in Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County.[36]

In 1784, during Reverend Claggett's rectorship, the vestry appropriated money for unspecified repairs of the chapel, and circulated subscription lists for additional repairs in 1787. However, short on money, the vestry authorized the sale of the parish library in March 1791 to pay for repairs at both the church at Baden and Page's Chapel. In 1793, the vestry authorized the enlargement of the chapel, but a lack of funds halted the work. However, the authorized enlargement of Page's Chapel in 1793 provides evidence that the population within St.

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33 George Burwell Utley, *The Life and Times of Thomas John Claggett: The First Bishop of Maryland and the First Bishop Consecrated in America* (Chicago: R.R. Donnelly & Sons, Co., 1913), 30.

34 The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States was formed in 1789 shortly after the end of the American Revolution, during which it was forced to break from the Church of England under penalty of treason.

35 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-7; June R. Reynolds, "St. Thomas' Church: From a Chapel of Ease to full-fledged Parish," *The Enquirer-Gazette*. Date Unknown. The social life at Mount Airy included visits from the family of George Washington, whose stepson, John Parke Custis [son of Martha Washington from her first marriage] performed the marriage ceremony of Benedict and Elizabeth Calvert's daughter, Eleanor in 1774.

36 Utley, 30-31; Bishop Claggett died on August 2, 1816, and was buried on his plantation near Page's Chapel.

Paul's Parish, particularly within the northern portion of the parish, was growing. Siltation was occurring among the county's navigable waterways, thereby causing a decline in commerce on the river. Consequently, this decline sparked an inland population movement. Therefore, by the late-eighteenth century, a small village, named "Croome" after Reverend Claggett's Plantation, began to develop around Page's Chapel.[37]

In 1798, a third interment in Page's Chapel took place with the burial of Elizabeth Calvert, widow of Benedict Calvert and daughter of Maryland Governor Charles Calvert. Elizabeth Calvert, born in 1730, was buried in 1798 in the nave of the chapel, under the south aisle beside her husband. A fourth and last interment within Page's Chapel came in 1848, with the burial of Eleanor Calvert Custis Stuart, thirty-seven years after her death in 1811. Stuart, born in 1754, was the second child of Benedict and Elizabeth Calvert.[38] She visited her family regularly at Mount Airy, and attended Page's Chapel, where she often expressed a desire to be buried beside her parents. She married John Parke Custis in 1774, with whom she bore five children, four of which survived past infancy. In November 1781, John Parke Custis died of camp fever after joining his stepfather, General George Washington, in the Revolutionary Army. Widowed, Eleanor Custis married Dr. David Stuart of Ossian Hall, Virginia, in 1783, with whom she had seven children. After her death on September 28, 1811, Eleanor Custis Stuart was buried at Effingham Plantation in Virginia. Several years later, John Calvert of Mount Airy, Eleanor's nephew, wrote to Revered Joshua Sweet, the rector of St. Paul's Parish, and the vestry to allow Eleanor's remains to be re-interred in Page's Chapel. After some consideration, the vestry allowed Eleanor's burial "...in that part of the church where pews are not owned by individuals viz the part from the west door to the cross aisle on the South side of the church..."[39] Her resting place remained unmarked until a limestone grave slab was installed in the chapel floor in autumn 2008.

From 1811 until 1815, Reverend Benjamin Contee served as rector of St. Paul's Parish. Contee was a Prince George's County native, who served as an officer in the American Revolutionary War with the 3rd Maryland Regiment, after which he was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates, where he served from 1785-1787. He served as a delegate to the Confederation Congress (1787-1788), and was a member of the first U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Maryland from 1787-1791. In 1803, Contee was admitted to the Holy Orders and ordained by Bishop Thomas Clagget. From 1811 until his death on November 30, 1815, Reverend Contee served as rector of St. Paul's Parish as well as Port Tobacco and Trinity Parishes in Charles County, Maryland.[40]

Minor alterations to Page's Chapel in the first half of the nineteenth century included window repair and rearrangement of the interior layout, including the relocation of the desk and pulpit from the north side to the

37 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 100. Rousby named his patent after a Celtic river name meaning, "the crooked or winding one."
38 Eleanor Calvert Custis Stuart was the grandmother of Mary Custis, who married General Robert E. Lee.
39 Franklin D. Robinson, Jr., "Eleanor Calvert Custis Stuart, 1754-1811," (Unpublished, Date Unknown: Available from the St. Thomas' Church Archives, Croom, Maryland and the Prince George's County Planning Department Historic Preservation Section Vertical Files, Upper Marlboro, Maryland).
40 Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, "Benjamin Contee," http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000710 (20 October 2009).

east side of the church in 1817. Due to the poor financial situation of the parish, repairs were carried out infrequently, often only when desperately needed.[41]

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish, Including Construction of St. Thomas' Rectory, 1850 - 1960

In May 1850, the upper portion of St. Paul's Parish petitioned the Maryland Diocesan Convention for the approval to form its own "separate and distinct Parish to be called St. Thomas' Parish."[42] The convention approved the division, and Page's Chapel subsequently became St. Thomas' Church, parish church for the newly created St. Thomas' Parish. The boundaries of the new parish were defined by the vestry in 1851:

> The line by which it is proposed to divide the new Parish from St. Pauls, Begins at the mouth of Spicers Creek where it empties into the Patuxent River and runs up and with said Creek to its source being a spring commonly called "Hunter Pile's Spring" thence due West to the main road leading from Horse Head to Brandywine, thence up and with said road to the line of St. Johns Parish the other bounds of the new Parish to be the old bounds of St. Pauls.[43]

St. Thomas' Parish was bounded by St. Paul's Parish to the south, Queen Anne's Parish to the north, King George's Parish to the west, and the Patuxent River to the east. James A. McKenney, who was instrumental in the creation of St. Thomas' Parish, served as the first rector for the new parish from 1850 until 1852, after which Samuel Gordon became rector. Gordon served as rector of St. Thomas' from 1853 through 1883, during which time the Parish underwent a period of significant growth and development, and the rectory was completed on the church grounds.[44]

The vestry meeting minutes from May 1852 included a motion that "ordered every vestryman to take up a subscription for the purpose of building a parsonage."[45] On August 20, 1852, the vestry entered into a contract with H. and J. Armstrong of Baltimore to build "...a Parsonage house, dimensions as follows viz Main building to be twenty-two by eighteen feet, two stories-high...with wings at each side, each fourteen by sixteen feet, one story high...kitchen to be a shed of one of the wings, twelve by fourteen feet..." The main block and wings were to include two windows each in the first and second stories, with all windows to consist of twelve lights. Sidelights were to flank the front door, as typical of the period. In addition, the exterior walls of the rectory were

41 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-8, 8-9.
42 Vestry of St. Thomas' Parish, *Vestry Records of St. Thomas' Parish, 150-1956* (Maryland State Archives, Record Collection SC 3973).
43 As quoted in Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., *St. Thomas' Parish Register, Croome, Prince George's County, Maryland, 1849-1906* (Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, Inc., 1998), VIII.
44 Idem, IX; Samuel Gordon remains the longest-serving rector of St. Thomas' Parish to date.
45 Vestry of St. Thomas' Parish, *Vestry Records of St. Thomas' Parish, 1850-1956* (Maryland State Archives, Record Collection SC 3973).

to be sheathed in board and batten, with Venetian blinds on the front (south) windows, and panel shutters on the back (north) windows. The work was to be completed for $1400.[46]

In February 1853, the vestry successfully petitioned the Maryland legislature for allowance to hold "a lot of land not exceeding twenty acres for a Parsonage and other church purposes." The vestry also stipulated that a "stable, meat house, quarter, and privy be built as early as practicable at the Parsonage, to be paid for out of any moneys now due to the Vestry." The vestry chose a site on a knoll overlooking the north side of St. Thomas' Church, upon which to build their new rectory.[47]

In the summer of 1853, the Parish's Building Committee overseeing the construction of the rectory met with H. Armstrong at the almost finished building. The notes from this meeting state that building remained unfinished and that Armstrong did an "indifferent job of plastering." In August 1853, the vestry contracted John T. Berry, a parishioner and vestryman, for seventy-five dollars, to take the board-and-batten siding down, re-dress it, and put it on again horizontally. A month later, the vestry decided to replace the east chimney as well as to replace the west chimney with a three-flue chimney in October. The provision of the third flue suggests that the vestry was planning to add a second story to the west wing, which was eventually added in 1887.[48]

Samuel Gordon, a bachelor, was the first rector of St. Thomas' Parish to live in the completed rectory. Reverend Gordon was purportedly one of the main financial contributors to the construction and finishing of the rectory. The memoirs of Thomas John Chew Williams, great-grandson of Bishop Thomas John Claggett, include a brief reference to the rectory. Williams describes a visit to the St. Thomas' Rectory during the rectorship of Samuel Gordon (1853-1882). Williams recounts:

> Mr. Gordon was a good and a learned man and good company. He lived alone in his rectory. Many years afterwards...I spent the night with Mr. Gordon. It was bitter cold and there was little warmth in the house. I arose about daybreak, hoping to find a place to get warm. I found the kitchen in a grove some distance from the rectory. The servants lived here, and here I found a roaring open fire.[49]

The kitchen building as noted by Williams was most likely a multi-purpose building that included servants' quarters. Reverend Gordon opposed slavery, so all work on the property was done by freemen who lived on the rectory grounds. Reverend Gordon's tolerance was also reflected within the church building itself, as African

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46 Ibid.
47 Ibid.
48 Ibid; and Susan G. Pearl, *St. Thomas' Church Rectory, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form*, (Prepared by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission-Historic Preservation Division, April 1997; on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland), 8-2 and 8-3.
49 Idem, 8-3 and 8-4; the kitchen building noted by Williams is no longer extant; it was most likely a multi-purpose building that included servants' quarters. Reverend Gordon was opposed to slavery, so all work on the property was done by freemen who lived on the property.

