



Wave photo submitted

On Saturday, Oct. 23, a historic marker was placed at the Blackwater Presbyterian Church near Clarksville. Former Ocean View Mayor Bob Orem was instrumental in getting the state to place the marker, but his illness and death delayed the project. Pictured above from left to right: Orem's widow Beverly Stalnaker, Ocean View Presbyterian Church Pastor Rev. Kerry Shull (the project's legislative sponsor) and Shirley Price, who initiated the project several years ago.

partially submerged territory. So well have they succeeded that the bottom-lands have become the most fertile corn-growing section of the hundred. Robert Burton was one of the first to undertake the work of reclamation, and from this beginning grew the organization of companies to carry on the enterprise with larger means. The Beaver Dam Ditch Company was incorporated February 23, 1865, with the following members: Nathaniel Tunnell, John Bennett, Kendall Rickards, David Godwin, William D. Layton, Thomas E. Hall, Ann M. West, Charles D. Bennett, James H. Godwin, Sarah Derrickson, John Bennett, John M. Taylor, Henry B. Murry, Isaac C. West and others. The work of this company in drainage has been extensive and beneficial.

The General Assembly has granted authority for the construction of a canal of seventy-two feet width and six feet deep from Jefferson Creek, the head of Little Assawoman Bay, to White's Creek, a branch of Indian River Bay. The proposed canal will lie entirely within Baltimore Hundred, and if constructed, will add thirteen miles of inland navigation to the water-courses between Chincoteague Inlet, Va., and Jefferson Creek.

**CHURCHES.**—Blackwater Presbyterian Church was built in 1767. In that year Charles Tennent, its first pastor, began his pastoral labors. He came of the family of that name which is celebrated in the annals of early Presbyterianism on this continent. His father was a pastor and teacher at the "Old Log College," which has since become the renowned and revered Princeton, and his brothers were among the organizers of the church at New Castle and of the Buckingham in Maryland. The elders of Blackwater Church with Mr. Tennent were Joseph Miller, Ebenezer Evaos, John Evans, Wm. Tunnell, John Aydelott, Thomas Harnig and Thomas Wingate. Mr. Tennent was succeeded by James Wilson, son of Matthew Wilson, of Philadelphia. He, among others, supplied the pulpit until 1771, in which year Rev. Josiah Lewis was installed pastor. In 1774 Rev. John Rankin became pastor and preached for twenty consecutive years, until his death, in 1794. During Mr. Rankin's pastorate the following elders comprised the session: Jonathan Harvey, Enoch Scudder, William Evans, Joab Collius, Philip White, William S. Hall, Elihu Bredell and James Miller.

Rev. Chas. Wallace succeeded Mr. Rankin in 1794, and occupied the pulpit until 1803, when Rev. Stuart Williamson became pastor and continued six years. John Burton and others preached until 1812, when Charles Wallace returned and remained five years, being followed by Joseph Copeland and others. In 1821 Blackwater Church had become almost extinct. After a three years' pastorate, which was ended by death, Thomas Kennedy was succeeded in 1825 by Alexander Campbell. In 1831 the first session of elders had passed away. In 1839, Rev. I. H. K. Handy became pastor of what was called the United Churches of Buckingham, Blackwater and Laurel. The union

was formed to insure a salary for a permanent pastor. Later the union was dissolved by the Buckingham congregation, which requested the exclusive services of Mr. Handy. H. C. Freis accepted the pastorate in 1841, and was succeeded in 1849 by C. H. Mustard, who, about 1851, withdrew to Lewes and Cool Spring Churches. The pulpit remained vacant until 1853. In that year I. W. K. Haady again occupied it, and having preached, two years, responded to a call from the First Presbyterian Church of Portsmouth, Virginia. William Graham in 1855 accepted the call to Blackwater. A year later the Ocean View Presbyterian Church was organized by the congregation of Blackwater, Mr. Graham preaching the dedicatory sermon in the newly-built church.

In 1857 Mr. Graham was succeeded by C. H. Mustard, who, from old age, retired in 1865. Until 1871 there was no preacher in Blackwater or Ocean View Churches. From that year until 1878 Rev. H. J. Gaylord (now in Kansas) preached, being succeeded by Rev. J. B. Adams, after whom came John T. Foulk. Ocean View and Frankford Presbyterian Churches are branches of Blackwater Church.

The Sounds Baptist Church was the second Baptist Church in the State of Delaware, and one of the constituent churches of the Salisbury Association, formed in 1782, which the same year was united with the Philadelphia Association. In the fall of 1778, Rev. Elijah Baker came to the State from Virginia and began preaching. He was soon followed by Rev. Philip Hughes. Meetings were held at Broad Creek, Gravelly Branch, the head of the Sound and other places. The result of these meetings was many conversions, and several churches were formed. The first was at the Sounds, and was organized August 12, 1779, with twenty-one members, viz.: John Gibbins, John Gibbins Jr., Jonathan Gibbins, Samuel Gibbins, Sarah Gibbins, Jaen Gibbins, Elizabeth Gibbins, Elizabeth Gibbins, Jr., Eliphaz Dazey, Thomas Wildgoose, Isaac Duncan, Sarah Duncan, Sarah Duncan, Jr., Mary Bull, John Tull, Hannah Tull, Mary Clark, Mary Ake, Rhoda Hickman, Rachel Emson and Rose, a negress.

The meetings were held in the dwellings of John Tull and Thomas Wildgoose, and no house of worship was ever erected. By reason of emigration the church lost its members gradually and long since was abandoned. During the first thirteen years of its organization six persons were here schooled for the ministry. Their names were John, Samuel and Jonathan Gibbins, Eliphaz Dazey, Gideon Farrel and Edward C. Dingle.

The first ministers of this church were its founders, Revs. Baker and Hughes, who, in Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, planted twenty-one churches.

On April 16, 1787, Rev. Jonathan Gibbins was ordained a pastor, and appointed to take charge of the Sounds Church. He also had the care of Broad Creek Church until they obtained a minister of their own. He was born in Broad Creek Hundred, Dec. 16, 1751.

The Old Sound M. E. Church is one of the oldest of that denomination in Sussex County. Freeborn Garetson preached in this section for several years, holding services under the branches of a white oak which yet stands about a mile north of the present church, and at the head of Assawoman Bay. Speaking of the meetings held there, he says, in his diary: "The work of the Lord broke out there, the people wept on every side, and after a sermon of three hours seemed fixed to the spot." It is a tradition that he felled the first tree that was used in the erection of the chapel which, with the aid of thirty converts, he built in 1784.

It was of hewed frame, and shingled on sides as well as roof. One acre of ground was purchased, for which twenty shillings were paid. The deed, bearing date of April, 1784, was granted to Trustees James Laws, John Aydelott, Solomon Evans, Arthur Williams, Andrew Williams, Ezekiel William, John Dier, William Puwell and John Coe. William Powell was elected clerk. The deed contains the proviso "that the ministers preach no other doctrine than is contained in Rev. John Wesley's notes on the New Testament, and his four volumes of sermons." From the year of its erection until 1806, services were held without interruption. In that year a meeting of the trustees was held, at which it was decided to adjourn *sine die*. This action was taken on account of the lack of money necessary to repair the chapel, which had become wholly unfit for use. In 1807, after ten days' notice, the congregation again convened, when the name was changed to Williams' Chapel. The trustees elected were Arthur Williams, Ezekiel Williams, William Rickards, William Powell, Thomas Evans, Robert Wildgoose and Isaac Rogers. The old church was repaired and again occupied. In 1828 it was again in need of repairs, and an appeal for subscriptions was made to "all charitable and well-meaning persons, friendly to the religion of Christ." A year later it was rebuilt, and services were held until 1876. At that time it was abandoned, and a new church erected about a mile southeast of the original site. It is yet occupied, and services are being held regularly.

Loug's Chapel, M. E. (colored), was built in 1883. The land was donated by James Bishop to Trustees James Williams, George Bingle, Handy Selby, Arnold Purnell and John Hutchins. The chapel has now a membership of thirty persons.

**SELBYVILLE.**—This thriving little town lies near the line dividing Delaware from Maryland. While its territory was still under Maryland jurisdiction, one Matthew McCabe was a resident in the vicinity and a blacksmith. His principal business was the forging of plow-shares. He served as a soldier through the Revolution, and died of the small-pox in after years. He lived upon a tract of thirty acres called "Long Lot," which, in 1818, was resurveyed to Arthur McCabe. A year previous to that time Joseph Jena and Isaiah Long erected a saw-mill upon

the Run at the place now known as Selby's Mill-pond, which they conducted for many years and sold to Samuel Selby, who, in 1842, moved a store to the place from over in Maryland. Selby sold his store to William S. McCabe, the present owner, who, in 1850, built another store, which ranks third in the commercial interest of Sussex County.

Other stores were opened from time to time and have been kept respectively by Stephen Long, Jos. Layton, William G. Davis, John D. McCabe, George W. Ivins and John Poole. In 1879 a saw-mill was moved to Selbyville by Messrs. Parker and Garmon from Wicomico County, Maryland, and three years later removed to Williamsville, where it is now operated. The Selbyville "Steam Saw and Planing Mill," with a daily capacity of eight thousand feet, was erected in 1881, by E. J. Long, J. McNeill and H. Campbell.

W. S. McCabe & Son have erected a steam flour-mill, with a capacity of thirty barrels a day. In connection with this there is an elevator to facilitate the shipment of the surplus grain.

The post-office was established in 1845, with Josiah Selby as postmaster. He was succeeded by the following persons: Isaac McCabe, W. S. McCabe, E. M. McCabe, W. G. Davis, John W. Poole and the present official, Miss Annie Dukes.

