

T-73

## St. Joseph's Catholic Church

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 04-05-2004***

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Church Lane, 1.5 miles south of Rt. 404, (east to church)

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Cordova

— VICINITY OF

First

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Diocese of Wilmington

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wilmington

— VICINITY OF

Delaware

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 373

Folio #: 450

STREET & NUMBER

N. Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

T-73

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

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

According to the corner stone, the original church was constructed in 1782 and rebuilt in 1903. From the color and bond of the brick, the original church can be traced. Portions extend into what appears to be a two story, three bay brick house of early 19th century date. The other end stops at the transept which was added in 1903. Its original appearance would be conjectural, although, the central windows of the present nave apparently were earlier doors.

In its present form, the church is an extension of a two story brick parsonage. The church is three bays long plus three semicircular additions creating a transept and upper arm of a cross. It is only one story in height and has a steeply pitched 'A' roof, conical on the three semicircular sections. Each of the latter sections has a single window with leaded stain glass sash. There is a chimney on the north side, otherwise the only other chimneys are in the parsonage. Three windows light the sides of the nave. The latter have semicircular arches.

Portions of the older part are laid in Flemish bond above a chamfered water table, otherwise it is common bond.

The main entrance to the church is located on the southeast side of the building. The parsonage is a three bay long two story brick building with central doors. Sash is 6/6 and there is a basement under the south end. A chimney is located in each gable.

St. Joseph's has recently been sand blasted and the irregularities in the brickwork are more apparent than when it was covered with stucco.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

T-73  
4

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. Joseph's Church is important as a survival of a Roman Catholic Church built in 1782. On the Eastern Shore there were earlier structures but few appear to have stood over the years. Possibly St. Mary's Chapel, Dorchester County is earlier, however, it appears early 19th century.

Architecturally, it is an interesting combination of early and later structures. When originally built, it may have resembled the church at Newtown Manor, St. Mary's County, which had a two story section on both ends. The addition, built in 1848, was obviously needed for better accomodation for the pastor. In 1903 with the growth in the community, the north wing was built onto the church for more seating, and the entire building was stuccoed. In each of its stages of growth it had an interesting form.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architceural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Dec., 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

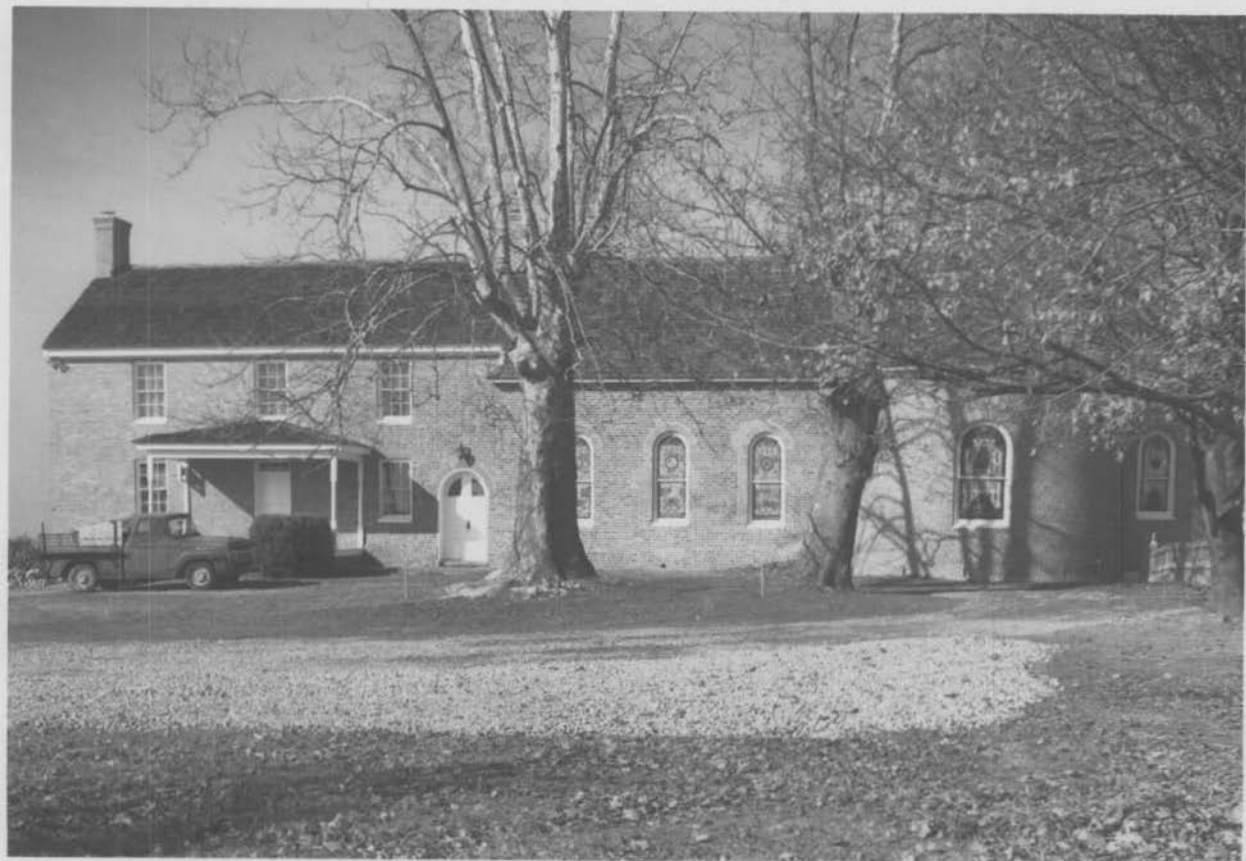
STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



11 x 1.52

114°

St. Joseph's R.C. Church

T-73



4.2

~~4.2~~ 4.2

114%

~~4~~  
~~Illen 1~~

S.E. elev.

M. Bourne

12/70



.15 x 1.70

75% 73



St. Joseph's R.C. Church

T-73



☞ N.W. elev.

M. Bourne 12/70



St. Josephs Church

T-73



J. Tyler Campbell  
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

date bruts - adj. on 7. doo

M. Bourne

Aug 1976



3  
St. Joseph Church\*

Near Cordova, Md. 21625

Thomas Lee, Photographer

Photo taken January 25, 1985

Negative attached to Application

St. Joseph Church and House seen from a South Eastern side of the building. The Photographer was facing North West.

Photo # 1 of 2



T-73

St. Joseph Church

Near Cordova, Md. 21625

Thomas Lee, Photographer

Photo taken January 25, 1985

Negative attached to Application

St. Joseph Church interior showing the Altar Section in the  
Cloverleaf section of the Church. The photographer was facing North

Photo 2 of 2