

Capsule Summary

SM-734

St. Mary's Hall

St. Mary's City

Public

1908

St. Mary's Hall represents the oldest educational building remaining at St. Mary's College that survived the devastating fire of 1924. Also called the Music Hall, this excellent example of reserved classicism was erected in 1908 and dedicated in June of that year. Designed by George W. Corbitt and constructed by Elias Milburn, the one story brick building is dominated by the front portico. Supported by a four plain square columns with tri-partite capitals and barely visible bases, the closed bed pediment is richly ornamented by a full entablature replete with modillions. The building is currently used as a music and lecture hall and was recently renovated.



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-734

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### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

St. Mary's Hall is beautifully situated on a plateau overlooking the St. Mary's River. Lying just west of the intersection of Old State House Road and Trinity Church Road, this educational building is oriented on a north/south axis. The building is approached via the parking lot located immediately to the south of Calvert Hall and just east of Trinity Church. The area immediately around the building consists of the St. Mary's College Garden of Remembrance (SM-740), a dormitory (Calvert Hall), Trinity Church, and the church's cemetery.

St. Mary's Hall represents a reserved example of the classical revival that occurred in the early twentieth century across America. Dedicated in June 1908, the one story, three bay, brick building features a gable roof sheathed with slate shingles. The roof is pierced by two interior end chimneys located on the east and west sides of the building. The exterior walls consist of bricks laid in a four-to-one common bond. Currently used as a concert and assembly hall, the building has been recently renovated.

The primary or south elevation is dominated by the front portico. Supported by a four plain square columns with tri-partite capitals and barely visible bases, the closed pediment is richly ornamented by a full entablature replete with modillions. The tympanum features a stucco interrupted by twelve vertical strips. It is also pierced by an elliptical window decorated with traceries of intersecting Gothic arches. The window is topped by a small keystone. The main entrance is approached via two steps that lead to a covered porch. The doorway consists of two three panel doors topped by an elliptical transom with a similar tracery design as that found on the tympanum. The architrave that surrounds the doorway creates a quoin-like effect that is topped with a keystone.

The main doorway is flanked on either side by double-hung sash windows that consist of two lower lights topped by sash that consists of five lights outlined by traceries formed by intersecting Gothic arches. Both windows are topped by elaborated brick compass arches that spring from imposts and meet at a keystone. The corners of the building are emphasized by brick quoins.

The other elevations were not investigated.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-734

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**Specific dates** June 1908, dedicated **Architect/Builder** George W. Corbitt/Elias Milburn

**Construction dates** June 1908, dedicated

Evaluation for:

National Register  Maryland Register  not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. SM-734

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

Fausz, J. Frederick. Monument School of the People. St. Mary's City: St. Mary's College, 1990.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre around St. Mary's Hall  
Acreage of historical setting 1 acre around St. Mary's Hall  
Quadrangle name St. Mary's City Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

St. Mary's Hall is situated on a much larger tract that lies on the western bank of the St. Mary's River that is part of St. Mary's College. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber 123, Folio 329.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

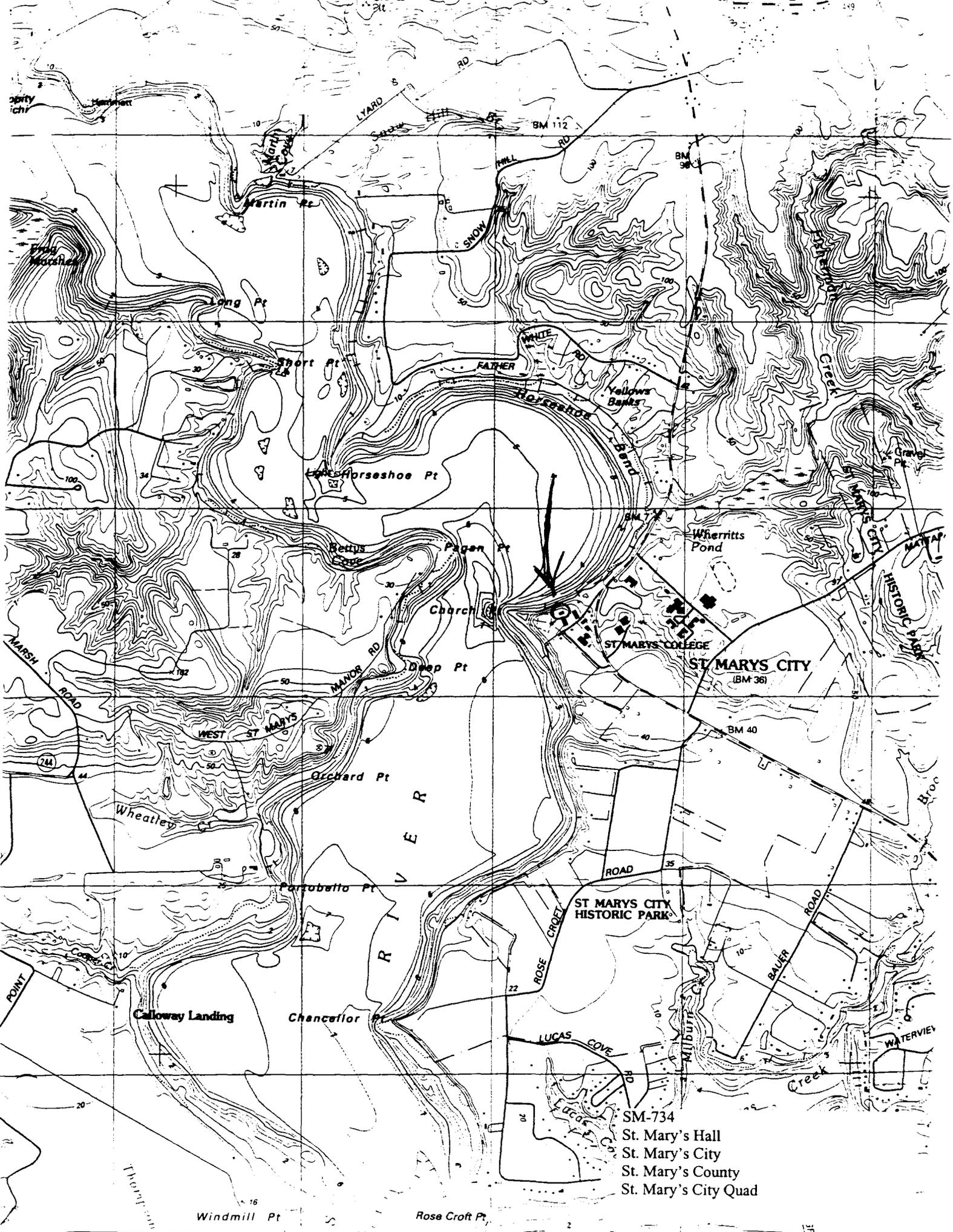
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name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



SM-734  
St. Mary's Hall  
St. Mary's City  
St. Mary's County  
St. Mary's City Quad

Windmill Pt

Rose Croft Pt

Church

WV



SM-734

St. Mary's Hall

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranze ita

Nov 1999

Md SHPO

Selevation Music Hall

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