Salero M. E. Church, at Selbyville, was organized by a congregation which first worshipped in the residence of David Murray. The first church building was erected about 1812 in a pine thicket near Sandy Branch, and was also used as a school house. It was occupied until 1847, when the second church was built. This gave way in 1884 to the present building, in the corner-stone of which are sealed the histories of its predecessors.

There are two public burial-grounds at the town, in which interments still take place. The oldest is the "Joseph Long," the first interment having taken place over a hundred years ago. The "Hickory Tree Graveyard" derives its name from the fact that the remains of Mary Campbell, oldest daughter of Benjamin, and the first person interred, lie under a hickory tree, which is still standing.

*Wissahickon Tribe, I. O. R. M., No. 20*, was instituted February 12, 1884, with the following charter members: W. J. Rankin, I. W. Long, W. R. McCabe, W. M. Morris, J. W. McNeill, C. S. Hamblin, C. J. Barker, F. P. Harper, E. D. Davis, J. F. Dukes, J. W. Poole, George W. Ivins, D. J. Long, M. L. Watson, Albert Parker, Seth E. Pingler, E. W. Pingler, E. T. Williams, J. W. McCabe, C. W. Murry, W. J. Murry, T. W. B. McNeal, A. W. Murray, A. J. Hudson.

**ROXANNA.**—This hamlet is situated about four miles northwest of Selbyville. It has had three names, "Dog's Ear Corner," "Centreville" and the present. At the head of the Sound, Joseph Wilgus opened a store in 1794, which he continued until 1801. He also operated a brandy still, to which the fruits of the

Schaaf's history

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Vol II

MINUTES OF THE STATE REVIEW BOARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

November 20, 1975

A meeting of the State Review Board was held November 20, 1975, at 10 a.m. in the Johnson Building, Dover. The following members were present: M. Catherine Downing, Chairman; Robert L. Raley; Charles van Ravenswaay; Helene C. Potter; and Lawrence C. Henry, State Historic Preservation Officer. Also present were Joan Norton, Edward F. Heite, Sue Fox, Ronald Thomas, and Daniel Griffith. All property owners who had nominations up for consideration were invited to the meeting. George Washington University graduate students engaged in the historic preservation program, under Professor Gutheim, were in attendance for the purpose of observing the meeting.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and presented the new State Historic Preservation Officer, Lawrence C. Henry. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted. Dr. Munroe, who was unable to be present, mailed Mr. Henry several corrections and comments regarding the nominations under consideration. These comments and corrections were distributed to the members of the Board and considered during the discussion of each nomination.

After a slide presentation on several of the properties to be considered by the Board, the nomination of Blackwater Presbyterian Church was discussed. Miss Jeannette Betts represented the church and submitted a drawing of a stencilled fresco found recently at the church. She commented upon the date of the church's remodeling, citing evidence that this may have occurred in 1860. Mrs. Potter moved to accept the nomination of Blackwater Presbyterian Church. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raley and passed.

Site of Pine Grove Furnace was considered. It was decided that the name of the nomination should be changed to Pine Grove Furnace Industrial Complex. Noting the change in name and other corrections, Mr. van Ravenswaay moved to accept the nomination. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Potter and passed.

The nomination for the Deep Creek Furnace Site was discussed. It was unanimously agreed to change this name to Deep Creek Furnace Industrial Complex. Noting the change in name and other corrections, Mr. Raley moved to accept the nomination. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Potter and passed.

With several corrections noted, Mr. Raley moved to accept the nomination of the Colonel David Hall House. The motion was seconded by Mr. van Ravenswaay and passed.

The nomination for the Carey Farm Archaeological Complex was discussed. Mr. van Ravenswaay moved to accept the nomination of the Carey Farm Archaeological Complex subject to the approval of Dr. Frank Sommer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raley and passed.

The nomination for the Hughes-Willis Site was discussed. Mrs. Potter moved to accept the nomination of the Hughes-Willis Site subject to the approval of Dr. Sommer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Raley and passed.

DEDICATION SERVICE  
FOR THE  
OLD BLACKWATER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**DEDICATION OF HISTORIC MARKER  
FOR THE  
OLD BLACKWATER  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

October 23, 2004  
11:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Kerry R. Shull

Remarks: Rob Tunnell  
Shirley Price  
Beverly Stalnaker  
Others

Presentation: Russell McCabe

Closing Prayer: Rev. Kerry R. Shull

place of Prince George's Chapel which had been closed for several years. Meetings in the schoolhouse, at Baltimore Mills, were started in 1850. The erection of a church was started and at a meeting in the nearly completed church the parish was organized on May 19, 1852. The church site, of three-quarters of an acre, was secured from Wm. Fosque on May 19, 1853. The church was consecrated on May 20, 1853.

The interior was renovated in 1883. The membership dwindled and the church was closed in 1886. By 1894, the church had been seriously damaged by vandals. The pews were moved to St. George's Church and the sale of the building was arranged. It was moved away to become a farm building. The site is overgrown today but the writer did find two graves with tombstones. They were inscribed William Fosque, who died on Mar. 23, 1869 and Janet Jacobs, his wife, who died on Oct. 16, 1884.

**Lamb's Camp.** A successful Methodist camp-meeting was held for many years in Lamb's Woods just below Grace P. E. Chapel. About 1921, some of the leaders decided to enclose the grounds with a wire fence and to charge admission. The fence was cut in protest and this marked the end of that camp.

**Omar M. E. Church** was built in 1900 on land donated in January, 1901, by Chas. E. West. It was dedicated on Feb. 3, 1901, by the Rev. Vaughn S. Collins assisted by the Rev. M. D. Nutter, the pastor. It was closed about 1931 and was sold to Louis F. Daisey. For a year it was rented to the Grange after which it was used as a storage house. In March, 1945, it was rented to Christ's Sanctified Holy Church who are still meeting there.

**Blackwater Presbyterian Church** is located one mile west of Clarksville near the head of Blackwater Creek. There were Presbyterian services held in this neighborhood previous to 1667. This church was organized in 1667. This fact is corroborated by the records of Prince George's P. E. Chapel at Dagsboro. These records show that Wm. Tunnell resigned from the vestry and from his membership in that church in 1667. He became a member of the first session of Blackwater Church in 1667. The church was recognized by the synod, in 1690.

Services were held at Blackwater for many years on alternate Sundays, the pastor being shared originally with Old Buckingham Church at Berlin, Md., and ultimately with the Frankford Church which was an offspring of Blackwater Church.

The church ceased to function regularly in 1856, when the members of Blackwater founded the church at Ocean View. Occasional meetings were held until 1921. These meetings were usually for the purpose of granting letters releasing members to other and more active churches. The final touch came at the meeting of the Presbytery in October, 1921, at which time the church organization was abolished, the Presbytery taking over the physical assets and the Frankford Church was appointed as trustees to manage these assets. Charles Tennent who became the first pastor of Blackwater was the son of Wm. Tennent, the founder of the old Log College, later known as the College of New Jersey and finally as Princeton University.

The Tunnell family has always been closely identified with Blackwater Church. Wm. Tunnell, a member of the first session, was a direct ancestor of former U. S. Senator Jas M. Tunnell and during the entire life of the church the Tunnell family was always represented among the elders of the church. Everyone buried in the graveyard, that surrounds the church, is related to Senator Tunnell by blood, marriage or adoption. Since 1927 a Tunnell family reunion has been held each year on the Saturday and Sunday following the



Homecoming which is held at Ocean View on a Wednesday in August. One of the features of the reunion is a Sunday afternoon service at Blackwater Church. The collections which are taken at that service, insofar as they exceed the fee paid to the minister, are placed in a special fund to be used for the purpose of constructing a brick wall around the graveyard. Begun in 1939, the wall in front of the church and a portion of one side wall have been completed. The tombstones in the graveyard date back to 1850.

There is an annual service held by the people interested in Blackwater Church. It is held in the fall on a date set by the session of Frankford Presbyterian Church.

More land was donated to the church on Nov. 19, 1931, by Ebe T. Murray.

St. George's Methodist Church (M.E.) at Clarksville. The first church was built on a road, now abandoned, about one mile north of the present church. When it was decided to build a new church on the present site, the old church, built of hand-hewn timbers, was torn down and used in building a barn on the farm of Wm. Steele. The old church benches were used in the new church for several years. When the new church was built, most of the bodies were removed from the old to the new graveyard. Today, surrounded by trees, only two inscribed tombstones can be found. They mark the graves of John E. Lathbury who died on Oct. 21, 1881 and Mary A. Lathbury, who died on Aug. 15, 1876.

Trustees were elected on Jan. 10, 1879. The present church site was purchased on Feb. 18, 1880, from John Steele. The church was built and it was dedicated in the spring of 1880. The parsonage site at Clayton and Waples Sts., in Dagsboro, was purchased on Feb. 3, 1914, from Virginia M. McCabe. The present church was rebuilt in 1928 and greatly improved in 1937. The large graveyard is located on both sides of the road. The oldest tombstone the writer could find is dated 1853.

