-HO-35 HRIST CHURCH Columbia Private

circa 1809

This small Georgian structure presently dates from 1809 but historically is referred to as the Old Brick Church which was established in 1728 as Queen Caroline Parish Church. It is a three bay wide, three bay long brick structure (laid in English garden wall brick bond) with steep gabled roof, facing east with twin entrance doors in the north and south bays. Each is rectangular in shape, surmounted by an unbroken prediment and reached by two stone steps. The nave windows are rectangular, holding twelve-over-twelve lites and, decorated with splayed brick flat arched lintels. The interior contains an old slave gallery which extends around three sides of the church.

In 1730 Christ Church received its first full time rector, the Reverend James Macgill, a native of England who served for the next fifty years and whose home Athol stands not far away on the west side of U.S. Route 29.

Henry Ridgely of Montpelier, Caleb Dorsey of Hockley-in-the-Hole, and numerous other county leaders held pews and were members of the vestry of Old Christ Church which played an amazingly active role in molding the character of the early leaders of Howard County, then upper Ann Arundel.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Christ Church is located at 6800 Oakland Mills Road, east of Snowden River Parkway, in Columbia, Howard County, Maryland.

Constructed in a Georgian style in 1809, the building is two bays wide by three deep and has a steep gable roof. The exterior walls are of handmade brick laid in common bond with unmarked joints. Some salmon bricks were used as face bricks. The walls have been painted red many times, but only traces of paint remain. The foundation is of local field-stone and is only partially exposed above

There is a simple wood box cornice on the north and south sides. A slight overhang exists on the west gable, but the barge is applied directly against the brick on the east gable.

A small belfry at the west end is supported by four square wood columns that extend down to the gallery floor for stability. The belfry appears to be alate addition. Two old chimneys once stood on the west end and appear in circa 1938 photographs in the church files. They still survive inside at the gallery level, directly above the two west doors. A modern chimney on the east end serves the present furnace.

There are three windows with double-hung sash on each side of the church and a three-part double-hung window high in each gable end. Basic sizes and locations appear original. The eastern window in the north wall is located slightly west of its counterpart on the south.

Brick jack arches support the masonry above all of these windows. Frames and sills appear original, though minor repairs such as occasional sill replacement have occurred. Counterbalanced sliding sash in most windows are probably replacements, though resembling the originals. Windows on the sides have 12/12 sash except the two easternmost windows which have stained and painted glass dating from circa 1885-1915. The three-part windows have 9/9 sash flanked on each side by narrow 3/3 sash.

The two double doors in the west end have four panels placed vertically in each door. Though possibly replacements, their design appears original. Locksets are of the late 19th century. Modern wood enframements, including a pediment around each door, covers a glazed transom over each which is visible from the interior. A circa 1938 photograph shows a cantilevered hood over each door, later additions perhaps contemporary with the belfry. A modern door cut into the east end opens onto a breezeway heading to the parish house.

Attached to the east end is a frame sacristy on a stone foundation. It is slightly narrower than the church itself. Interior cabinetwork and closets have been added and the furnace fills the south half of the room. The unusually low door between the church and the sacristy appears to be contemporary with the church, as does its carpenter lock. The lower panel has been removed and replaced with modern grillwork.

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

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Christ Church, Guilford
Howard County,
CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Originally containing a wooden floor system, the entire floor of the church is paved with modern red brick over concrete. Two chancel steps are formed of the same brick over concrete.

All interior walls are plastered, apparently over wood furring and presumably on wood lathe, rather unusual in a period when most plaster was applied directly to the masonry. Perhaps due to the rather porous brick, the original plaster deteriorated and the existing finished plaster surface was added over furring at a later date. Wainscoting is of narrow vertical tongue and groove boards, mechanically planed to a low relief profile, with a simple cap molding and no baseboard. From the profile the wainscoting appears to date from about 1885-1910. A wood wainscot might be expected in a church of the very early 19th century, formed of hand planed, beaded, random-width tongue and groove or shiplapped boards, either horizontal or vertical. Such boards are found around the stairwell in the balcony and may suggest the design of the original wainscot. The plaster ceilings are largely original and applied over wood lathe. The ceiling of the nave is of a shade which indicates scissors trusses; the peak at the top is rounded rather than sharply defined.

A gallery sourrounds all but the east end of the nave, giving a very distinctive spaidtal form to the interior. Such extensive galleries are unusual in so small a structure. The wood paneled fronts, wood columns, flooring (where original) and built-in pews or benches all appear quite early and are most likely all original. One stair in the southwest corner gives access to the gallery. A small electronic organ is in the west gallery. Four columns of the belfry extend to the gallery floor immediately in front of the three-part west window. They are of rough circular sawn timber, painted white.

