

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Shiloh Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Trinity School House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
25 School Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE Rhode Island, 02840	CODE 44	COUNTY: Newport	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Shiloh Baptist Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
25 School Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE: Rhode Island, 02840	CODE 44
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broadway

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE Rhode Island, 02840	CODE 44
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Rhode Island Statewide Survey of Historic Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  
 Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
State House, 90 Smith Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Providence

STATE: Rhode Island, 02903	CODE 44
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	COUNTY:	ENTRY NUMBER:	DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Shiloh Church, originally the Trinity School building, stands at the south-west corner of Mary and School Streets. The site was designated as school land by Walter Clarke, four times governor of the Rhode Island colony. Miss Franklin notes deeds as early as 1712 referring to "ye new school house. Mr. Mason refers to a lot lease made to Mr. Bennett contained in Nathaniel Kay's bequest to Trinity Church. The first Kay-endowed school was built in 1741; Cornelius Bennett was its first master.

The second Kay school--the present building--was built in 1799. On February 11, 1799, the wardens and vestry of Trinity Church voted "that a school house be built on the lot where the old house stood; that it be 40 ft. long and 25 ft. wide; a tower of eight ft. square, rising out of the body of the building at the east end, eight ft. above the roof; that there be a cellar under the whole; that a chimney be built at the west end in the centre; that there be two arched windows at the west end of 24 squares of 7x9 glass, exclusive of the arch and three such windows on each side, and that the whole be finished in a plain, neat manner ..."

This building was a rectangular Georgian structure, gable-end to the street. The foundation is of fieldstone, and there is a granite stoop. The entrance is flush with the sidewalk on School Street; there is no sidewalk on the Mary Street side. Two small alleys are on the south and west sides of the property. Present wall covering is shingle and clapboard. The entrance was remodelled by Shiloh Church in 1897. Stained glass has been substituted for the original small panes of clear glass in the arched windows. The short tower over the entrance has a boldly projecting classical cornice. Above it the octagonal cupola or belfry has open arches between slender, plain supports. A course of dentils runs directly below its cornice. The cupola has a concave umbrella roof with a turned, ball-capped finial which may originally have held a weathervane.

In 1884 an annex structure of greater height than the church was built directly onto its south side. This contains a parish hall at ground-level, with living quarters for the pastor above. It is an adjoined parallel rectangle of two storeys carrying a third floor within a decked mansard roof with bracketted cornice. Above the ground floor, the upper portion of this structure has been projected in "garrison-house" fashion. At the front of the second floor is a central, three-window angular bay or oriel; a dormer with paired windows is at the front of the third, or mansard, floor. The building is clapboarded like the church beside it.

(See Continuation Sheet.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
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(Number all entries)

7. Description.

The interior of the old school-church is open to the roof, forming a plain, barn-like preaching hall. The strong, plain roof timbers of the building proclaim its early construction, though the rafter-ends have been, in the course of renovations, given supposedly-supporting wall brackets of simple, sawn "Gothic" form. At the east end, a small vestibule projects into the building and has at one side stairs leading to a gallery across that end of the building. This gallery is supported on robust, plain wooden piers with knee-brackets given sawn curves on their undersides; it is railed with plain vertical boarding. Probably at the same time that the gallery was introduced, a shallow altar or pulpit area was pushed out at the west end of the building; a high window cut above this area; and paired arched windows cut above the entrance at the east, at gallery level.

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1799, 1873, 1884

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input 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"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Nathaniel Kay, collector of customs in Newport in the reign of Queen Anne, died in 1734, bequeathing his entire estate (after his widow's usufruct) to Trinity Church, to found "a school to teach ten poor boys their grammar and the mathematics gratis." The first Trinity School was erected in 1741 and replaced by the present building in 1799. Operation of a day school under the Kay endowment continued here until 1867.

In 1868 the school-house was sold for \$ 2,000 to the Negro congregation of Shiloh Church, which had been founded in 1864 by the Rev. Edmund Kelley. In 1873 \$ 1,600 was spent on renovations to the building. The long and constructive pastorship of the Rev. Henry Jeters, highly regarded in Newport, began in 1875 and encompassed the construction of the adjacent parish hall, with parsonage above, in 1884.

In use for either educational or religious purposes for nearly 175 years, the building of 1799--together with its annex--continues to house the Shiloh congregation, small in number but staunch and spiritually rich, proudly independent yet actively participant in community and cultural affairs.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Mason, George Champlin: Annals of Trinity Church ... (Newport, Rhode Island, 1894), pp. 28, 36, 71, 75-78, 83, 84, 87-89, 201, 212, 219, 220.  
 Trinity Church, Newport, Rhode Island: Vestry records, pp. 2-56.  
 Downing, Antoinette F., and Scully, Vincent J., Jr.: The Architectural Heritage of Newport, Rhode Island, 1640-1915 (Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1952), p. 500.  
 Franklin, Susan B.: Division Street, a Memory and a Warning (in Bulletin of the Newport Historical Society, No. 104, pp. 20, 21. March, 1948).  
 Jeters, Henry N.: Twenty-five Years' Experience With The Shiloh Baptist Church ... (Providence, Rhode Island, 1901), pp. 5-9, 12-18.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41°	29'	17" N
NE	° ' "	° ' "		71°	18'	45" W
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Ruth Kennedy Myers