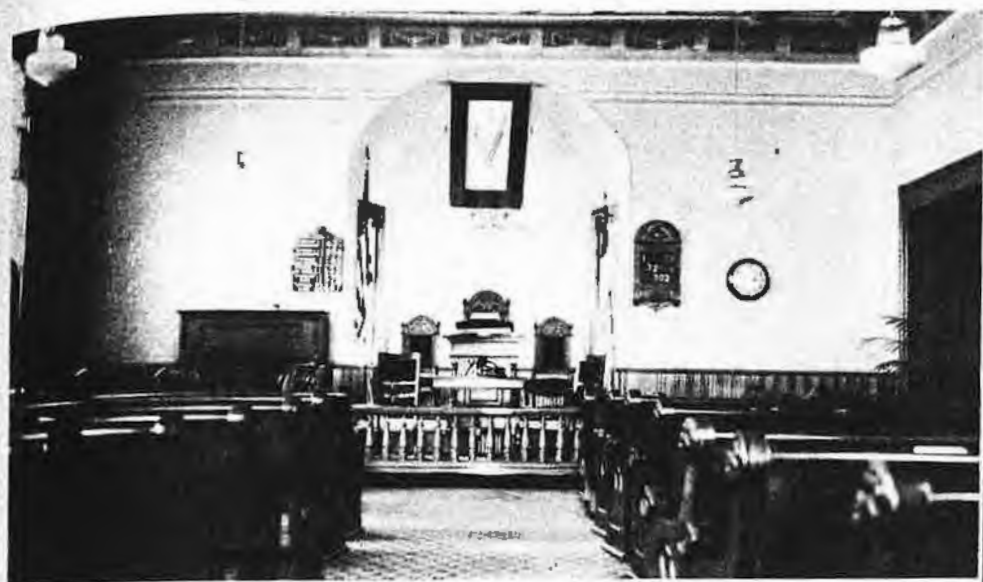
Wesley M. E. Church, colored, is located on the edge of Clarksville. The church site was purchased on Dec. 18, 1873, from Miers B. Steel. More land was secured on Dec. 1, 1926, from Quimby Walker and on Apr. 6, 1938, from John G. Walter. A camp-ground is maintained with services late in July. This was the last camp in Delaware to use the old wooden fire-stands for lighting purposes. They were replaced with electricity in 1943.

Millville M. P. Church. This church was incorporated on Aug. 10, 1897. The corner-stone was laid on Sept. 21, 1897. It was dedicated on Feb. 13, 1898. There were three services which were conducted by the Revs. F. T. Little, J. L. Straughn and J. McLean Brown. The church ceased to function in 1910. It is now used as a social-hall by the M. E. Church, having been purchased by the Gleaner's Club on Oct. 29, 1938.

The Church of Christ, Disciples, of Millville. This congregation was incorporated on Mar. 27, 1922. They purchased the old M. P. Church on Apr. 26, 1922. The church became defunct and sold the property on Oct. 29, 1938.

Millville Methodist Church (M.E.) was built in 1907. The old Dist. No. 180 school lot was purchased on Aug. 3, 1907. The Gleaner's Club purchased the old M. P. Church on Oct. 29, 1938 and it is used as a social-hall.

Ocean View Presbyterian Church was founded, in 1856, by a group of members from Blackwater Church. The use of an acre and one-half of land was given by John Hall. The corner-stone was laid on July 5, 1856, and the church



FRANKFORD METHODIST CHURCH  
(Page 302)



BLACKWATER PRES. CHURCH, NR. CLARKSVILLE  
(Page 304)

Zebler's  
Churches of DE  
BRSSJ D424

# Historic Blackwater church demolished, artifacts salvaged

By Kerin Magill | Staff Reporter  
Jun 15, 2018





ES78-5



The Blackwater Presbyterian Church, built in 1763, has been in deteriorating condition for years. Although efforts have been made to repair and renovate the church over the past 20 years, termites ultimately forced the caretakers of the building to take it down in recent weeks.

“About a year ago, the building really started to lean a lot,” said Robert Tunnell Jr., whose family has maintained the property for many years. “We started looking at the structure and what’s going on,” he said. “The boards were full of termites.”

Once the process started, Tunnell said, it became apparent that “there was a lot more termite damage than we thought.”

“We were worried about it,” Tunnell said. “It was unsound. You couldn’t even really be in the building.”

The church has been taken down to the foundation — and what will become of the site remains unclear.

“We took it down by hand, and we saved everything we could save,” Tunnell said. “We are going to figure out what’s salvageable.”

Various components of the structure have been placed in storage and will be dealt with by experts. For example, he said, the exterior of the building had lead paint on it, so lead paint experts will deal with that portion.

Tunnell said his family has been working with representatives from State and County archives divisions throughout the demolition. The church's history has been well-documented. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976, and the State of Delaware placed a historic marker on the property in 2004.

According to state records, more than 200 years ago, a congregation was organized at Blackwater by Charles Tennent, referred to as the "charismatic son" of Princeton University founder William Tennent. Before the church was completed in 1767, services were held in members' homes.

After Presbyterian churches were built in Ocean View and Frankford in the ensuing century, Blackwater's attendance faltered, and by the late 19th century, regular services had ceased. Occasional services were held there until 1921, when it was officially declared desanctified by the New Castle Presbytery, the governing body of the Presbyterian Church in the region.

The Tunnell family has managed the property since 1949, maintaining a trust for the purpose. Various community groups have worked with the Tunnell family over the years to help maintain and repair the church. The Rev. Kerry Shull, former pastor at Ocean View Presbyterian, oversaw some of those efforts, alongside the late Bob Orem.

"We saw that the building was in serious disrepair," Shull said.

Tunnell family documents from 1995, now located at Ocean View Presbyterian Church, refer to termite damage to the structure. Other documents list early members of the church, including many familiar Sussex County names. During the Revolutionary War, the church's pastor was paid in corn, which was considered to be more valuable than currency, given the wartime upheaval, according to one document.

A description of the church from its addition to the National Register of Historic Places describes it as 35 feet by 30 feet, with pews that were "simple, apparently locally made, of indeterminate but early age." It refers to a "rebuilding" of the church in 1893 and of evidence that different, taller windows once graced the west side of the building.

The description also includes the cherry and walnut pulpit, ornate Victorian stoves used to heat the building, and "lamb's-tongue chamfers" on four posts supporting the church's gallery.

The same document also refers to the floors of the church being wide pine boards, but adds that "legend states there is a brick floor below." Other documents refer to the possibility that John Dagworthy, after whom the town of Dagsboro is named, is buried beneath the church — but that claim has been disputed over the years.

Oil lamps lined the edge of the church, and tin candle sconces — some of which are now at Ocean View Presbyterian Church — had been attached to posts in the church gallery.

In a letter dated Sept. 22, 1921, Blackwater's last pastor, the Rev. P. K. Vanderkam, wrote “with a mixed feeling of just pride and sadness,” that the church's remaining members would transfer to the Frankford Presbyterian Church a few miles to the west.

Christmas services were held at the church into the 1990s. Tunnell said family members have been married in the church, and family reunions were once held there. Many of Robert Tunnell Jr.'s ancestors are buried in the brick-walled church yard — the most famous of whom was U.S. Sen. James. M. Tunnell, who served in the U.S. Senate from 1940 to 1946.

“Our family has got a big stake in the church,” Tunnell said. “We are trying to figure out what the next stages are” for the property, he said.

**By Kerin Magill**

Point Reporter

**Kerin Magill**

Staff Reporter

Kerin majored in journalism at Ohio University and has worked as an editor and reporter for monthly, daily and weekly publications in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Delaware since 1983. A native of Baltimore, Md., she has lived in Ocean View since 1996.



# Reflections of history

Coastal Point photo | Susan Lyons

Oct 1, 2020



A steel frame marks the footprint of the former Blackwater Presbyterian Church, built in 1763. The church had been in deteriorating condition for years, and after efforts to repair the church faltered due to termite damage, the caretakers of the building took it down in 2018, preserving some of the artifacts from the historic church and constructing the frame to preserve its place in local history.

Coastal Point photo | Susan Lyons

## Susan Lyons

Publisher

Publisher Susan Lyons is a native of the area and has dedicated 38 years to community journalism. She stays active in the community that she loves, along with her husband, three children and eight grandchildren.



503. BLACKWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1763(?) -  
1907 (defunct), 5 miles NE of Frankford, Baltimore Hundred

The first reference in the records to this church is in May, 1763, when "a Congregation near Indian River (call'd Black-Water)" asked for one-third of Rev. Charles Tennent's time.<sup>1</sup> Tennent was doubtless the first settled minister, serving the united congregations of Buckingham (Maryland) and Blackwater from 1763 to 1767.<sup>2</sup>

Rev. John Rankin was pastor from 1778 to 1798.

During the Revolution, when the depreciation of the paper currency rendered his salary "very inadequate" the Rev. Rankin was paid in corn. The first church was built in ~~1767~~ 1767 and rebuilt in 1893.<sup>4</sup>

It is a one-story frame structure painted gray with green shutters. One outside wall is of old matched boarding; other walls are of clapboard. Not much of the original interior remains, but ~~it is said~~ ~~to be~~ the old floor of brick is supposed to be under the more modern floor of wood.<sup>5</sup> The church became defunct in 1907, but special services are held annually on the second Sunday in October.<sup>6</sup> Ocean View (1856) (entry 516) and Frankford (1894) (entry 523) are offshoots of this church.<sup>7</sup>

Transcript of Records 1821, 1827, 1828 (for only a few people) and of the subscriptions lists for John Rankin (see below) in the State Archives; Records of the churches of Bladewater, Indian River, and Laurel, 1850-1851, 1 vol. MS. (in Presby. Historical Society -- contains session minutes and lists of members, marriages, and baptisms. Register of Deeds -- Cool Spring (contains marriages previous to 1850); List of subscribers to the support of Rev. John Rankin, 1778, 1779, and 1790, MS. (in Presby. Historical Society) also see The Presbyterian April 10, 1919. Records of incorporation and deed Sussex Co. Recorder's office; Deeds Record;

Footnotes--Blackwater

1. Minutes of Lewse Presbytery, p. 17; Joseph Brown Turner, Church Records In the Presbytery of New Castle.
2. Sprague, Annals, III, p. 26; Minutes of Lewes Presbytery, 48 pp. 42, 67.
4. Scharf, II, 1342; WPA form sheet, by Charles L. Ennis and Fred J. Davis.  
*Delaware Guide, p. 340.*
5. ~~Campbell's account of the church, September 8, 1930.~~
6. WPA form sheet, by Charles L. Ennis, information from Mrs. Sallie Hall.
- 6x
7. Scharf, II, 1342; Turner, Church Records in the presbytery of New Castle.