Very short pews stand against the north and south walls and a double row occupies the space between each aisle. All pews are painted white and, with their great variety in detail, suggest both antiquity and several remodelings. They appear to be reworked parts of paneled box pews.

The walnut altar and chairs, the brass pulpit, lectern and altar rail, and the marble font are all characteristic of about 1885-1915. A lectern formed by a Tuscan column may be earlier, even original.

The Communion Silver used at Christ Church dates from the 18th century

See Continuation Sheet #2

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Christ Church, Guilford Howard County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

and is still used regularly. The flagon and chalice were made in London by Mordecai Fox in 1747 and 1748, the latter date the year of presentation. The weights of the pieces are engraved on the bottoms in Troy ounces and pennyweights. The paten has another mark, but the same presentation inscription. The mark (P and S in separate ovals) may be Philip Sadtler, a well-known Baltimore silversmith of the very early 19th century. The eagle's head mark suggests Baltimore.

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Just after the turn of the 18th century was a period of little physical growth in the Episcopal Church in Maryland. It had lost its government support and was low on funds, resulting in a time of little construction. For this same reason, the churches that were built were often economically designed, as is the case with Christ Church, Guilford. The only feature of architectural sophistication is the three-part window over the entrances, while on the interior the paneled gallery is a simple and direct interpretation of much larger churches of the 18th century in Philadelphia, London and elsewhere. A small rectangular brick structure erected in 1809, Christ Church is in most respects closely related to the church architecture of 18th century Maryland.

The small tract of land on which Christ Church stands was part of the grant "New Year's Gift," given to Charles Carroll the emigrant by the Lord Proprietary on New Year's Day, 1706. This grant was later acquired by Caleb Dorsey of Hockley-in-the-Hole and his son John who deeded two acres of it to the Church in 1738.

Christ Church is presently in Queen Caroline Parish which was erected out of St. Paul's, All Hallows' and St. Anne's Parishes in Anne Arundel County in 1728. (Archives of Maryland, XXXVI, 285, 286). Part of this act instructed the "Free-holders" to "finish the Church already built therein; which shall be reputed, taken and deemed as the Parish Church for that Parish." Prior to this time, a log church had served present Howard County as a Chapel of Ease for Queen Anne's Church, Annapolis. In 1730 Queen Caroline Parish received the appointment for its first full time rector, Reverend James Macgill, a native of England who served until 1776. His home, Athol, overlooks Route 29 just north of Maryland Route 32, about five miles from the church.

After Reverend Macgill's tenure ended in 1776, the Queen Caroline Parish Church fared poorly. Vestry meetings were discontinued, attendance dropped and the church building fell into complete disrepair. In 1809 the church was revived after the arrival of the Reverend Oliver Norris. It was at this time that the present church was constructed. The building was consecreated in October 1811 by the Right Reverend Thomas John Claggett, the first Episcopal bishop consecreated in America. It was at this time that the Queen Caroline Parish church was first called Christ Church.

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Christ Church, Guilford Howard County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

STATEMENT OF SIGNFICANCE (continued)

Both St. John's on Old Frederick Road and Trinity Church on the Old North-South Highway, now Route 1, were built as Chapels of Ease for Christ Church.

Also of particular interest in relation to this church is the 18th century silver communion service which is still in use (see description).

9 MAJOR BIBLIO	GRAPHICAL REFER	RENCES	HO-35
Unpublished mater Maryland His	rial, Minutes of th storical Society, B	e Vestry, Queen Carolinalitics	
Baltimore, 1	1972.	History of Howard Count	y, Maryland.
Warfield, J.D. 7	The Founders of Ann	e Arundel and Howard Co	unties, Maryland
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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Christ Church, Guilford Howard County,

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

PAGE

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HO-35
District #6

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

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☐ Pre-Columbian	Appropriate) 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	∑ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	le and Known) 180	q	
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropria	te)	en e
Abor iginal	☐ Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric Historic	Engineering Industry	Religion/Phi- losophy	Other (Specify)
Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
Architecture	☐ Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	
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N.B. By this Act, (1.) All the remaining Park, heretofore called Elk-Ridge-Hundred, which was not annexed to Westminister Parish, being now Part of St. Paul's Parish aforesaid; and all that Part of All-Hollow's Parish, bounded by a Line drawn from the Mouth of Rogue's Harbour-Branch, on Patuxent River, to the North Branch, or Snowden's River, on the Southward of Thomas Jone's Plantation; also all that Part of St. Anne's Parish bounded by a line drawn from the Mouth of a small Branch running into the Patuxent River, and lying between the Plantations of John Ryan and Rose Lee, and running by a strait Line through the Woods till it intersects the former divisional Line between Ann-Arundel and Baltimore Counties, including there in the Plantations of John Ryan and John Barber, shall be taken from