Americans were free to worship within St. Thomas' Church. Vestry meeting minutes also note that in 1856, the southeast corner of the churchyard was "to be laid off as a burying ground for the colored people of the Parish."[50]

The rectory was completed in 1857, arguably during the decade of greatest change in the appearance of St. Thomas' Church. In 1851, the vestry appointed a committee to contract for and oversee repairs and additions to the church. Fielder Bowie, a vestryman and descendant of the colonial rector Reverend John Eversfield who was living on "Eversfield's Map of Italy," donated the bricks from Reverend Eversfield's study that had once stood on the property for the construction of a chancel, which also included a walnut railing and banisters. In 1858, New York architect J.W. Priest, an associate of noted landscape and Gothic Revival-style architect Andrew Jackson Downing, examined the church and submitted proposals for various renovations. Shortly thereafter, Reverend Gordon, under approval of the vestry, authorized Priest to prepare working drawings for the roof and cornices of the nave and chancel, which presumably included the application of Gothic Revival-style detailing to the church, including gothic-arch windows and vergeboard on the gable. The vestry also authorized Reverend Gordon to collect donations for the installation of new stained-glass windows for the church, and contract for them when he had achieved the necessary funds.[51]

After the Civil War, the parish continued to grow. In 1875, the vestry established the Church of the Atonement in Cheltenham to serve those parishioners located at the western edge of the Parish. The frame church was constructed of wood and erected in the Gothic Revival style on land purchased by Baltimore Philanthropist Enoch Pratt. Pratt most likely donated the land and the building of Atonement as a way to provide religious support to the School of Reformation that he erected for African-American boys in Cheltenham. The erection of the church was shortly followed by the creation of an associated cemetery.[52]

In 1888, the congregation of St. Thomas' as well as other congregations from throughout the diocese and elsewhere commissioned the erection of the bell tower in memory of Bishop Thomas Claggett to be erected on the west side of the church. The three-story brick tower, capped by a pyramidal roof, was designed by in the Gothic Revival style by Baltimore architect Thomas Buckler Ghequier.[53] On July 19, 1888, a large number gathered for the dedication of the tower erected in memorial to Bishop Claggett, with the "sweet-toned bell" serving as a memorial to the late William D. Bowie, an early nineteenth-century Maryland legislator, businessman, and member of one of the oldest families in Southern Maryland.[54]

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50 Vestry of St. Thomas' Parish, *Vestry Records of St. Thomas' Parish, 1850-1956* (Maryland State Archives, Record Collection SC 3973).

51 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-9 and 8-10; Five of the twelve stained-glass windows are memorials to Reverend John Eversfield, Bishop Thomas Claggett, Reverend Thomas Jackson, Priscilla Skinner, and Sophia O. Calvert.

52 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-11; the Church of the Atonement was closed in 1925, and deconsecrated and demolished in 1947. The cemetery remains.

53 Idem, 8-10; John H. Chesley served as rector of St. Thomas' from 1883-1886, followed by Thomas J. Packard from 1887-1888, and Charles J. Curtis from 1889-1891.

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

After the completion of the bell tower in 1888, the vestry authorized the construction of a new log dwelling to replace the old log house at the rectory. This most likely refers to the Sexton's House, which was erected to the north of the rectory ca. 1890.[55]

In 1905, a brick shed-roof sacristy was constructed at the northeast corner of the chancel, providing the final addition to the church building. In 1927, Seton Belt bequeathed a gift of ten acres of woodland adjoining the east side of the church property. This acreage had once belonged to Reverend John Eversfield's plantation, "Hackthorne Heath," and the ten acres was consequently referred to as "Hackthorne Heath Woods." The deed from Belt to the parish outlined specifically that the land must remain timbered, specifically:

> The condition of this conveyance is expressly understood to be and mean that the said property shall never be sold, but shall be used always in conjunction with and as part and parcel of the property of St. Thomas Church, at Croome,....that the trees, timber and wood on said premises shall be used only for fire wood for rectory and church purposes or for repairs for said church property.[56]

St. Thomas' Parish continued to grow throughout the early twentieth century. St. Thomas' Church and Parish served as the social center of the rural and remote village of Croom. The church property hosted numerous weddings, funerals, baptisms, and picnics for communicants throughout the parish. Due to the parish's growth, several chapels within St. Thomas' Parish were erected during this time to cater to the congregation. St. Simon's Mission (discussed further below) was established to serve the African American communicants of St. Thomas' Parish. The frame church building was erected ca. 1894 on the grounds of the rectory, and later moved to a site located to the southeast of the parish church. In 1916, the Chapel of the Incarnation was built in the railroad town of Brandywine to serve the southern part of the parish. The building, which continues to serve the chapel's congregation in the present day, was designed by Washington, D.C., architect William J. Palmer in the Spanish Mission style. However, during this time, St. Thomas' continued as the parish church and as the physical and spiritual heart of the parish.

In 1932, the congregation placed a memorial stone to the southeast of the bell tower to commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the Assembly Act that authorized the building of the new church and chapel in St. Paul's Parish. The iron stone was brought from nearby Brookewood, once home to the Mathew Eversfield family.

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55 Pearl 1997, 8-5; the church sexton is charged with the maintenance of the church buildings and cemetery.
56 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., "St. Thomas' Parish Historic Properties," (Unpublished, 2000; Available from the St. Thomas' Church Archives, Croom, Maryland and Prince George's County Planning Department Historic Preservation Section Vertical Files , Upper Marlboro, Maryland); Prince George's County Circuit Court-Land Records Department, Prince George's County Deed Book 331, Page 411 (Upper Marlboro, Maryland); colonial records indicate that Hackthorne Heath was a working plantation of approximately five-hundred to six-hundred acres. The plantation was tenanted under Reverend Eversfield's ownership. Upon his death, it subsequently passed to his son, John, and later to John's daughter Eleanor before confiscated as British Property. After which, it was conveyed to Reverend Eversfield's son, Matthew.

By the early 1950s, the Gothic Revival-style ornamentation and St. Thomas' Church itself was in need of repair. As described in the *St. Thomas Church National Register of Historic Places Nomination*:

> In June 1952, a group of women from the Parish proposed renovations to 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.
>
> 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 [President Thomas] 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 1960, 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.[57]

In 2009, St. Thomas' Church retains the appearance of the renovations completed under the direction of Grigg in 1960.

Establishment and the Growth of Croom in the Nineteenth Century

In the early nineteenth century, a small village began to develop and emerge around Page's Chapel, which served as the focal point for the growing community. The residents named their village in honor of Bishop Thomas Claggett, who lived on the the large tract of land called, "Croome," located to the northwest. By the time St. Thomas' Parish was established in 1850, the rural village of Croom included a blacksmith and wheelwright shop, several general stores, as well as several cobblers and carpenters. In 1857, a post office was

57 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-11 and 8-12.

established in the village's store, which was located to the northwest of St. Thomas' Church, on the east side of Croom Road.[58]

The village of Croome was an area of intense agriculture, which before the Civil War, had the largest ratio of slaves per total population than any other Maryland county. After the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, many members of the large labor force remained in the Croome area to work as tenant farmers. During this time, a school for African-American children, known as the Croom School, was built in Naylor, the area just south of Croome, which was replaced in the early twentieth century by a new school on the same site. By the early 1890s, a second school was built near the northern edge of Croome, adjoining property that in the 1900s became the site of St. Mary's Methodist Episcopal Church. These schools were largely influenced and supported by the opening of the Croom Industrial and Agricultural Institute in 1902. The school was established in connection with St. Thomas' Church to "prepare young colored men and women," for employment in scientific agriculture and household economics. These children and their families comprised a significant portion of the population, a large part of which worshipped at St. Thomas' Church and later St. Simon's Mission Chapel (1894-1964).[59]

St. Simon's Mission Chapel and Cemetery, Including Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, 1894-1972[60]