(3. MS subscription lists in the Presbyterian Historical Society.

276

505. OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1856--, Atlantic Ave., Ocean View, Baltimore Hundred.

Organized in 1856 as a branch of the Blackwater Presbyterian Church (entry 495).(1) In that year the first church was built,<sup>(2)</sup> being superseded in 1907 by the present one-story frame building on the same site.(3) The present name was adopted in 1909.(4)

Minutes, 1907--, 1 vol.; Register, 1907--, 1 vol.; In possession of pastor, Rev. F. D. Viehe, Lewes. Financial, 1927--, 1 vol.; in possession of J. M. Evans. Records of Incorporation and deeds: Sussex County Recorder's Office, Deeds Record, vol. DDUI72, p. 441; vol. DDX175, p. 375; vol. DEOI93, p. 194; vol. DIF288, p. 270.

1. Scharf, II, p. 1344.
2. ibid., p. 1342.
3. From Campbell, Sept. 8, 1938.
4. Sussex Co., Deeds,<sup>Vol. 1</sup> DDUI72, p. 441.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BRIDGEVILLE, (1865-(?))  
(defunct), Market Street, Bridgeville, Northwest Fork Hundred.

Organized December, 1865, and incorporated the following  
March as the First Presbyterian Church of Bridgeville.(1)

A lot of ground at Market and Laws streets was donated for  
a church building in 1869 By A. G. R. Hale, one of the trus-  
tees.(2) Before the church was built services were held in  
a storehouse near the bridge.(3)

Recorder's Office,  
Records of incorporation and deeds: Sussex Co. Deeds  
Records, vol. AAZ73, p. 602; vol. BH81, p. 307.

1. Scharf, II, p. 1282; Sussex Co., Deeds, vol. AAZ73, p.  
602.

2. Ibid., vol. BH81, p. 307.

3. Scharf, II, p. 1282. In Beer's Atlas (published in  
1868), p. 71, there is a building marked "Presbyterian  
Church," near the bridge, which is doubtless the storehouse  
mentioned in Scharf.

178  
1. 407. FRANKFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1878—, Church St., Frankford, A  
1a.

Days through  
Hundred.

organized 1878 as an outgrowth of Blackwater Presbyterian Church (entry 482). Incorporated: 1884.<sup>2</sup> Services probably held in homes of members until 1880 when present building was dedicated.<sup>3</sup> Building was repaired in 1909 and 1920.<sup>4</sup> It is a one story frame building with spire and bell. First settled clergyman, Rev. Mr. Adams, 1880-1881.<sup>5</sup>

Minutes, 1880—, 1 vol. Register, 1880—, 2 vols.; Financial, 1880—, 1 vol.; Sunday School, 1880—, 1 vol.; in possession of Morgan Gum. Records of incorporation and deeds: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record; vol. FV95, p. 46; vol. CC0140, p. 90; vol. CC0148, pp. 138, and 215.

B.V.

1. Sussex Co. Deeds. vol. BU 95, p. 46 - also name used in telephone directory.

1a. Source?

2. Is this the first incorporation?

3. Source?

Scharf, II, p. 1339 - gives 1881 as the date of the ~~first~~ building.

4. Source?

5. Source.

A. What are the first two letters? They are not given in the deed records sent up for the office.

~~THE~~ INDIAN RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, about 1756 - - about 1868

(Baptist), 1 1/2 miles NW of Millstone, Indian River Shaded.

This church was first known as "frames", from its situation in a grove set aside for its use on the frame farm at the head of Indian River.<sup>2</sup> Date of organization about 1750, perhaps earlier.<sup>3</sup> Formed by the New Side element in the Sevier - Indian River neighborhood.<sup>4</sup> Its first settled pastor, John Harris, served from 1756 to 1759, resigning after the union of the Old and New Side synods. Beginning in 1767 the congregation was supplied by Matthew Wilson, pastor of Sevier and Coal Spring churches. The three congregations were incorporated in 1788.

The first meeting house was replaced in 1794 by a frame structure. In 1836 the congregation numbered 68 communicants. It declined thereafter and was disrupted by the Civil War. By 1866

the church was practically abandoned. Twenty years

later only the frame of the building remained,<sup>10</sup>

and the cemetery was no longer used. See: Shoving

Spence, Letter on the Early History of the Parshy Town

Church in America, addressed to the late Robert M. Reid...

(Philadelphia, Henry Perkins; Boston, Perkins and Marvin, 1838. pp. 194-199)

Copy of Minutes and Records of the Congregations of  
Levens, Indian River, and Cool Spring, 1756-1855 (and  
a "History" of the three churches in the handwriting of  
the Rev. Francis Hindman) in Collections of the  
Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Vol. 94,  
(Philadelphia, 1905) in the Pennsylvania Historical  
Society.

MSS list of subscribers to the support of Rev. John Rankin,  
June 27, 1778.

Records of the churches of Blackwater, Indian River and  
Laurel during the period that C. H. Mustard labored as  
missionary 1850-1855, 1 vol.



Footnote for Indian River

1. Hindman, Historic Sketch.
2. Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1275
3. Ibid. P. 1274  
Turner, Church Records - Presbytery of New Castle
4. Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1274  
Hindman, Historic Sketch
5. [Webster, p. 669. — 1756] Lewis Presbytery Minutes 1758-1810 p. 4
6. { Hindman, Historic Sketch  
Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1274  
Records of the United Congregations of Lewis, Indian River & Coal Spring.  
Minutes of the Presbytery 1758-1810 p. 4
7. Records of the United Congregations  
Sprague, Vol 3. P. 178.  
Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1275  
Hindman, Historic Sketch
8. Hindman, Historic Sketch  
Records of the United Congregations P. 34  
Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1275.
9. Turner, Church Records —  
Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1275
10. Scharf, Vol. 2, P. 1275.

494A: THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAUREL, 1760(?) - 1870(?)  
(defunct), Laurel.

Presbyterianism was introduced in this locality prob-  
ably before 1760.(1) According to tradition, Rev. Gilbert  
Jennett and George Whitefield planted the gospel here, and  
Rev. Hugh Henry was the first settled minister.(2) He was  
followed by Moses Tuttle, stated pastor of the United Con-  
gregations of Head of Indian River, Head of Broad Creek  
XXXXXXXXXXXX (i. e., Laurel), and Head of Worcester County (3)  
on the north branch of Broad Creek. The first church was erected about 1760, and was burned in  
The first church was erected about 1760, and was burned in  
built  
1778.(4) The second was ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ on land near  
Laurel, procured from John and Cyrus Mitchell, ~~in~~ in 1791,(5)  
at which time the congregation ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (then  
called the church "at Broad Creek Wading Place") was incorpo-  
rated as the Broad Creek Church.(6) In 1832 the name was  
changed to the Presbyterian Church of Laurel.(7) In 1858  
the building was taken apart and moved into Laurel, on a  
lot given by Dr. Stephen M. Green. The church was abandoned  
in 1870 and destroyed by fire in 1886.(8)

Nov. 1760 to Oct. 1762

See: The Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek. . .  
A Short History of its origin, and progress, until the  
year 1791 (MS. In Presbyterian Historical Society); (Con-  
tains a sketchy congregational record, 1760-1840a); Records  
of the churches of Blackwater, Indian River and Laurel  
. . . Jan. 1st, 1850 to June 8, 1851 (MS, Presbyterian  
Historical Society).

Sussex County Recorder's Office, Deeds Record, ~~65~~.

vol. 014, p. 541;  
vol. AT 42, p. 341.

~~65, p. 287~~

vol. AARG5, p. 287;

Footnotes--Laurel

1. Minutes of Lewes Presbytery, Oct. 7, 1760 (p. 7); Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek, pp. 1, 3.  
p. 1;
2. Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek, Scharf, II, p. 1330.
3. Minutes of Lewes Presbytery, pp. 7-12.
4. Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek, p. 1; Scharf, II, p. 1330.
5. Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek, pp. 1, 15; Scharf, II, p. 1330.
6. Sussex County, Deeds, vol. 014, p. 541 (1791).
7. Presbyterian Congregation at Broad Creek, p. 15; Samuel Miller, The Life of Samuel Miller, vol. 1, p. 62; Scharf, II, 1331.
8. Scharf, II, 1331.

# MINUTES

OF THE

## General Assembly

OF THE

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

VOL. XVI.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MISSION LIBRARY  
475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, N. Y.