	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES						
***		- •	and Care	Mary Jan J			
	Stein, Charles Francis. Origin and Hi Baltimore, 1972.	Sτ	ory at Howard Count	y, maryland.			
Í	Warfield, J.D. The Founders of Anne A	ru	indel and Howard Cou	nties Maryland			
	Baltimore, 1967.		macr and noward ood	incres, rai y raita.			
	Unpublished material, Minutes of the Vestry, Queen Caroline Parish Church.						
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10	GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	¥1.0					
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1	FORM PREPARED BY						
	NAME AND TITLE:						
	Cleora Barres Thompson, Archivist						
	ORGANIZATION			DATE			
	Howard County Comprehensive Planning						
	STREET AND NUMBER:			· . · · .			
	3450 Court House Drive		·				
	CITY OR TOWN:	- 1	STATE '				
	Ellicott City, Maryland	_1	Maryland				
	State Liaison Officer Review:	-	(Office Use Only)				
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the Parishes aforesaid, and be erected into a new Parish, by the Name of Queen-Caroline. (2.) The Inhabitants of the said Queen-Caroline Parish to enjoy the Benefits, Privileges, Power and Authorities, equal with any Inhabitants of any other Parish within this Province. (3.) The Free-holders impowered to elect Vestry-men and Church-wardens; and to finish the Church already built therein; which shall be reputed, taken and deemed as the Parish Church for that Parish.

It is interesting to note that an early church had been erected in 1727 and that this act formally designated it as **Q**ueen Caroline Parish Church. In 1730 it was given its first full time rector with the advent of the Reverend James Macgill, a native of England who served to 1776. His home Athol overlooks Route 29 just north of Route 32. Prior to this time a log church had served the needs of present Howard County as a Chapel of Ease for Queen Anne's Parish at Annapolis. The exact location of this early structure is not known.

In 1809 the present building was constructed on the foundation of the old, consecrated in 1811 by the Right Reverend Thomas John Claggett, first Eposcopal bishop consecrated in America. A communion service consisting of paten, chalice and flagon bears the date 1748.

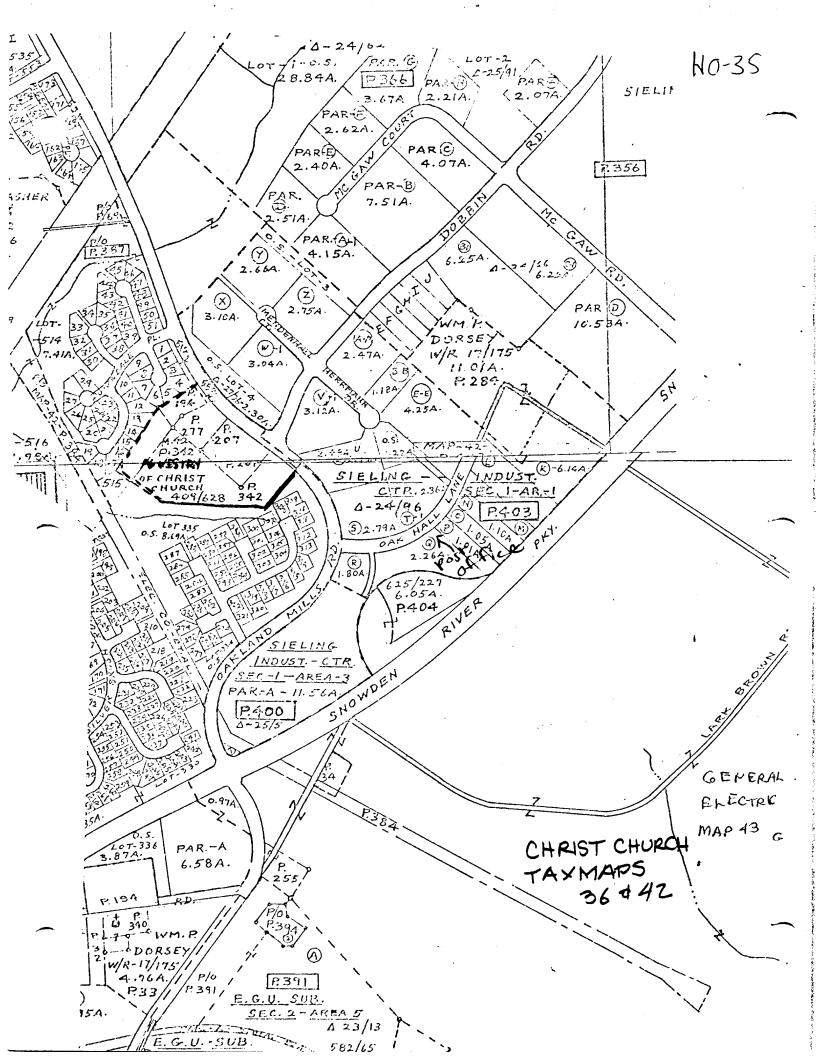
In 1809 Burleigh, Doughoregan Manor and Belmont had been erected and Ellicott Mills and Elkridge handing were bee hives of activity. Christ Church is representative of the Georgian style, and though built on a rather modest scale was for that time a notable building in the County. There is some question as to the decoration of the twin entrance doors. A photograph Circa 1920 presents the twin doors, each with a gable roof entrance covering.