In 1892, Reverend Francis (Frank) Peet Willes was confirmed as rector of St. Thomas' Parish. Under the rectorship of Reverend Willes, the grounds of St. Thomas' Rectory became the religious and educational center for the African-American members of St. Thomas' congregation. St. Simon's Mission, established in 1894, started as a Sunday school for African-American children of the parish shortly after the election of Reverend Willes as rector of St. Thomas' Parish. Katherine (Kate) and Susan Willes, sisters of Reverend Willes, conducted the religious instruction. In 1894, a mission chapel was built on the rectory grounds, approximately one-hundred feet on the north side of St. Thomas Church Road. The simple front-gabled, frame building was typical of country chapels of the period. Although St. Thomas' Church had ministered to some members of the African-American community for generations, the construction of the mission chapel allowed for separate educational and social events among the African-American community, thereby attracting even more of its members.[61]

From 1894 until 1896, itinerant ministers from Washington, D.C., preached to the St. Simon's congregation, but services were held irregularly. However, the Sunday school continued to flourish. During that time, the congregation of St. Simon's petitioned Bishop Henry Yates Satterlee, first Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of

58 Simon J. Martenet, *Martenet's Atlas of Maryland* (Philadelphia: Simon J. Martenet, 1861); Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 100; the post office operated until 1948.
59 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 100; St. Mary's Church was destroyed by fire in the late 1960s, after which its congregation joined with the Brooks-Meyers Methodist Church located south of Naylor.
60 For a complete chain-of-title of St. Simon's Mission chapel site and St. Simon's Cemetery, see Rosemary Prola, *St. Simon's Episcopal Church Site and Cemetery, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form Addendum* (Prepared by the Ottery Group, Inc., March 9, 2006; on file at the Prince George's County Planning Department, Upper Marlboro, Maryland).
61 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 101; and F.P. Willes, "St. Simon's Church" (Unpublished, 1935), 1.

Washington, to send a full-time, permanent priest for the mission. In 1896, under the authority of Bishop Satterlee, the Reverend August E. Jensen transferred from Port Tobacco to Croome to "take control of the church and congregation" of St. Simon's.[62]

Reverend Jenson served as minister to St. Simon's until 1903, during which time the chapel was moved; the small frame structure was lifted onto rolling logs and transported to the south side of St. Thomas Church Road. Reverend Jenson purportedly held services in the chapel en route during the moving process, which took several weeks. As recounted by Reverend Willes:

> The reason it [St. Simon's Mission] was moved over the road was because Miss Susie Willes had collected funds to buy 60 acres of land to found a school and a Minister's house was built on this land for the first Minister, Mr. Jens[e]n [sic]...Mr. Jens[e]n [sic] was the one who personally had the church moved from the Rectory glebe to its present position. With the aid of one or 2 men only he had it raised and placed on rolling logs and by means of a windlass it made its slow march to its new situation. This took many days and a number of Sunday's [sic] it was made ready for service en-route but at last it was safely placed over the road.
>
> The land on which it was placed was part of the property already mentioned purchased by Miss Susie Willes from Mr. R. Hooe and a Ministers House and large Hall was erected for a day school and auditorium for meetings of any kind.[63]

After the chapel was stabilized in its new location, a rectory for the vicar, or minister's house, was constructed to the south of the chapel. By May 1902, St. Simon's recorded twenty-three communicants, with a total increased to sixty-two one-year later. The mission's register also noted that Reverend Jenson performed a number of baptisms in the chapel on June 8, 1902.[64]

Although the congregation of St. Simon's regarded Reverend Jenson's first few years as vicar of St. Simon's Mission as a success, Reverend Jenson experienced a personal tragedy in 1903; his daughter died from whooping cough. Her death raised the question of whether the new mission should have its own cemetery. The congregation overwhelmingly said yes. The cemetery was established approximately one-quarter-mile to the southeast of the chapel, in an one-acre clearing through the woods, and, in 1903, Eloise Constance Jensen

62 Willes, 1.
63 Idem, 2-4.
64 Prola, 8-1.

became the first of many whose bodies are buried in St. Simon's Cemetery. In 1914, Bishop Harding of the Diocese of Washington consecrated St. Simon's Cemetery.[65]

The exterior walls of St. Simon's Mission Chapel were covered with tarred shingling in order to retain heat. According to Samuel White, son of Henry White who served as vicar of St. Simon's Mission from 1934 until 1952:

> We used coal heat—I mean. Wood heat. On Sundays when the temperature was below 40 degrees we could not have any services there. Because it was hard to heat....from January through February we could not old any regular services there unless the temperature on a Sunday morning was in the forties.[66]

The vicar of St. Simon's also ministered to the other two African-American Episcopal congregations in Southern Maryland: St. Phillip's in Aquasco, Prince George's County and St. Mary's in Charlotte Hall, St. Mary's County. In 1904, J.R. Brooks replaced Reverend Jenson, who had left in 1903 to take charge of a church in Asbury Park, New Jersey.[67] A series of twelve vicars served St. Simon's from 1896 until its closing in 1964. Arguably, one of the most noteworthy was Reverend E.G. Small, uncle of Reverend Dr. Anna Pauline (Pauli) Murray, the first African-American woman Episcopal priest, noted civil rights lawyer, friend of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW).

Pauli Murray (1910-1985) described her time spent in Croom with her uncle, who served as vicar for ten years from 1921 until 1931, in her memoir *Song in a Weary Throat*:

> ...Reverend Small accepted a post as vicar of three small rural mission churches in southern Maryland, under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Washington. Saint Simon's, located in Croom, about twenty-five miles southeast of Washington, had a rectory where the family would live. Saint Philip's, at Aquasco, was fifteen miles south of Croom, and Saint Mary's, at Charlotte Hall, was another fifteen miles beyond Aquasco. The diocese would supply the vicar with an automobile—a rare privilege in those days—to travel the circuit holding services and visiting parishioners scattered over Prince George's and Saint Mary's counties...It was an

65 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., "The Story of St. Simon's Cemetery," (Unpublished, Date Unknown. Available from the St. Thomas' Church Archives, Croom, Maryland and Prince George's County Planning Department Historic Preservation Section Vertical Files, Upper Marlboro, Maryland).
66 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., "Interview with the children of Rev. Henry S. White—former vicar at St. Simon's Chapel," October 7, 1994 (Transcript on file at Southern Maryland Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, Charles County, Maryland); A vicar is a cleric in the Episcopal Church who is in charge of a chapel.
67 Willes, 4.

> advancement for my uncle, although it entailed hard work and long hours…
>
> When the Smalls moved to Maryland in the summer of 1921, Aunt Pauline let me go with them to help Aunt Sallie settle into her new home. It was the first of many summers and holidays, I would spend with them until I was grown…
>
> The train [from Washington, D.C.] tunneled through patches of undergrowth and swampy land and let us off at Croom station, where a man met us with a horse-drawn surrey and drove us to our destination, three miles away. The white sandy road climbed steadily uphill, wound past a few scattered farms and through the village of Croom, a cluster of dwellings around Duley's General Store and Post Office. At a fork a half mile from the village, Croom Road…curved right and went southward through the hills towards Naylor, Horsehead…and Aquasco. We took the road to the left, curving downhill around Saint Thomas' Church and churchyard and turning into the land of Saint Simon's, which led to the rectory….
>
> I gradually realized how lonely it must have been for Aunt Sallie, cut off from all active community life and, as she put it, "buried in the sticks."…
>
> The rectory stood by itself several hundred yards from the road, a two-story frame house surrounded by open fields. One could look for miles over rolling hills and tobacco farms to the south….
>
> The nearest shopping center was in Washington, and we seldom saw a newspaper…Apart from the church services, people had very little social life. They lived far apart, traveled by horse and buggy, and seldom visited at night.[68]

Murray then goes on to note the difference between those that worshipped at St. Thomas' Church and those that worshipped at St. Simon's Mission Chapel, even though St. Thomas' had ministered to both congregations only a few decades before:

> The two Episcopal churches in Croom, both visible from the rectory, were so close together they might have been part of the same property. Saint Thomas, for white Episcopalians, stood in a grove of trees at the top of the

68 Pauli Murray, *Song in a Weary Throat: An American Pilgrimage* (New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1987), 50-52.

> hill, a stately red structure dominating the countryside, it seemed to me then, its churchyard filled with vaults and tombstones befitting its historical significance. Its bell, which tolled for services and funerals, had a deep, mellow sound. Down the hill, across the road from the churchyard, was Saint Simon's, the church for colored Episcopalians, a small frame chapel on a grassy plot barren of trees. Like the other two churches my uncle pastured, it had been established during Reconstruction when the white people would no longer tolerate former slaves as members of their congregations. Its high, shrill bell was more like a dinner bell than a church bell...the main cemetery for Croom's colored population was in the woods back of The Hall.
>
> The people who attended the two churches were intimately acquainted with one another's families, and the easy familiarity common to rural life marked their daily interchange.[69]

Reverend Small, Murray's uncle, was the seventh vicar to serve St. Simon's Mission. The congregation continued through five more vicars, until 1964, when it integrated with St. Thomas' Church. The chapel stood vacant until it was deconsecrated and demolished ca. 1972. Within a year, the vicarage was also demolished, and the acreage upon which the chapel and vicerage were located was conveyed to the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C. However, the cemetery remained and was conveyed, along with the sixty-acre surrounding track that once held the chapel and vicarage, to the Prince George's County Board of Education in 1964. Responsibility for the cemetery maintenance and upkeep remained, as it does to the present-day, with St. Thomas' vestry.