A. D. 1861.

PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
425 BROAD STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19147

PHILADELPHIA:

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION,

821 CHESTNUT STREET.

Bx  
8751  
A3  
1861

MINISTERS, &c.	POST OFFICE.	CHURCHES.	Com. on ex.	Com. on ser.	Com. Com.	Total Com.	Adults	Infants	Children in S. S. & J. C.	Don. Miss. Missions.	For. Miss. Missions.	Educa-tion.	Publi-cation.	Church Exten-sion.	Disab'd Missions' Fund.	Diab'd Missions' Fund.	Con-grega-tion.	Miscel-laneous.
Matthew Van Lear, John J. Pomeroy, G. W. Chalfant, P. E. Wm. H. Dinsmore, P. E. James Donaldson, S. S.  <i>Candidates—5.</i>	Mechanicsburg, Pa. Hogestown, Pa.	Hanover, S. S. Hancock, V. Mechanicsburg, P. E. Clear Spring V.—51.				12 35 50				5	5						15 500	
			144	143	60	5200	15	183	2442	\$1892	\$1806	\$568	\$216	\$535	\$111	\$30484	\$1994	
3. Presb. of Winchester. W. H. Foote, D. D., P.	Romney, Va.	Romney, P. Springfield, P				134 43												
M. Raymond, P., D. M. L. F. Wilson, P.	Springfield, Va. Hedgesville, Va.	Mount Bethel, P. Falling Water, P. Stone Church, S. S.	1	1	3	130	2	4	36	25	25	20	1	1			65 264	60 30
R. T. Berry, S. S. W. B. Dutton, D. D., P. W. V. Wilson, P. J. H. Jennings, P.	Front Royal, Va. Charlestown, Va. Moorefield, Va. Bloomery, Va.	Front Royal, S. S. Charlestown, P. Moorefield, P. Bloomery, P. North River, S. S.	7	1	13	144	1	9	40	61	25	25					993	
J. O. Proctor, P.	Gerrardstown, Va.	Gerrardstown, P. Tuscarora, P.	3			87	2	7	50	13	19	10	6	12	8		377	
J. R. Graham, P. Charles White, P.	Winchester, Va. Berryville, Va.	Winchester, P. Berryville, P. Harper's Ferry, S. S.	2	2	4	115	1	10	200	145	140	29	138	20			1000	200
John Johnston, P. M. W. Woodworth, P., D.M.	Luney's Creek, Va. New Cr'k Station, Va.	Mount Zion, P. Mount Hope, P. Piedmont, P.	2	2	7	33	2		40	23	10	10		10			174 96	16
A. C. Hopkins, P. R. L. McCune, W. C.—14.	Martinsburg, Va.	Martinsburg, P. Patterson's Creek, V. Concord, V. Smithfield, V.	3	14		74	1	7		8	8	18					905	100
<i>Licentiate—5.</i> J. M. Harris, William Stoddard,	Romney, Va. Buckingham C.H. Va.	Winsten, V.—23.				16 8		1		7		9					115	

MINISTERS, &c.	POST OFFICE.	CHURCHES.	Com. on ex.	Com. on ser.	Com. Com.	Total Com.	Adults	Infants	Children in S. S. & J. C.	Don. Miss. Missions.	For. Miss. Missions.	Educa-tion.	Publi-cation.	Church Exten-sion.	Disab'd Missions' Fund.	Diab'd Missions' Fund.	Con-grega-tion.	Miscel-laneous.
C. N. Campbell, William Warden, Henrie Hardie, <i>Candidates—5.</i>	Charleston, Va. Wardensville, Va. Woodstock, Va.		45	21	28	1306	8	54	441	\$313	\$250	\$143	\$155	\$51	\$10	\$4561	\$410	
4. Presbytery of Lewes. Austin C. Heaton, P.	Princess Anne, Md.	Manokin, P. Rehoboth.	4	2	3	79			50	200	34	33	35			1530	50	
J. T. H. Waite, P., D. M. Henry C. Fries, S. S., D.M.	Salisbury, Md. Laurel, Del.	Wicomico, P. Laurel, S. S., and Barren Creek, S. S.	5			77	2		60	10						2610	5	
Alanson A. Haines, W. C. Cornelius H. Mustard, S.S.	Lewes, Del.	Cool Spring, S. S., Black Water, S. S., and Indian River, S. S.	4		1	75	7		50	14						256 254 52	100	
William D. Mackey, P. Thos. G. Murphey, W. C. Geo. A. Magee, S. S., D. M.	Snow Hill, Md. Dover, Del. Crumpton, Md.	Snow Hill, P. Dover, V. Church Hill, S. S., Crumpton, S. S., and Old Brick Church, S. S.	3	1		81	5		65	12		25		18		1359	50	
J. L. Polk, P. William C. Handy, P. —10.	Newtown, Md. Berlin, Md.	Pitts Creek, P. Buckingham, P., and Eden, P.	2	1		7	1		40	6	7	10				609	15	
<i>Licentiate—3.</i> Thos. C. Anderson, D. M. Littleton P. Bowen, George L. Wolfe,	Georgetown, Del. Lewes, Del. Berlin, Md. Lewes, Del.	Georgetown, V. Lewes, V.—18.	14		2	112	1		140	12						436	95	
			45	13	7	749	59	645	\$279	\$71	\$106	\$35	\$18			\$8513	\$318	
5. Presbytery of Potomac. S. Tustin, D. D., W. C. P. D. Gurley, D. D., P. Daniel Motzer, S. S.	Washington, D. C. Do. Darnestown, Md.	Lovettsville, S. S. N. Y. Avenue Ch., P. Nealeville and Darnes-town, S. S.	3	22		319		9	174	183	290	107	7	62		18247	284	
John H. Bocock, D. D., P. B. F. Bittinger, P. Elias Harrison, P.	Georgetown, D. C. Washington, D. C. Alexandria, Va.	Bridge Street, P. Seventh Street, P. 1st Ch. Alexandria, P.	8	4	1	66	2	6	125	19	9	2	3	12		404	10	
			4	9		194	1	4	450	243	348	57	60	107		2476	150	
			5	3		80	4		100	73	115	60	49	15		6	150	
			2	3	1	197		10	125	229	207	50	50	75		1215	300	

115  
1907

MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

---

NEW SERIES, VOL. VII, No. 2, AUGUST, 1907.

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Proceedings, etc., of the 119th General Assembly.

PHILADELPHIA:

Office of the General Assembly, Witherspoon Building.

BY THE STATED CLERK.

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1907.

MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES	ADDRESS	CHURCHES	Elders	Deacons	Added on Ex.	Added on Car.	Restor'd	Disord.	Susp. R.	Deac'd	Whole No.	Ad. Bap.	Inf. Bap.	S. S.	Home Miss.	Foreign Miss.	Edifica- tion.	S. & W. Work.	Church Rec'd.	Relief Fund.	Free- men.	Col.	Temp. orance	General Assen.	Congre- gal. A.	Missi- onary	
Alexander Alison, Jr., P.	Wilmington, Del.	Wilm., West, P.	5	2	74	25	15	12	15	5	888	20	14	1390	1456	618	31	240	29	56	28	30	12	35	80	11,674	181
William L. Freund.	Princeton, N.J.	" Hanover, P.	3		13	4		11		2	250	12	300	220	225				12	9	8	9		32	00	4000	70
Robert L. Jackson, P.	Wilmington, Del.	" Drawyers, P.	4					2	3	41	2	30	20	5	5	14		1	5	1	1	23	5	08	620		
Robert L. Hallett, P.	Odessa, Md.	Salisbury, Md.	2		4	2		6		7	223	1	1	179	220	100	10	15	10	20	5	5	5	35	30	3678	5
Wilson T. M. Beale, P.	Salisbury, Md.	Wicomico, P.	2							2	90	2	2	69	54	20	4	3		5	2	4		10	12	1362	26
Frederic A. Foote, P.	Deleware City, Del.	Delaware City, P.	7		9	7				3	130	3	7	78	55	40	10		10	10	9	10		12	87	3375	
I. Charles McBride, P.	Newark, Del.	White Clay Creek, P.	6		1	4		2	28	2	137	16	178	88	85	9	25	18	15	11	12		14	63	2600		
Fraser L. MacLeod, P.	Wilmington, Del.	Green Hill, P.	6							1	174		185	94	76	11	30	5	19	2	2		19	36	1550	20	
Julius A. Herold, P.E.—48.	Lewes, Del.	Lewes, P.E.	7		16	6		2		1	140	13	2	100	82	27	5	10	1	10	1	1	13	09	1000	1	
	Providence, Md.	Rock, V.	4		7	1				4	170	4		73	166	88	10	14	9	30	5	9	2	18	26	1046	2
	Zion, Del.	Zion, V.	4							2	29			53	33	14	1	1	1	1	1	2		6	49	269	
	Port Penn, Del.	Port Penn, V.	2				1	27		2	38			60										7	80	150	10
	Bridgeville, Del.	Bridgetown, V.	1							1	14													1	54		
	Farmington, Del.	Farmington, V.	1								28													2	97		
	Ocean View, Del.	Ocean View, V.	3								*89		1	91	8	8		19									
	Frankford, Del.	Frankford, V.	3								11													3	28		
	Blackwater, Del.	Blackwater, V.	3								*92																
	Smyrna, Del.	Smyrna, V.	2								*47													4	23		
	Midway, Del.	Rehoboth, V.	5								*37													4	14		
	Kennedyville, Md.	Grace, V.	4								*34																
	Worton, Del.	Worton, V.	1								*30																
	Earlville, Del.	Westminster, V.	1								*43																
	Whaleyville, Del.	Eden, V.	1								*6																
	Church Hill, Del.	Trinity, V.	1								*8																
	Stanton, Del.	Stanton, V.—56.	1																								
	Princeton, N.J.		143	23	292	117	26	126	227	103	7066	74	171	7097	7556	4718	743	1509	455	1019	444	591	155	764	69	84,041	2034

Licentiate.