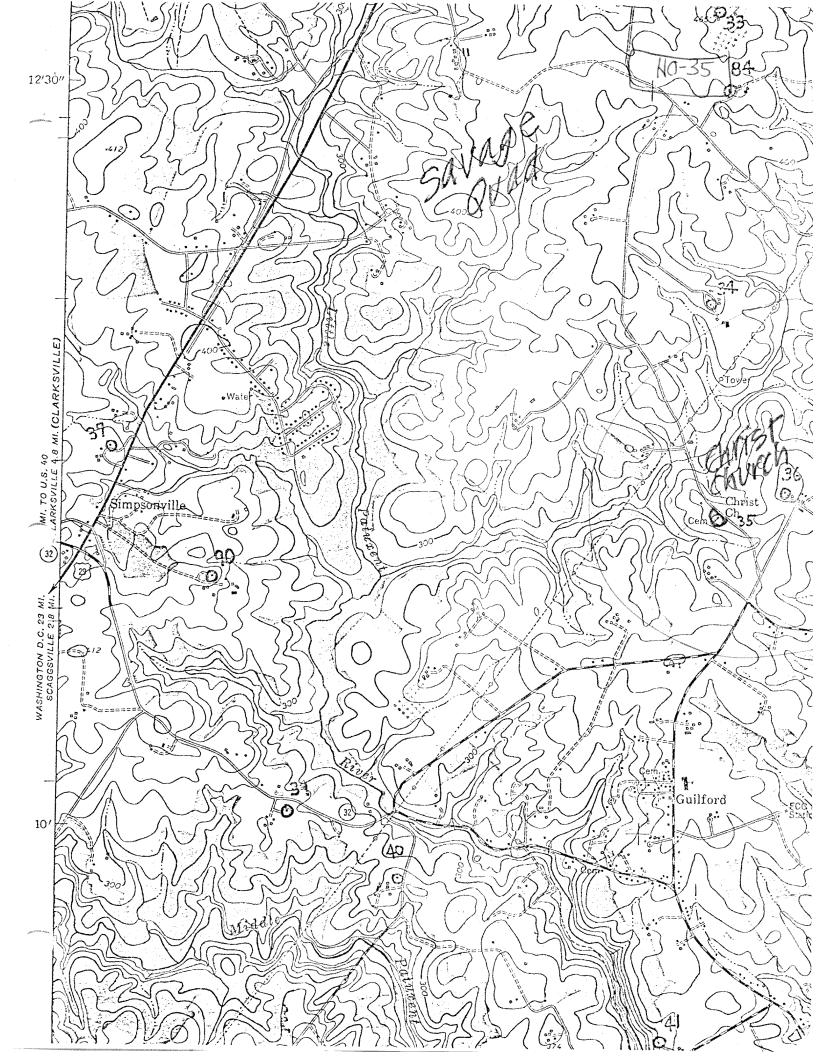
The Old Brick Church played an important role in the religious, social and political life of Howard County. An examiniation of composition of the vestry and the pew holders of Christ Church reveals many extensive land owners.