In 2000, the vestry of St. Thomas' was deeded a 2.15-acre parcel, site of St. Simon's Mission, from the Episcopal Diocese of Washington that had held title to the parcel since the early 20th century.[70] The site of the chapel is denoted by a historical marker, installed by the Parish in 2008. In 2009, in addition to the chapel site, the vestry maintained an approximate 1,340-foot lane that leads south from St. Thomas Church Road to St. Simon's Cemetery, .559 acres, that remains in use. In February 2010, Prince George's County deed the St. Simon's Cemetery and its righ-of-way to the Parish.[71]

Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, 1902 - 1952[72]

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69 Idem, 53-54.

70 Prince George's County Circuit Court-Land Records Department, Prince George's County Deed Book 14158, Page 61(Upper Marlboro, Maryland); a portion of this parcel was sold to the owners of the former Croom Industrial and Agricultural School property in 2008 so that the current parcel encompasses 1.89 acres.

71 Prince George's County Circuit Court-Land Records Department, Prince George's County Deed Book 31442, Page 270 (Upper Marlboro, Maryland)

72 The following is derived from Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 103, except where noted; For a detailed chain-of-title history for the Croome Industrial and Agricultural School see Marina King, *Croom Industrial and Agricultural School,*

Fueled by the success of the Sunday school at St. Simon's Mission, Susie Willes, sister of Rector Francis Willes of St. Thomas' Parish, took up the cause of education for African-American children, following the principles of Booker T. Washington regarding practical preparation of youth for the work force. During this time, Prince George's County schools were segregated into dual systems. In 1899, Ms. Willes began soliciting funds not only locally but also from New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts to establish an institute for the education of African-American boys and girls. With the funds that she collected, she purchased sixty acres of land on June 30, 1902, for the price of $1500 from Rice N. and Augusta H. Hooe, upon which to build her school.[73] The parcel was situated on the south side of St. Thomas Church Road, just to the southeast of St. Thomas' Church.

By 1903, Ms. Willes arranged for the construction of a large hall to serve as the center of school activities in addition to various smaller school buildings that housed students and workshops. The Croom Industrial and Agricultural Institute of Prince George's County, Maryland, was incorporated in 1903 for the "extension and improvement of industrial education as a means of opening better and wider avenues of employment to young colored men and women..." The institute, under management of the vestry of St. Thomas, provided instruction in cooking, household economics, sewing and dressmaking, as well as agriculture.

Despite its progressive mission, by 1918 the institute was suffering financially. Consequently, the trustees, largely comprised of St. Thomas' parishioners, filed a Petition for Dissolution, which was subsequently approved by the Maryland Circuit Court. However, despite the dissolution, the court allowed Ms. Willes to continue the school under management completely separate from the Episcopal Church. Ms. Willes reopened the school in 1920, as the Croom Settlement School, the purpose of which was to provide the "industrial and educational betterment of the colored boys and girls of Southern Maryland...[on a] non-sectarian foundation but broadly religious."[74] Students traveled from various locations throughout Southern Maryland, and on Sundays, worshipped at the adjacent St. Simon's Mission Chapel.

The school continued for the next thirty-two years, preparing African-American youth, the majority of which were from the District of Columbia's Child Welfare Ward, for the working world. The school was unique in the county in that it provided practical instruction to young African-American students, at first under the auspices of the Episcopal Church, and later as a nonsectarian venture, in an effort to provide the students a more successful entry into the work force. However, after World War II, the school again was beset with financial difficulties, and officially closed in 1952. Two years later, the United States Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision would lead to school desegregation throughout the South. However, it was not until 1973, almost twenty years after the 1954 court decision that Prince George's County finally implemented a comprehensive

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form (Prepared by the Prince George's County Planning Department, September 1986; on file at the Prince George's County Planning Department, Upper Marlboro, Maryland).

73 Prince George's County Circuit Court-Land Records Department, Prince George's County Deed Book 7, Page 373 (Upper Marlboro, Maryland).

74 "Croom School Incorporated," *The Washington Post*, 25 January 1920.

desegregation plan that complied with the federal court and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.[75]

Catherine (Kitty) A. Tomes Pinkney (1912-2009) following her graduation from the Croom Institute, stayed on as Supervisor of Matrons. After the closure of the school in 1952, Mrs. Pinkney and her husband, George Wilmer Pinkney, purchased the one-acre property that included the school buildings and converted the large main house on the school property into their home. Mrs. Pinkney, a foster child herself, and her husband raised not only their own three children, but opened their home to twenty-three foster children throughout the next three decades. Mrs. Pinkney was also the first African American to attend St. Thomas' Church after integration and the closing of St. Simon's Mission in 1964.[76] Mrs. Pinkney continued to live in the dwelling on the Croom Institute's site until 2005, when she conveyed the property, which included 1.08 acres and various foundations and remnants of the former workshops and dormitories, to the present owners.[77]

St. Thomas' Church and Parish, Including Acquisition of the Field, 1960-2009

Throughout the late-twentieth century, only minor alterations and repairs occurred to the appearance of St. Thomas' Church, despite the increase in congregation due to the merging of St. Thomas' Church with St. Simon's Mission in 1964. The most notable addition to the church building, a Lewis and Hitchcock, 540-pipe, tracker-action organ comprised of nine registers for a total of eleven ranks and designed by George Paine, was installed in the gallery in 1971. This installation necessitated the addition of four columns in the nave underneath the gallery to support the weight. In addition, a Georgian-style balustrade was also added across the gallery at this time.[78]

The vestry purchased a new residence for the rector of St. Thomas' Parish in the 1960s as the old rectory stood in deteriorated condition due to termite damage. On January 10, 1964, the vestry conveyed the rectory and a surrounding 3.923-acre parcel to Luther and Dora Heintz for ten dollars for use as a private residence.[79] The parcel also included the Sexton's House and milk house. In 1994, the present owners purchased the tract and buildings in 1994 and subsequently set to restore the house. As a result, the brick chimneys were rebuilt, some windows in the rear elevation were replaced, and the foundation was reinforced. However, the rectory, which functions today as a private residence, retains its original cruciform floor plan, exterior wall cladding, and doors. The rectory remains as one of three early to mid-nineteenth-century Episcopalian rectories in Prince George's

75 Lisa J. Cozzens, "With Little Deliberate Speed: School Integration in Prince George's County, Maryland," May 1996, http://www.watson.org/~lisa/blackhistory/school-integration/pgcounty/original.html (1 August 2009).
76 Therese C. Yewell, *Women of Achievement in Prince George's County History* (Upper Marlboro, Maryland: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1994), 94; In 1968, Vice President Hubert Humphrey named Kitty and George Pinkney "Foster Parents of the Year."
77 Prince George's County Circuit Court-Land Records Department, Prince George's County Deed Book 21306, Page 1 (Upper Marlboro, Maryland); Kitty Pinkney died on July 21, 2009, at the age of ninety-six.
78 Pearl and Robinson, Jr., 8-12.
79 Prince George's County Deed Book 2923, Page 30; Although the vestry purchased the land in the 1850s prior to the erection of the rectory, a deed had not been drafted. Therefore, an Equity Record (No. C-764) was executed in order to proceed with the sale.

County. However, unlike the other two, St. Thomas' Rectory contains a cruciform plan, unique in Prince George's County.[80]

In 1980, the vestry approved construction of an office and Sunday school on the property, which is located to the north of St. Thomas' Church, at the edge of the churchyard. The vestry named the new office building the Willes Church House in honor of Susie and Katherine Willes, the sisters of former rector Frank Willes who operated the successful Sunday school for St. Simon's Mission. The one-story building was designed in the Georgian style by Thomas Hinton, featuring colonial-era detailing that compliments St. Thomas' Church.[81]

In 1987, St. Thomas' Vestry expanded their land holdings when they purchased the 4.6-acre field and meadow located at the southeast intersection of Croom and St. Thomas Church roads, immediately to the southwest of St. Thomas' Church. Like the land upon which St. Thomas' Church was built, the field originally belonged to part of the one-hundred acre "The Cuckold's Rest," patented by Thomas Hide in 1682. Daniel Page, builder of St. Thomas' Church, purchased the land in 1743, and he retained ownership of the land until 1769, when his heirs conveyed the property to William Bowie.[82]

From 1769 until ca. 1867, the Bowies owned the field, which was used as meadow and for small crops. Throughout the late-nineteenth and early twentieth century, the 4.6 acres was part of a larger seventeen-acre tract, which was owned during the late ninteenth century by Reverend Samuel Gordon, who served as rector of the St. Thomas' Parish from 1852-1883. By 1908, the parcel was reduced to 7.1 acres. In 1940, the heirs of Dr. William H. Gibbons sold the 7.1-acre property to Harry and Bessie Tayman. Harry Tayman most likely constructed the one-and-one-half-story tobacco barn that currently occupies the southeastern corner of the parcel shortly after his acquisition.[83] By 1954, the field assumed its current area of 4.6 acres, and the subsequent owners used the property to cultivate tobacco and small grains. Since 1987 when the vestry purchased the property from William and Catherine DeVaughn, the vestry has leased the field for use in cultivating organic produce. In 2008, the tobacco barn was restored through a grant from Preservation Maryland and the National Trust for Historic Preservation with additional funds from St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish and Prince George's Heritage.[84]