Albert C. Busch.—1.

Candidates—6.

3. Presb. of Washington City.

Benjamin F. Bittinger, D.D., S.C. Washington, D.C.  
 John Chester, D.D., H.R. " "  
 John L. French, H.R. " "

George O. Little, D.D., Prof.	Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C.	9	6	29	30		16	20	8	576	3	12	537	2212	628	19	38	129	72	69	18		50	40	9330	472	
Joseph T. Kelly, D.D., P.	"	Wash., 4th, P.	3		1			2	2	36				50	29	38	2	13	4	4	2	2	2	3	51	972		
William A. Bartlett, D.D., N. Y. Mills, N. Y.	"	Clifton, P.	12	12	11	14		1	77	20	1159	4	26	1146	2522	2883	68	142	235	465	154	359	7	100	30	18,377	2514	
William H. Edwards, (H.R.)	Washington, D.C.	Wash. Covenant, P.	4	3	3	1		1	8	3	97	2	97	114	147	18	37	19	22	14	17	10		9	27	1382		
Tennis S. Hamlin, D.D., P.	"	"	5		12	1		1	1	414	3	4	105	30	45	5	5	5	5	5	15	5		37	06	2250	100	
Charles Alvin Smith, S.S.	"	"			24	4																						
M. Porter Snell, H.R.	"	"																										
T. Davis Richards, P.	Germantown, Md.	Neelsville, Md., P.	9	7	17	23		12	25	7	378	16	618	148	61			17						35	35	5552	288	
Francis J. Grimke, D.D., P.	Washington, D.C.	Wash., 15th St., P.	6	8	2	9		6	32	3	301	6	225	607	422	33	73	32	87	19	21		2	29	79	4818	426	
James H. Bradford.	"	"	6	8	21	6		18	15	2	401	2	6	145	143	180	10	30	3	5	3	2		35	01	3650	202	
James S. Westcott.	"	"	12	12	27	58		27	23	1497	1	19	696	6269	2250	50	63	50	247	141	50		112	38	12,492	829		
Thomas C. Easton, D.D., P.	"	"																										
William C. Alexander, D.D., P.	"	Eastern, P.	9	7	17	23		12	25	7	378	16	618	148	61			17						35	35	5552	288	
Russell Verbruycke, P.	"	West St., P.	6	8	2	9		6	32	3	301	6	225	607	422	33	73	32	87	19	21		2	29	79	4818	426	
Wallace Radcliffe, D.D., LL.D., P.	"	Gurley Mem., P.	6	8	21	6		18	15	2	401	2	6	145	143	180	10	30	3	5	3	2		35	01	3650	202	
Wilbur F. Crafts, Ph.D., Supt.	"	N. Y. Ave., P.	12	12	27	58		27	23	1497	1	19	696	6269	2250	50	63	50	247	141	50		112	38	12,492	829		
George S. Duncan, Ph.D., [Prof.]	"	"																										
Asa S. Fiske, D.D.	"	"																										
James W. Wightman, D.D.	"	"																										
Thomas Gordon, D.D.	"	"																										
S. Ward Righter, P.	Hyattsville, Md.	Hyattsville, P.	6		2	2		1		2	149	1	123	179	136	1	10	2	1	1	1							
George P. Wilson, D.D., P.	Washington, D.C.	Wash., Northminster, P.	6	5	10	3		10	58	2	240	2	1	185	92	81	3	3	3	5	7			15	82	1950		
William J. Young, D.D., P.	Ballston, Va.	Ballston, P.	4	2	6	1		9	1	168	6	1	240	30	31	4	32	3	5	2	5			38	20	1745	21	
Valter H. Stone, Ph.D., P.	Darnestown, Md.	Darnestown, P.	6	3						133			60	48	35	5	10	5	10	3	5			12	06	900		
Nelson H. Miller, D.D., S.S.S.	Washington, D.C.	Boyd's, S.S.	4	1						39			76	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2	97	175		
Garland Hamner, D.D., P.	Manassas, Va.	Manassas, P.	5		3	3		11		1	116	2	131	245	172	10	12	70	20	17	10		8	10	62	1065		
Donald C. MacLeod, D.D., P.	Washington, D.C.	Wash., 1st, P.	12	6	69	83		17	9	5	737	17	25	1272	505	281	9	3	10	17	10			54	99	7231	1325	
Robert A. Davison, D.D., P.	Falls Church, Va.	Falls Church, P.	3	4	2	5		4		1	90	1		130	353	193	8		11	7	6	5		11	43	2221		
William T. Thompson, D.D., P.	Washington, D.C.	Wash., Eekington, P.	8	8	19	46		21	39	3	347	4	9	256	139	171	4	27	440	7	5		4	102	27	72	5429	168
Thomas Thompson, D.D., S.S. (P.)	"	"																										
James M. Nourse, [LL.D.]	"	"																										
Jeremiah P. E. Kumler, D.D.	"	"																										
William H. Dexter, Ph.D.	"	"																										
Walker E. McBath, F.M.	Guatemala, C. Am.	"																										

# Officers and Agencies

OF THE

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### I. THE CLERKS.

*Stated Clerk and Treasurer*—Rev. WILLIAM HENRY ROBERTS, D.D., LL.D., Room 515, Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.  
*Permanent Clerk*—Rev. WILLIAM B. NOBLE, D.D., 1323 Linwood Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.  
*Assistant Clerk*—Rev. J. M. HUBBERT, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.

### II. THE TRUSTEES.

*President*—JOHN H. CONVERSE, Esq., LL.D., Philadelphia, Pa.  
*Corresponding Secretary*—Rev. BENJAMIN L. AGNEW, D.D., LL.D.  
*Office*—Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

#### Trustees for the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

*President*—Mr. J. O. CAMBON.      *Secretary*—Mr. W. F. ENNIS, Bowling Green, Ky.

### III. THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES.

See the Reports of the several Institutions, page 272, *seq.*, Minutes of 1908.

### IV. THE BOARDS.

#### 1. Home Missions.

*President*—Rev. D. STUART DODOR, D.D., New York, N. Y.  
*Secretary*—Rev. CHARLES L. THOMPSON, D.D.  
*Associate Secretaries*—Rev. JOHN DIXON, D.D., Mr. J. ERNEST McAFEE.  
*Treasurer*—Mr. HARVEY C. OLIN.  
*Office*—Presbyterian Building, No. 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

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*President*—Rev. GEORGE ALEXANDER, D.D., New York, N. Y.  
*Corresponding Secretaries*—Mr. ROBERT E. SPEER, Rev. ANTHONY J. BROWN, D.D., Rev. A. WOODRUFF HALSBY, D.D., Rev. STANLEY WHITE, D.D.  
*Treasurer*—Mr. DWIGHT H. DAY.  
*Office*—Presbyterian Building, No. 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

#### 3. Education.

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## MINUTES

OF THE

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NEW SERIES, VOL. VIII, No. 2, AUGUST, 1908.

Proceedings, etc., of the 120th General Assembly.

PHILADELPHIA:

Office of the General Assembly, Witherspoon Building

BY THE STATED CLERK.

1908



MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES.	ADDRESS.	CHURCHES.	Elders	Deacons	Added on Ex.	Added on Cert.	Reord'd	Disord'd	Susp. R.	Deceas'd	Whole No.	Ad. Bar.	Inf. Sep.	S. S. Mem.	Home Miss.	Foreign Miss.	Educa-tion.	S. S. Work.	Cherch. Growth	Relig. Fund.	Presb- men.	Col- leges.	Temp- orance	General Assen.	Congre- gat'ns.	Miscel.		
2. Presb. of New Castle.																												
Charles H. Holloway, H. R.	Philadelphia, Pa.																											
Samuel W. Reigart, D. D., P. Em.	Salisbury, Md.	Wicomico, P. Em.																										
Thomas A. McCurdy, D. D.	Baltimore, "																											
Albert N. Keigwin, D. D., P. Em.	New York, N. Y.	Wilm., West, P. Em.																										
Joseph B. North, L. L. D., P.	Snow Hill, Md.	Makemie Mem., P. Gunby, P.	3	1				2	10	2	113	4	100	55	30	2	25	2	5			3	100	12	76	700	5	
Henry F. Mason.	Germantown, Pa.		2					2	5	2	51	1	2	91	10	10	2	50	2	4	2	2	50	5	83	500	1	
William H. Logan, P. M.	Wilmington, Del.																											
Henry L. Bunstein, P. E.	Milford, "	Milford, P. E.	3	3	6	8		4	2	261	1	1	148	145	73	10	57	10	15	10	5	10	27	83	1758	1		
Samuel M. Perry.	Ch's p'ke C'y, Md.																											
John R. Henderson, P. & S. S.	Georgetown, Del.	Georgetown, P. Cool Spring, S. S.	3	3							33	4	100	15	10	3	11	2	3	2	2	3	3	52	420			
T. Chalmers Potter, D. D., P.	Glasgow, "	Pencader, P. [Em	5					15	1	37			70	14	20	2	3	3				2	4	18	300			
David E. Shaw, P. Em.	Oxford, Pa.	W. Nottingham, P.	8	2		10		16	3	70	1	2	20	63	25	6	11	4	6	6	4	35	6	71	1200	1		
John E. Eggert, P.	Harrington, Del.	Harrington, P. Felton, P.	2	2	1			4	2	19			32	20	12	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	2	75	250			
John McElmoyle, D. D., P.	Elkton, Md.	Elkton, P. [P.	4	1				2		42	2		50	17	7	7						4	4	84	450			
Joel S. Gilfillan, D. D., P.	Newark, Del.	Head of Christiana,	2	1	11					1	181	2	3	129	678	351	40	47	23	175	70	25	18	81	2046	1		
Joseph R. Milligan, D. D., P.	St. Georges, "	St. Georges, P.	3	2	6			3	3	180	2	5	150	57	27	1	5	1	3	1	2	31	14	30	1000			
Francis H. Moore, D. D., P.	Middletown, "	Forest, P.	1	2				2	2	67	1		68	30	17	3	3	3	3	2	2	10	7	37	1000			
Edwin W. Long.	Wilmington, "		5	2	6			2	12	4	146	1	159	160	119	4	3	5	10	1	3	15	51	1513				
Joseph B. Turner, P.	Dover, "	Dover, P.	3	6	4	1		1	2	124	1	3	48	149	102	7	22	6	36	2	7	116	12	87	1657			
John D. Blake, P.	Marshallton, "	Red Clay Creek, P.	5	4	2			4	4	120	1	7	95	66	20	7	22	7	8	5	5	24	13	42	1151			
Robert H. Hoover, P.	Perryville, Md.	Perryville, P.	2	1				2	3	25	5	30	48	17	1	3	3	5	1	1	1	12	75	484				
Thomas M. Hurst, (in tr.)	Marion, Ky.																											
Julius A. Herold, P.	Lewes, Del.	Lewes, P.	7	1				1	1	174	3	261	95	101	95	101	45	13	9	2	2	19	14	1680	1			
William H. Bancroft, P.	Berlin, Md.	Buckingham, P.	3	22	4			0	231	3	7	169	191	246	32	69	25	38	20	20	10	23	21	1400	7			
Charles L. Jefferson, D. D., P.	Wilmington, Del.	Wilm., Gilbert, P.	4	1	10			5	4	94	12	115	30	25	15	15	10	20	25	10	15	10	45	600	8			
S. Beattie Wylie, P.	New Castle, "	New Castle, P. [P.	2	13	5			2	2	151	6	177	963	703	239	195	76	353	129	164	78	14	85	2976	68			
W. Fred'k Dickens-Lewis, P.	Wilmington, "	Wilm., Rodney St.,	4	21	13	20		2	327	112	412	459	301	42	140	76	50	81	32	38	34	65	6680	110				

