

CHAS-112
OLD FIELDS CHAPEL (Oldfields)
Hughesville
Private

1769

Old Fields, a chapel of Trinity Parish, was built in 1769 and is one of the county's seven remaining examples of eighteenth century Protestant ecclesiastical architecture. A simple, rectangular brick building of Flemish bond construction, it has later lancet arches over the original window openings and twentieth century brick additions at both ends. The interior of the chapel was renovated in the early nineteenth century and again in this century.

A small cemetery surrounding the chapel contains the graves of several British soldiers who died while encamped here after landing at nearby Benedict in 1812.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS- 112

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY MDCI #0903915604

1 NAME

HISTORIC

OLD FIELDS CHAPEL (OLDFIELDS)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Prince Frederick Hughesville Road (MD 231)

CITY, TOWN

Hughesville

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Episcopal Diocese of Washington

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Washington

___ VICINITY OF

D.C.

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Street (P. O. Box B)

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland 20646

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CH-112

7 DESCRIPTION

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" 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 | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Old Fields Chapel is a rectangular, eighteenth century brick structure with twentieth century brick additions at both ends.

The main body of the chapel is of Flemish bond construction, with five lancet arched windows framing modern, three-part stained glass casement sash trimmed by nineteenth century moldings, the length of both side elevations. Although the window openings are original to the eighteenth century building, they were altered in the early nineteenth century by the installation of the lancet arches. The arches are constructed of contrasting dark red brick and have small square "drops" at their bases. Both side walls of the church bear evidence of being raised to their present height by the addition of several courses of brick, an alteration that appears to have been done prior to the introduction of the window arches. The middle bay of the south side elevation was formerly a wide doorway that was bricked in when the arches were installed.

In the 1960's the chapel was again altered by the addition of a one bay entrance vestibule enclosing the original west end entrance. Above the vestibule, in the gable of the main block, is a small lancet arched window, a conversion over an earlier opening. Other changes include the partial rebuilding of the east end wall and part of the south side wall between the fifth window and the southeast corner, the construction of a new brick sanctuary, choir room and chancel, and the addition of a small, mission-style brick belfry at the front of the roof ridge. It was also during the 1960's that the existing, highly stylized stained glass windows, designed by Irene and Rowan LeCompte, were installed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | 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 checked="" 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

Old Fields, a chapel of Trinity Parish, was built in 1769 and is one of the county's seven remaining examples of eighteenth century Protestant ecclesiastical architecture. A simple, rectangular brick building of Flemish bond construction, it has later lancet arches over the original window openings and twentieth century brick additions at both ends. The interior of the chapel was renovated in the early nineteenth century and again in this century.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Old Fields Chapel and Cemetery is located on a tract of land identified as Parcel 213, Map 36, Charles County Tax Maps (revised January 1976).

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

July, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

645-6537

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

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



CH-112

ART

55%

P.74

CHAS-112

— OLD FIELDS CHAPEL, View —
From S.W. J.Rivoire, 1978