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80 Pearl 1997, 8-6; the Rectory at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Collington was erected in 1829 as a side-hall, double-parlor plan of brick construction. The Rectory at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Aquasco was erected in 1848 as a square framed side-hall, double-parlor dwelling.
81 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., (St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historian), in conversation with author, 12 June 2009, (Notes on file at A.D. Marble & Company, Owings Mills, Maryland).
82 Franklin A. Robinson, Jr. (St. Thomas' Parish Historian), "Information for the St. Thomas' Parish Historic District," (Unpublished, July 2009), 1-2; for a complete chain-of-title for the field, please see this pamphlet, available from the St. Thomas' Church Archives, Croom, Maryland and Prince George's County Planning Department Historic Preservation Section Vertical Files , Upper Marlboro, Maryland.
83 Ibid.; When the barn underwent a major rehabilitation in 2008, many layers of carpet and newspaper were found, with a final layer of newspapers dating to September and October 1941. This suggests that 1941 was the first year the barn was used.
84 Ibid.

In 1995, the vestry approved the construction of a small cemetery house located to the northeast of the church. This small building, designed in the Georgian style, features colonial-era detailing to compliment the larger church structure. St. Thomas' Church and surrounding properties have undergone little alterations since this time. St. Thomas' and St. Simon's cemeteries continue in use, with the most recent burials dating to 2009. After more than 250 years, St. Thomas' Church remains the focal point of the rural village of Croom and the active center for St. Thomas' Parish.

Statement of Significance and Integrity[85]

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District is significant under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Ethnic Heritage for its broad impact on the development and history of the rural village of Croom and its significant contribution to the larger African-American community. The district is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Education for its unique efforts in providing practical education to African-American children for the first half of the twentieth century leading up to the eve of school desegregation in Prince George's County. The district is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its notable examples of the Georgian and Gothic Revival styles of architecture, as well as for its exemplification of a specific type and period of construction. The district meets Criterion Consideration A for religious properties as the district derives its primary significance from its historical importance to the community of Croom and the larger African-American community as well as from its architectural distinction. The period of significance begins in 1742 at the commencement of construction of St. Thomas' Church and extends through to 1959, fifty years from the present as St. Thomas' Church and St. Simon's Mission Chapel continued to contribute to the growth and community of Croom into the 1960s (St. Simon's) and present day (St. Thomas'). Therefore, the period of significance extends to the fifty-year age consideration.

Integrity

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District includes a historically related collection of eighteenth, nineteenth, and early twentieth-century buildings, sites, and cemeteries. St. Thomas' Church retains its location on the top of knoll, overlooking the rest of the district and the village of Croom, which supports its function as the historical and spiritual center of the community. The district is cohesively linked by the records of St. Thomas' Vestry, which detail the construction planning, architectural style and form, and/or funding for the majority of buildings located within the district boundary. The limited modern intrusions and the continued use of St. Thomas' Church and St. Thomas' and St. Simon's cemeteries convey integrity of feeling, setting, and association. The district retains integrity of location, situated on the east side of Croom Road (MD 382) and on the north and south sides of St. Thomas Church Road, in the rural village of Croom, Prince George's County.

85 St. Thomas' Church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in December 13, 2000, under Criterion B for its association with Bishop Thomas John Claggett and under Criterion C for its exemplification of a colonial cruciform church with Victorian Gothic Revival-style additions. St. Thomas' Rectory was designated as a Prince George's County Historic Site by the Prince George's County Historic District Commission in 1997 for its association with St. Thomas' Church, recorded details of its planning and construction, and for its architectural merit. St. Simon's Church Site and Cemetery and the Croom Industrial and Agricultural School were each designated as a Prince George's County Historic Site in the 1990s for their association with St. Thomas' Church and their significant contribution to African-American history in Prince George's County.

Maryland. The district retains its rural setting, as intrusions that post-date the period of significance (1742-1959) mostly consist of the construction of smaller ancillary buildings that do not detract from the significance of the district in its entirety.

For a list of contributing and non-contributing properties within the district, see the attached Building Inventory.

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St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District
PG: 86A-059
Prince George's County, Maryland

Property Address	Owner Name/Mailing Address	Property/Building Name	Tax Map/Parcel	Acres	Date of Construction	Architectural Style	Structure Type	Architect/Builder/Developer Info	Contributing/Non-contributing Status
14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; North Side of St. Thomas Church Road	St. Thomas Parish Vestry; 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church	128/57; 128/3	18.75; 10	1742-1745; 1859; 1888; 1905	Georgian; Gothic Revival	Church	Daniel Page; John W. Priest; Milton Grigg	Contributing
		St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Cemetery			ca. 1745	N/A	N/A		Contributing
		Willes Church House			ca. 1980	Colonial Revival	Meeting House		Non-Contributing; post dates period of significance
		Cemetery House			ca. 1995	Colonial Revival	Storage Shed		Non-Contributing; post dates period of significance
10108 Croom Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Michael and Catherine Kenney; 10108 Croom Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8240	St. Thomas' Rectory	128/61	3.92	1852-1853	Cross-gabled form with simple Gothic Revival detailing	Dwelling	H. and J. Armstrong, Builders	Contributing
		Tenant House/Sexton's House	128/61		ca. 1890	Vernacular	Dwelling		Contributing
		Milk House	128/61		ca. 1920	N/A	Milk House		Non-Contributing; lack of integrity
		Wood Shed	128/61		ca. 1970	N/A	Wood Shed		Non-Contributing; post dates period of significance
		Horse Stable	128/61		ca. 1990	N/A	Barn		Non-Contributing; post dates period of significance
South Side of St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	St. Thomas Parish Vestry; 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	St. Simon's Mission Chapel Site	128/80;91	1.89	ca. 1902	N/A	N/A		Contributing
South Side of St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Prince George's County; 9400 Peppercorn Place, Largo, Maryland 20774-5358	St. Simon's Cemetery	128/169	0.5597	ca. 1903	N/A	Cemetery		Contributing
14201 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	St. Thomas Parish Vestry; 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	Farm Field	128/12	4.6	ca. 1905	N/A	Tobacco Barn	Harry P. Tayman	Contributing
14409 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Lawrence P. Shutts, et. Al; 14409 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8291	Croom Industrial and Agricultural Institute	128/89	1.08	ca. 1905; ca. 1920	Vernacular	School; Dwelling/Dormitory		Non-Contributing; lack of integrity
		Workshop # 1	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop		Non-Contributing; lack of integrity
		Workshop # 2	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop		Non-Contributing; lack of integrity
		Ruins/foundation	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop/School Building		Non-Contributing; lack of integrity
		Storage Shed	128/89		ca. 1990	N/A	Storage Shed		Non-Contributing; post dates period of significance