J. Edgar Franklin, S. S.	Wilmington, Del.	Christiana, S. S.	2							34	3	42	10	1	3	7	2	2	1	2	37	3	85	495			
George F. Nason, P.	"	Wilm., 1st, P.	2	1	13	5		6	2	215	3	5	298	201	145	8	38	12	12	12	14	109	22	55	3650	35	
William J. Rowan, Ph. D., P.	Newark, "	Newark, P.	4	3	2	3		2	7	2	162	4	125	162	112	8	30	8	31	7	5	52	48	50	6819		
J. Newton Kugler, P. [ & Prof	Greenville, "	L. Brandywine, P.	4	3	3	3		6	2	138	2	8	150	61	11	1	21	1	5	3		4	15	18	2093		
Lewis R. Watson, P.	Princ's Anne, Md.	Manokin, P.	3	2				1	4	116	4	156	12	8	4	3	2	12			5	66	12	98	1592	18	
Samuel Polk, P.	Colors, "	W. Nottingham, P.	5	15	5			7	3	273	5	5	205	331	233	45	28	65	50	30	55	25	28	93	3978	5	
Arthur Richards, P.	Smyrna, Del.	Smyrna, P.	2	6	2			2	2	83	2	8	25	30	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	10	12	1260	5	
John C. Lane, P.	Wilmington, "	Wilm., Olivet, P.	6	10	7	10		9	5	2	144	3	4	230	27	15	2	6	3	2	2	58	15	00	2328	5	
Albert C. Jamison, (in tr.)	Ravenswood, W. Va.																										
Alexander Alison, Jr., P.	Wilmington, Del.	West, P.	5	119	38	6	11	60	10	94	12	5	1360	1472	593	39	347	28	34	26	27	350	94	93	11,102	141	
William L. Freund.	Princeton, N. J.																										
Robert L. Jackson, P.	Wilmington, Del.	Hanover, P.	4	5	7			5	2	255	3	300	235	235													
Robert L. Hallett, P.	Odessa, "	Drawyers, P.	3	4				1	1	44	1	34	25	6	5	12	1	5	1	1	80	4	51	1125	120		
Wilson T. M. Beale, P.	Salisbury, Md.	Wicomico, P.	7	39	9	2		5	2	4	261	5	8	212	159	150	15	15	10	40	10	10	34	53	3810	5	
Fraser L. MacLeod, P.	Wilmington, Del.	Green Hill, P.	6	17	4			126	3	156	3	168	107	127	10	30	9	13	10	10	10	10	15	07	3100		
H. Charles McBride, P.	Newark, "	White Clay Creek, P.	4	7	3	1		2	1	138	3	100	67	52	10	22	10	10	10	10	10	21	14	30	1874		
B. J. Brinkema, P.	North East, Md	Zion, P.	4	11	5	1		3	1	193	8	1	71	120	108	10	26	9	30	5	9	5	18	70	1590	1	
J. Norris McDowell, P.	Pocomoke C'y, "	Rock, P.	4					3	2	135			82	56	52	5	25	4	5	4	5	2	15	40	1012		
Thomas de Pamphillis, Ev.	Wilmington, Del.	Pitts Creek, P.	5	3	14	9		6	19	4	162	6	1	143	95	87	6	86	4	6	3	5	10	18	20	1655	6
E. Burgett Welch, P.	"	Wilm., East Lake, P.	2	6	9	2		14	58	1	126	1	1	216	60	38	2	6	1	1	5	8	18	14	52	1505	
Ernest W. Warrington, Ev.	Pilot Rock, Ore.																										
[[in. tr.]—48.	Ch's p'ke C'y, Md.	Chesapeake City, V.	3	2				4	14	1	56	1	72	67	53	3	5	2	5	1	2	8	25	700			
	Port Penn, Del.	Port Penn, V.	2								29		53	10	13	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	19	295		
	Ocean View, "	Ocean View, V	3	5	1						33	2	94	5											200		
	Wilmington, "	Wilm., Central, V.	6	1				27	3	577			423	265	191	9	488	12	11	7	13	100	66	66	5075	551	
	Delaware City, "	Delaware City, V.	2					4	2	84			69	11	8								9	90	1028		
	Midway, "	Rehoboth, V.	5								55				10												
	Pocom'ke C'y, Md.	" V.	3					1		87			12	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	57	150	2		
	Port Deposit, "	Port Deposit, V.	1					2		95		2	60	26	36	2	6	3	10	6	4	10	56	1491			
	Bridgeville, Del.	Bridgeville, V.	3																								
	Farmington, "	Farmington, V.	1																								
	Frankford, "	Frankford, V.	3																								
	Blackwater, "	Blackwater, V.	3																								

109th Stated Meeting - Zion

REPRODUCTION FROM ORIGINAL  
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425 LOMBARD ST. PHILA. PA.  
FOR REFERENCE AND STUDY

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION

The one hundred and ninth Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Castle was held in the Zion Presbyterian Church - near North East, Maryland, on Monday October 3rd, 1921, at 3 P.M., and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator - Rev. J. Watkins Lacy.

Ministers present - Herman Bischof, R. Alexander Boyle, G. Ashworth Burslem, Wm. H. Davies, A. M. L. Eckard, Wm. Gibson, Joel S. Gilfillan, Thos. Kerr, J. W. Lacy, John W. Murray, R. C. Pitzer, David A. Reed, U. Franklin Smiley, Bergen B. Staats, John M. Tomlin, Jos. B. Turner, P. K. Vanderkam, J. R. Verbruycke  
Elders: Geo. L. Appleby, Christiana, N. O. Lankford, Manskin, O. K. Strahorn Newark, Henry B. Klair Red Clay Creek Edward Thompson Rehoboth, Del. F. H. Houston, Rock J. H. Lloyd, Smyrna J. H. Walker, White Clay Creek, N. St. Todd, Harrison Wm. Stout & R.

REPRODUCTION FROM ORIGINAL  
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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)  
425 LOMBARD ST., PHILA., PA.  
FOR REFERENCE AND STUDY

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Home Mission  
percentage

McM Mullin, Port Penn, with Rev R. C. Pitzer, as Moderator, were appointed as a provisional session for St. George Church. On motion the Committee on Sustentation and Home Missions was instructed to set apart 10 percent of its Home Mission Budget to be sent to the Board of Home Missions.

Presbytery took recess at 12.30 P.M.

Presbytery reconvened with prayer by Moderator at 1.45 P.M. The report of the Committee on Sustentation and Home Missions - interrupted by recess - was continued. Moved and carried

Blackwater  
resolved

that the recommendations of the Home Mission Committee: (a) That the Communicants of Blackwater Church

be given letters of commendation to  
Frankford church, and the Blackba  
property be placed in the hands  
of the Trustees of Presbytery.  
It is that Elders W. S. Suckley's motion  
from this Committee be accepted  
and that Presbytery extend its  
thanks to our church for this  
faithful service. ✓  
It is that Elder W. O. Vandusen, of  
Princes Anne be nominated to  
succeed Mr. Sundry — be  
approved and adopted.

On motion, the report of the  
Committee as a whole was  
adopted.

On motion, the Rev. Craig  
B. Cross, of Westminster Presbytery,  
was received as a corresponding member.