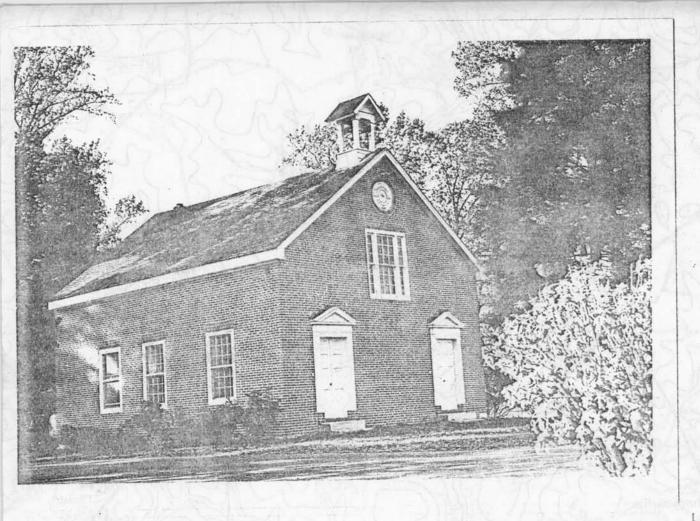
The church also offered a gathering place for social affairs as well as religious and educational uses. It's social and humanitarim significance and out reach is difficult to access. Suffice it to say that its membership comprised many of those who were the decision markers and founders of the Howard district of Ann Arundel County.

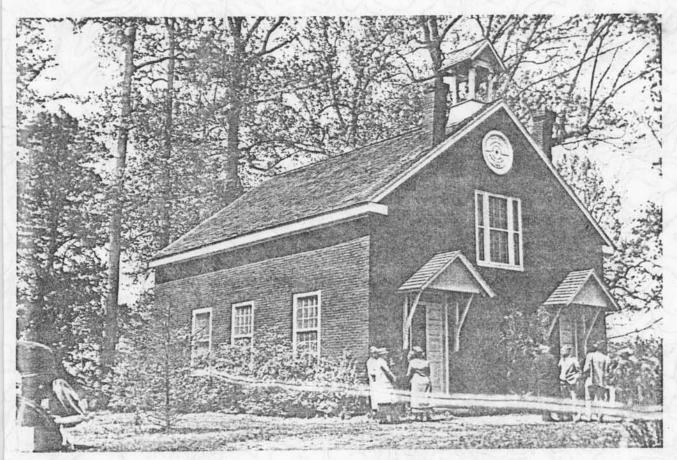
The importance of tobacco in the economy of those early days is also established by an examination of Christ Church's history. A tobacco tax supported the church. Christ Church's territory was divided into hundreds-each of which has its Captain to look after the tobacco tax.

Both St. John's on Old Frederick Road and Trinity Church on the Old North -South Highway, now Route 1 are Chapels of Ease for Christ Church, Guilford.





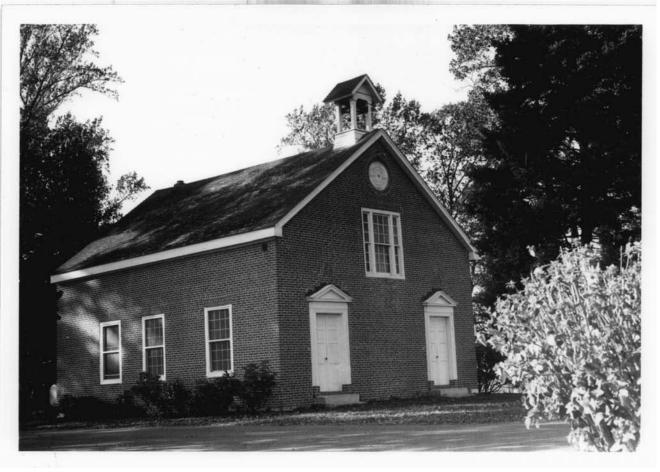






DIST 6 HO-35 CHRIST CHURCH

CHRIST CHURCH CHRIST CHURCH ARCHIVES



HO-35 DIST 6 CHRIST CHURCH

CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON PLANNING CONSULTANT HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY

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CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH "OLD BRICK"

ORIGINAL LOG CHAPEL OF EASE, QUEEN ANNE'S PARISH, ERECTED ON "NEW YEAR'S GIFT". A PRESENT FROM THE PROPRIETARY TO EDWARD DORSEY AND CHARLES CARROLL, IMPROVED AND MADE QUEEN CAROLINE PARISH CHURCH, 1728. FIRST RECTOR, JAMES MACGILL, SERVED 1730-1776. PRESENT BUILDING ERECTED 1809.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HO-35 DIST 6 CHRIST CHURCH

PLANNING CONSULTANT
BISTORICAL SITES SURVEY