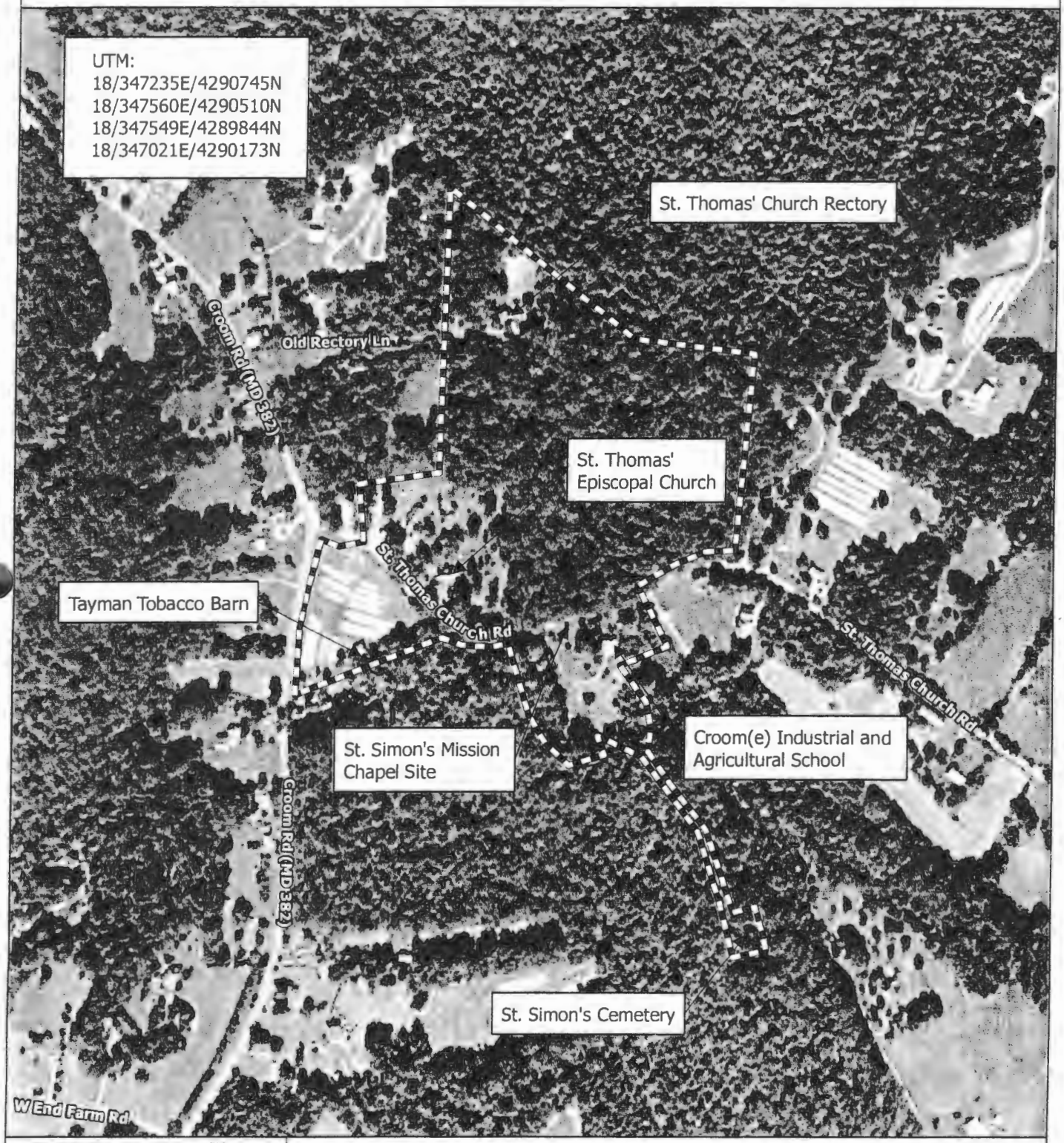
St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District
PG: 86A-~~#~~59
Prince George's County, Maryland

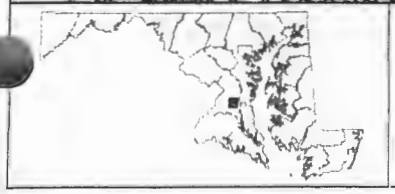
RESOURCE INVENTORY

Property Address	Owner Name/Mailing Address	Property/Building Name	Tax Map/Parcel	Acres	Date of Construction	Architectural Style	Structure Type	Architect/Builder/Developer Info	Contributing/Non-contributing Status
14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 North Side of St Thomas Church Road	St. Thomas Parish Vestry, 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church	128/57; 128/3	18.75, 10	1742-1745; 1859, 1888; 1905	Georgian, Gothic Revival	Church	Daniel Page, John W. Priest, Milton Grigg	Contributing
		St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Cemetery			ca. 1745	N/A	N/A		Contributing
		Willes Church House			ca. 1980	Colonial Revival	Meeting House		Non-Contributing post-dates period of significance
		Cemetery House			ca. 1995	Colonial Revival	Storage Shed		Non-Contributing post-dates period of significance
10108 Croom Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Michael and Catherine Kenney, 10108 Croom Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8240	St. Thomas' Rectory	128/61	3.92	1852-1853	Cross-gabled form with simple Gothic Revival detailing	Dwelling	H. and J. Armstrong, Builders	Contributing
		Tenant House/Sexton's House	128/61		ca. 1890	Vernacular	Dwelling		Contributing
		Milk House	128/61		ca. 1920	N/A	Milk House		Non-Contributing lack of integrity
		Wood Shed	128/61		ca. 1970	N/A	Wood Shed		Non-Contributing, post dates period of significance
		Horse Stable	128/61		ca. 1990	N/A	Barn		Non-Contributing, post dates period of significance
South Side of St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	St. Thomas Parish Vestry, 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	St. Simon's Mission Chapel Site	128/80,91	1.89	ca. 1902	N/A	N/A		Contributing
South Side of St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Prince George's County, 9400 Peppercorn Place, Largo, Maryland 20774-5358	St. Simon's Cemetery	128/169	0.5597	ca. 1903	N/A	Cemetery		Contributing
14201 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	St. Thomas Parish Vestry, 14300 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8222	Farm Field	128/12	4.6	ca. 1905	N/A	Tobacco Barn	Harry P. Tayman	Contributing
14409 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772	Lawrence P. Shutts, et. Al, 14409 St. Thomas Church Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-8291	Croom Industrial and Agricultural Institute	128/89	1.08	ca. 1905; ca. 1920	Vernacular	School, Dwelling/Dormitory		Non-Contributing, lack of integrity
		Workshop # 1	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop		Non-Contributing, lack of integrity
		Workshop # 2	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop		Non-Contributing lack of integrity
		Ruins/foundation	128/89		ca. 1920	N/A	Workshop/School Building		Non-Contributing, lack of integrity
		Storage Shed	128/89		ca. 1990	N/A	Storage Shed		Non-Contributing post dates period of significance

St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District
PG: 86A-059
Boundary Map