MS 9/66



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF ARCHIVES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
HALL OF RECORDS  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

TELEPHONE: (302) 739-5318

July 15, 1991

Mrs. James J. Leitch  
Historian General NSDAR  
1776 D Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006-5392

Dear Mrs. Leitch:

Russell McCabe and I have reviewed the proposed marker text for the Old Blackwater Presbyterian Church at Miss Elizabeth Hancock's request. The text reads well, but we can find no verification for the 1856 or the 1921 dates. Our sources, including the WPA church project data, note that the church became defunct in 1907 with no mention of church services stopping or clergy leaving before that date. We cannot find the mention of the 1921 date anywhere in our files but your references may be more complete than ours. We were able to verify the other information in the text, as is.

I hope this information will be helpful and we wish you great success with your project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joanne A. Mattern".

Joanne A. Mattern  
Deputy State Archivist

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 10 1976  
DATE ENTERED JUL 9 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC  BLACKWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER On the south side of Del. Route 54,  
at its intersection with Del. Route 846  
CITY, TOWN Clarksville, Del. VICINITY OF One  
STATE Delaware CODE 10 COUNTY Sussex CODE 003  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Sussex Trust Co., Trustee  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN Laurel VICINITY OF STATE Delaware

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sussex County Court House  
STREET & NUMBER The Circle  
CITY, TOWN Georgetown STATE Delaware

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Delaware Historic Sites & Buildings, Number S-179  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Hall of Records  
CITY, TOWN Dover STATE Delaware  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

## 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

Blackwater Presbyterian Church is a frame chapel, oriented roughly north-south, with a south entry. Over-all dimensions are 35 feet by 30 feet. There are two windows on both the east and west sides. In the south elevation, there is one window above the double doors.

On the west side, the building is sheathed in clapboards, which are beaded on their lower edges and feathered to form lap joints on their ends. Such clapboards, no more than five feet long, generally were made of cypress. Above and below the two windows on the west side are patches of new clapboarding, indicating that taller windows once were here.

The windowless north wall is sheathed in smooth, square-edged clapboards similar to the ones on the south elevation. The east wall clapboards are rougher, and exhibit circular saw marks.

Exterior trim on all four side windows consists of a beaded casing trimmed with an ovolo. Greek mouldings of simple style trim the insides of these windows; the corner blocks are formed from mitred sections of mouldings. There are shutters on the windows.

The portico on the south doorway is supported by a bracket in Victorian style, with carpenter gothic trim in the pediment, which is repeated above the south window.

Inside, the church displays the various periods of its construction and use. On the north wall is a marble plaque with the date of construction, 1767, and the date of rebuilding, 1893. The gallery, which runs along the south end of the church, is supported by four posts with lambs-tongue chamfers. In the southeast corner of the church is a stairway to the gallery, with a closet below it.

The pews are simple, apparently locally made, of indeterminate but early age. Two ornate Victorian stoves provide heat, being vented through chimneys in the centers of the east and west walls. The ceiling is made of beaded, natural-finish, pine, tongue-in-groove boards. The chancel is a raised platform on the north end, faced with the same tongue-in-groove boards that are found in the ceiling. A pulpit, of walnut and cherry, stands on the front edge of this platform. Music is provided by a pump organ.

Oil lamps are mounted around the edge of the church, and tin candle sconces are attached to the gallery posts.

The present floor is wide pine boards, but legend states that there is a brick floor below.



## 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

Blackwater Presbyterian Church, built in 1767, is the oldest Presbyterian church building in southern Delaware. Its first pastor was Charles Tennent, son of a famous Presbyterian family. On its west wall, the church preserves a significant specimen of early Delaware cypress clapboard sheathing.

During 1763, the pulpit of Buckingham Presbyterian Church in Berlin, Maryland, was filled by Charles Tennent, whose father had founded the "Log College," predecessor of Princeton. On his evangelizing tours, Tennent visited Baltimore Hundred and helped to start Blackwater Church. The Presbytery of Lewes minutes indicate that the Blackwater Church was accepted into the Presbytery on May 3, 1763. The first elders were Joseph Miller, Ebenezer Evans, John Evans, William Tunnell, John Aydelotte, Thomas Harnig, and Thomas Wingate.

Tennent conducted services in members' homes at Blackwater on alternate Sundays until the church building was erected. Until 1840, Blackwater and Buckingham continued to be affiliated. In 1856, some members withdrew to form the present Ocean View Presbyterian Church. Others later broke away to form the church at Frankford.

After 1856, Blackwater declined. The two daughter churches, in more populous areas, gained membership and vitality. At the Presbytery meeting in October 1921, the congregational organization was abolished and the Frankford church was designated trustee of the property.

The Tunnells, one of the founding families of the church, have held their annual reunions in the building since 1927. Through their efforts, a brick wall has been built around the churchyard, a new roof has been installed, and the grounds have been maintained. Maintenance is provided through a trust agreement with the Sussex Trust Company of Laurel.

The church is currently being repaired by the Colonel Armwel Long Chapter, DAR. In the course of repairs, the date 1860 was found scratched in the plaster, apparently while the plaster was wet. A painted stencil design was found during the same repair work.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rose, Harold Wickliffe, The Colonial Houses of Worship in America, (N.Y.: Hastings House, Pub.), 1963.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

A	118	48581810	426611610	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The churchyard is enclosed by a brick wall on all four sides. This enclosure marks the limits of the area nominated.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Edward F. Heite, Historic Registrar

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Hall of Records

TELEPHONE

678-4564

CITY OR TOWN

Dover

STATE

Delaware

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

TITLE: Director, Div. of Historical & Cultural Affairs

DATE 1/12/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

5/9/76

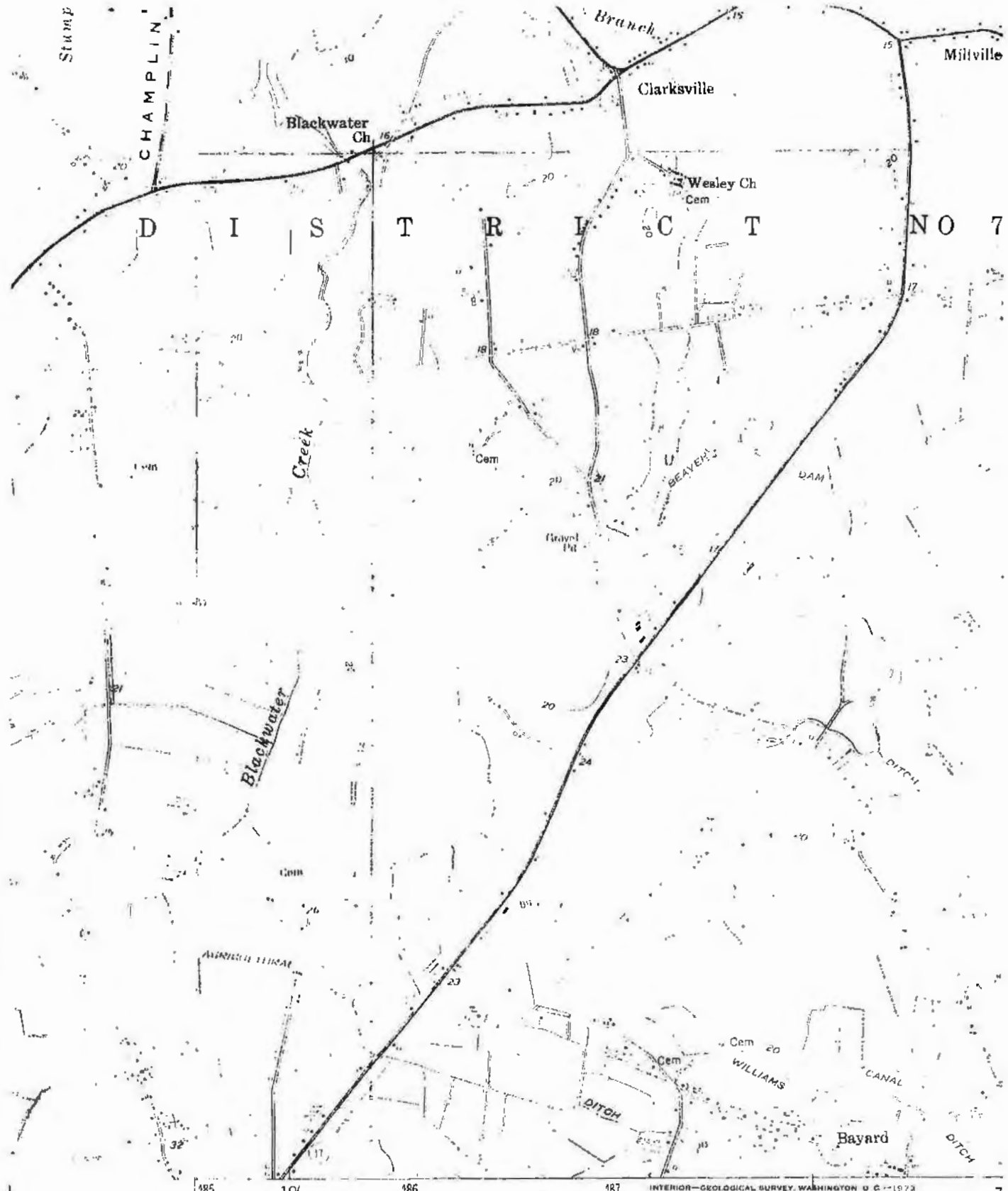
ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6.25.76

RBR for WJM 7/8/76



185 10' 186 187 7  
 INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON D. C.—1973  
 499000m E.



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route



FRANKFORD, DEL.

N 3830—W 7507.5/7.5

ET  
 OW WATER  
 OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
 K ORCHARD