

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| STATE: Virginia | |
| COUNTY: Lancaster | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

1. NAME

COMMON
St. Mary's Whitechapel

AND/OR HISTORIC:
St. Mary's Whitechapel

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1 mi. E of Rappahannock River, NE side of Rt. 354, .1 mi. NW of intersection

CITY OR TOWN:
of Rt. 354 and Rt. 201.

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| STATE Virginia | CODE 45 | COUNTY: Lancaster | CODE 103 |
|-------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|---|---|
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> | Government <input type="checkbox"/> | Park <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | Comments <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> | Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Educational <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Museum <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Trustees of Christ Church Parish

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 398

CITY OR TOWN:
Kilmarnock

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Lancaster County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Lancaster

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1937, 1939 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
District of Columbia

CODE:
08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> | Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> | | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Mary's Whitechapel is a rectangular structure, approximately 64' x 29', of brick laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers with English bond below the beveled water table. Rubbed brick is employed at the corners of the building and in the arches and jambs of the semicircular arched windows. The positions of the original nave and chancel which were removed in 1832 are evidenced by the large patches in the centers of the east and west walls. The former voids are laid in Flemish bond, the brick being taken from the dismantled nave and chancel. A brick patch on the south wall fills in a former round window, and patches on the north wall result from alterations to an original and later doorways. The present south and west doorways, as well as the four inner windows on the east and west walls, date from the 1832 alterations. The structure is covered by a hipped roof, surrounded at its base by a modillion cornice of which most is thought to be original.

On the interior, the south gallery with its molded handrail and turned balusters, all supported on four slender Tuscan columns, is the only colonial woodwork remaining. The present staircase to the gallery dates from the early-twentieth century and is in a different location from the original. During the eighteenth century there were also a north and a west gallery, both of which were removed during the nineteenth-century alterations. Although the church's orientation has been changed, the south gallery remains the only surviving side gallery in a Virginia colonial church.

Except for the construction of a modern secondary highway bordering the churchyard, St. Mary's rural setting has changed little since the eighteenth century. The still-used burying ground contains notable colonial and Victorian monuments.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Aboriginal | Education | Political | Urban Planning |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Philosophy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | | _____ |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

As early as 1661 the lower Northern Neck portion of what was then Lancaster County contained an upper and lower parish which by 1669 came to be known as St. Mary's Whitechapel and Christ Church, respectively. The parish was called St. Mary's Whitechapel after the London church of the same name as some of the earliest communicants had come from the Whitechapel district of the English capital. A church was standing on the site of the present church of St. Mary's as early as 1669, and it is believed that this structure provided the core for the cruciform eighteenth-century structure. The existing portions of St. Mary's Whitechapel were built as transepts in 1740-41 under a contract with James Jones. During the colonial period the church's most distinguished communicants were the members of the Ball family whose impressive series of altar-tombs are found in the burying ground. Mary Ball was the mother of George Washington and a parishioner of St. Mary's.

St. Mary's was abandoned after the Disestablishment, but in 1832 the church was repaired and reoccupied. During the course of repair the nave and chancel (possibly the 1669 portions of the church) were removed, and the bricks were used to fill the voids between the transepts. The transepts thus became the nave and chancel of a church greatly reduced in size.

Though severely altered from its eighteenth-century form, the remaining portions of St. Mary's Whitechapel are significant as survivors of one of Virginia's more important colonial churches. The church still possesses its communion set presented in 1669, its 1702 set of tablets, its 1718 stone font, and the vestry book of 1739-88.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rawlings, James Scott, Virginia's Colonial Churches: An Architectural Guide. Richmond: Garrett & Massie, 1963, pp. 162-165.
 Brock, Henry Irving, Colonial Churches in Virginia. Richmond: The Dale Press, 1930, pp. 62-63.
 Rose, Harold Wickliffe, The Colonial Houses of Worship in America. New York: Hastings House, Publishers, 1963, pp. 503-504.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 37 ° 44 ' 48 " | 76 ° 33 ' 13 " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: August 8, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|------------------|------|
| STATE | |
| Virginia | |
| COUNTY | |
| Lancaster | |
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| | |

(Number all entries)

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1958 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. Code: 08

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #51-22
1969 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45