Prince George's County, Maryland

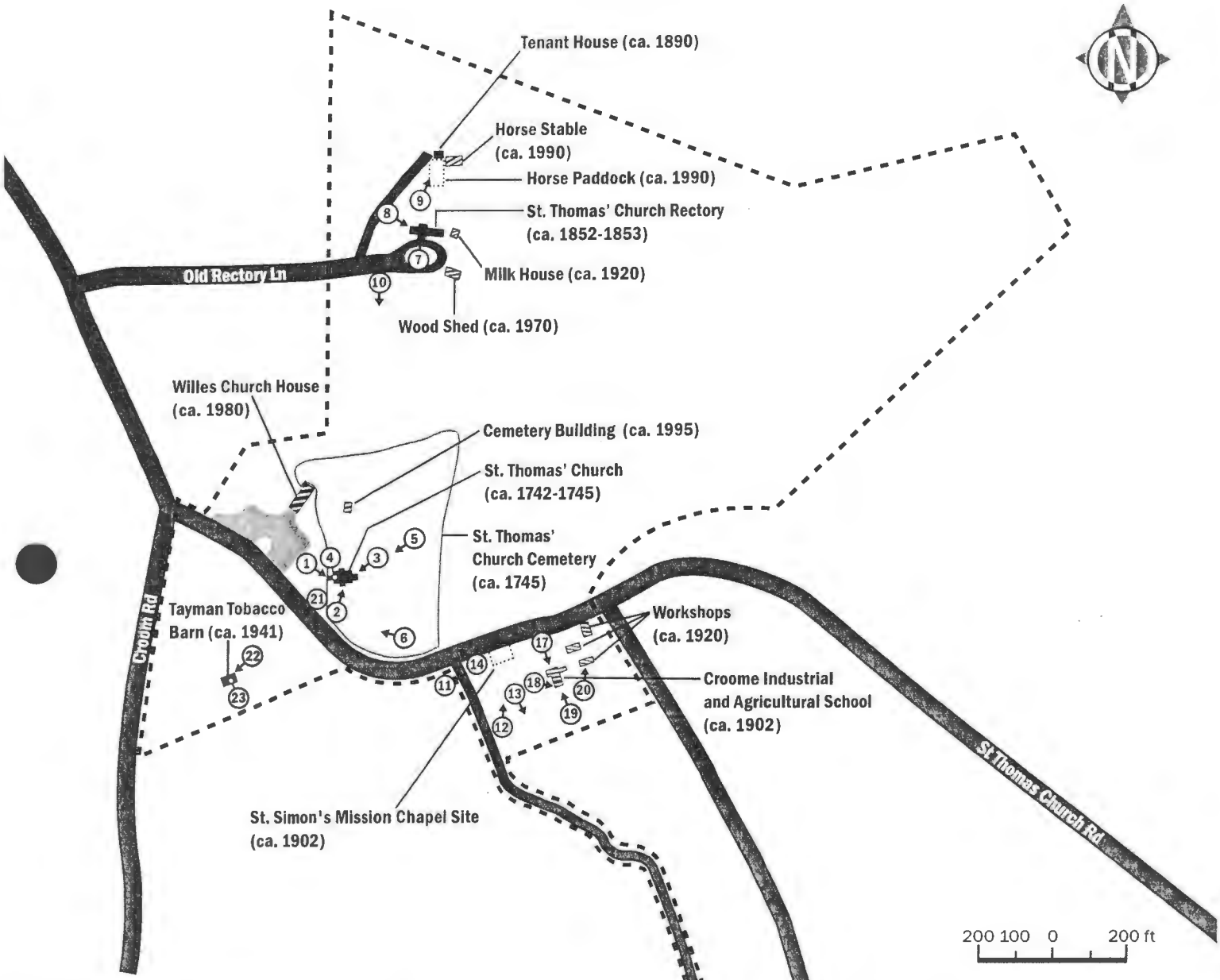




500 0 500 Feet

National Register Boundary

Map Sources: 2009 Fcubed



St. Thomas' Episcopal Parish Historic District
PG: 86A-059
Prince George's County, Maryland
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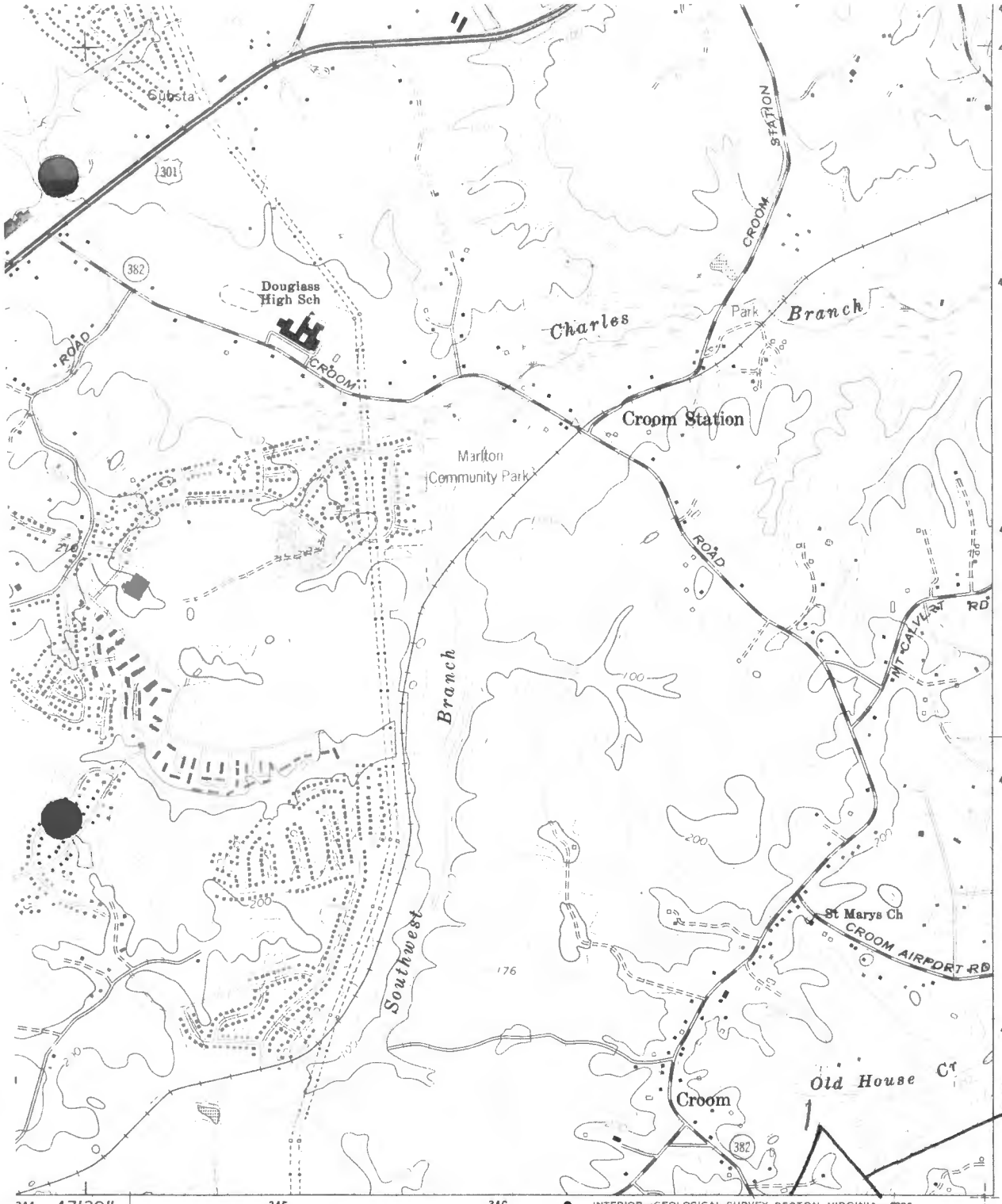


INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESTON, VIRGINIA—1993

NAYLOR 3 MI
11 MI. TO MD. 381

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT (PG: 86A-059)
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
UTM: 18/347235/4290
18/347560/4290510
18/347549/4289840
18/347021/4290

(1) (2) (3) (4)

(LOWER MARLBORO) 5661 II NW

(MAP 1 of 2)

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface

Light-duty road, hard or improved surface

Secondary highway, hard surface

Unimproved road

Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

UPPER MARLBORO, MD.

38076-G7-TF-024

1965
REVISED 1993
DMA 5661 IV SE—SERIES V833

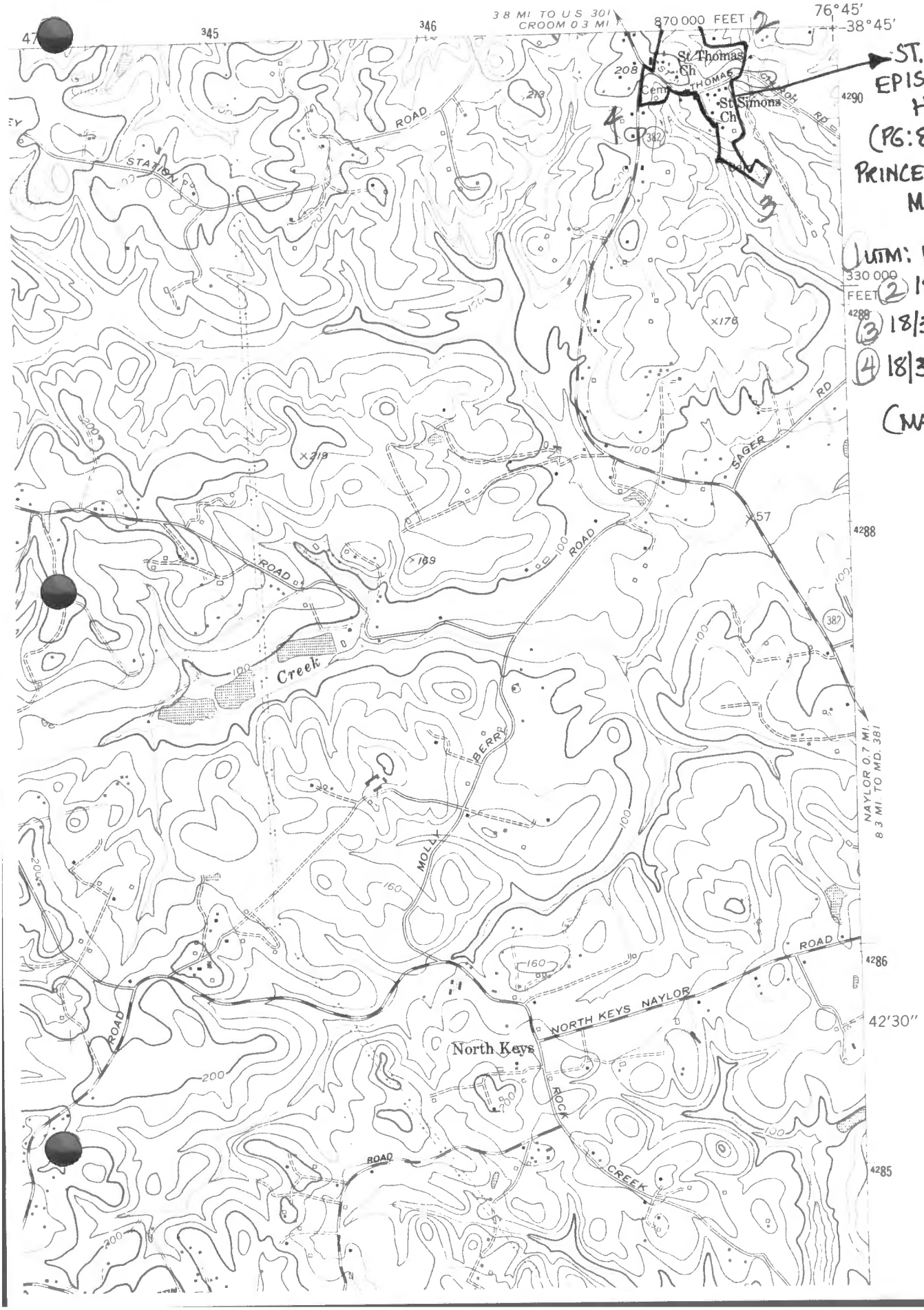
Revisions shown in purple compiled by the U.S. Geological Survey from aerial photographs taken 1988 and other sources
This information is not field checked. Map edited 1993

Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

BRANDYWINE QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

566 I SW (BRISTOL)



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
(PG:86A-159)
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

UTM: 18/347235/4290745
(2) 18/347560/4290510
(3) 18/347549/4289844
(4) 18/347021/4290173

(MAP 2 of 2)

* All photographs printed using Epson Ultrachrome Pigmented Ink on Epson Premium Glossy Photo Paper

Photo File Name	Photographer	Date of Photo	Photo Description	Photo Sequence
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_1	E. Young	07/2009	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, west elevation, view to southeast.	1 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_2	"	"	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, south elevation, view to northeast	2 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_3	"	"	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, east and north elevations, view to northwest.	3 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_4	"	"	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, interior, view east from entry to pulpit and sanctuary.	4 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_5	"	"	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Cemetery, view looking southwest to wrought-iron enclosed Calvert family burial plots.	5 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_6	"	"	St. Thomas' Episcopal Church Cemetery, view to northwest.	6 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_7	"	"	St. Thomas' Church Rectory, south elevation, view to north.	7 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_8	"	"	St. Thomas' Church Rectory, north and west elevations, view to southeast.	8 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_9	"	"	Tenant House, south and west elevations, view to northeast.	9 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_10	"	"	View to south from St. Thomas' Church Rectory to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church.	10 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _11	"	"	View to east to site of St. Simon's Mission Chapel; note roadside historical marker through trees.	11 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _12	"	"	View to northeast to site of St. Simon's Mission Chapel.	12 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _13	"	"	View to south to site of St. Simon's Mission Chapel vicarage.	13 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _14	"	"	View to northwest near St. Simon's Mission Chapel site looking to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church.	14 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _15	"	"	St. Simon's Cemetery, view to southeast.	15 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_16	"	"	St. Simon's Cemetery, detail of oldest marked grave (ca. 1903).	16 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_17	"	"	Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, north elevation, view to south.	17 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish_18	"	"	Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, north and west elevations, view to southeast.	18 of 23

MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _19	"	"	Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, south elevation, view to north.	19 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _20	"	"	Croom Industrial and Agricultural School, former workshop, south and west elevations, view to northeast.	20 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _21	"	"	Tayman Tobacco Barn, east and north elevations, view to southwest.	21 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _22	"	"	Tayman Tobacco Barn, east and north elevations, view to southwest.	22 of 23
MD_PrinceGeorgesCounty_St.Thomas'EpiscopalParish _23	"	"	Tayman Tobacco Barn, interior, view to west; note racks for drying tobacco.	23 of 23

ST. THOMAS

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT, PG:86A-59
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
E. YOUNG
07. 2009
ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WEST ELEVATION, VIEW TO SOUTHEAST.
Photo # 1 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG
07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH Elevation, view to northeast.

PHOTO # 1 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG

07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, EAST and NORTH ELEVATIONS, VIEW to NORTHWEST.

PHOTO # 3 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG
07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH, INTERIOR, VIEW EAST FROM ENTRY to PULPIT and SANCTUARY.

PHOTO #1 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009
ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH CEMETERY, VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST to WROUGHT-IRON ENCLOSED CALVERT FAMILY BURIAL PLOTS.
PHOTO #5 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND P61:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH CEMETERY, VIEW TO NORTHWEST.

PHOTO # 6 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH RECTORY, SOUTH ELEVATION,
VIEW to NORTH.

PHOTO # 7 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH RECTORY, NORTH and WEST ELEVATIONS, VIEW to SOUTHEAST.

PHOTO # 8 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG
07. 2009

TENANT HOUSE, SOUTH and WEST ELEVATIONS,
VIEW to NORTHEAST.

PHOTO # 9 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07.2009

VIEW TO SOUTH FROM ST. THOMAS' CHURCH RECTORY
TO ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

PHOTO # 10 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07.2009
VIEW TO EAST SITE OF ST. SIMON'S MISSION CHAPEL;
NOTE ROADSIDE HISTORICAL MARKER THROUGH TREES.
PHOTO # 11 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009

VIEW to NORTHEAST to SITE of ST. SIMON'S
MISSION CHAPEL.

PHOTO # 12 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009
VIEW to SOUTH to SITE OF ST. SIMON'S
MISSION CHAPEL VICARAGE.
PHOTO # 13 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009

VIEW to NORTHWEST NEAR ST. SIMON'S MISSION
CHAPEL SITE to ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

PHOTO # 14 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07.2009
ST. SIMON'S CEMETERY, view to southeast.
PHOTO # 15 of 23

FRANKLIN
EARNEST
ELMORE
AT REST

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
OCT. 2009
ST. SIMON'S CEMETERY, DETAIL OF OLDEST MARKED GRAVE (CA. 1903)
PHOTO # 16 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07.2009
CROOM INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, NORTH
elevation, view to south
Photo # 17 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E. YOUNG
07.2009
CROOM INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, NORTH & WEST Elevations, view to southeast.
Photo # 18 of 23

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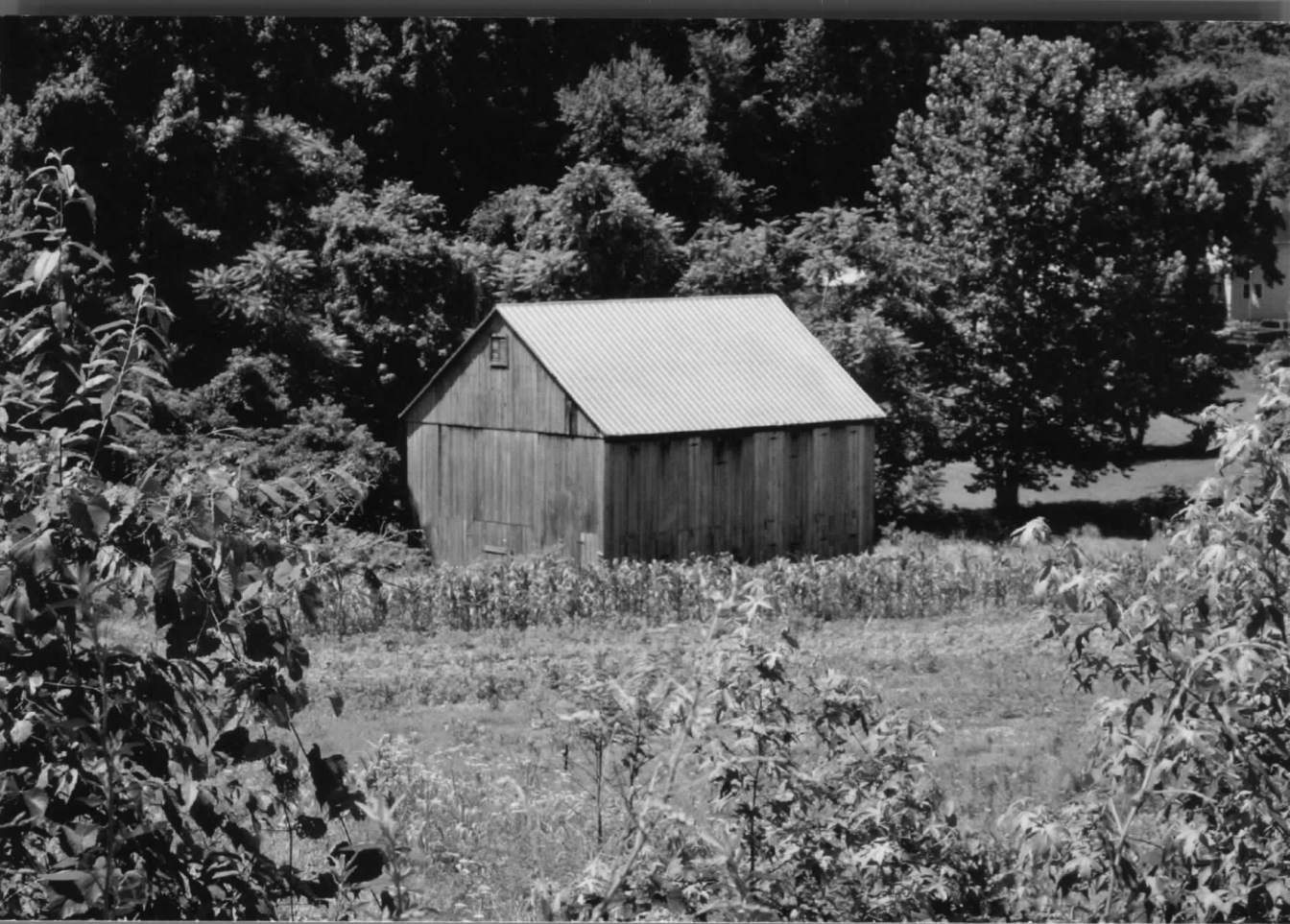
ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59
E YOUNG
07. 2009
CROOM INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, SOUTH elevation, view to north.
Photo # 19 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG
07.2009

CROOM INDUSTRIAL & AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL, former workshop, south & west elevations, view to northeast.
Photo # 20 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG: 86A-59
E. YOUNG
07. 2009
TAYMAN Tobacco BARN, EAST & NORTH elevations,
view to southwest.
Photo # 21 of 23



ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG

07.2009

TOWNAN TOBACCO BARN, EAST & NORTH elevations,
view to southwest.

Photo # 22 of 23

ST. THOMAS' EPISCOPAL PARISH HISTORIC DISTRICT
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND PG:86A-59

E. YOUNG

07.2009

Tayman Tobacco Barn, interior, view to west; note racks for drying tobacco.

Photo # 23 of 23