ORGANIZATION: Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

DATE: Feb. 28, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 State House, 90 Smith Street

CITY OR TOWN: Providence

STATE: Rhode Island, 02903

CODE: 44

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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



No. 2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
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AND/OR HISTORIC: Trinity School House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
25 School Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE:  
Rhode Island

CODE  
44

COUNTY:  
Newport

CODE  
005

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: John T. Hopf

DATE OF PHOTO: February, 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: John T. Hopf,  
10 Red Cross Terrace, Newport, Rhode Island, 02840

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View towards south-west in 1971, showing XIX-Century addition  
at left.



No. 4



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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COUNTY:  
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CODE  
005

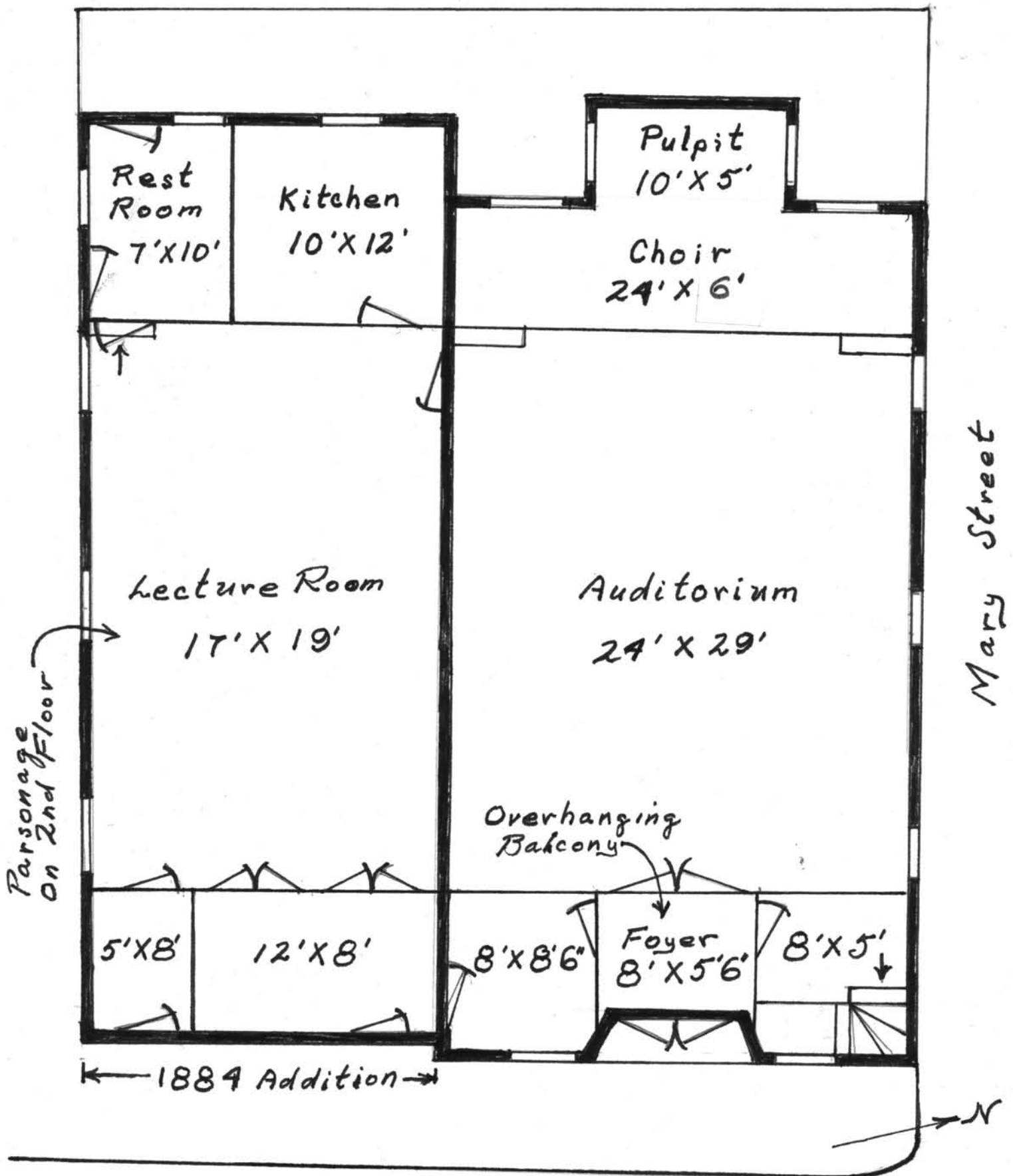
3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: John T. Hopf  
DATE OF PHOTO: February, 1971  
NEGATIVE FILED AT: John T. Hopf,  
10 Red Cross Terrace, Newport, Rhode Island, 02840

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Interior, looking east towards main entrance and gallery.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Rhode Island

COUNTY

Newport

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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AND/OR HISTORIC: Trinity School House

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COUNTY:

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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

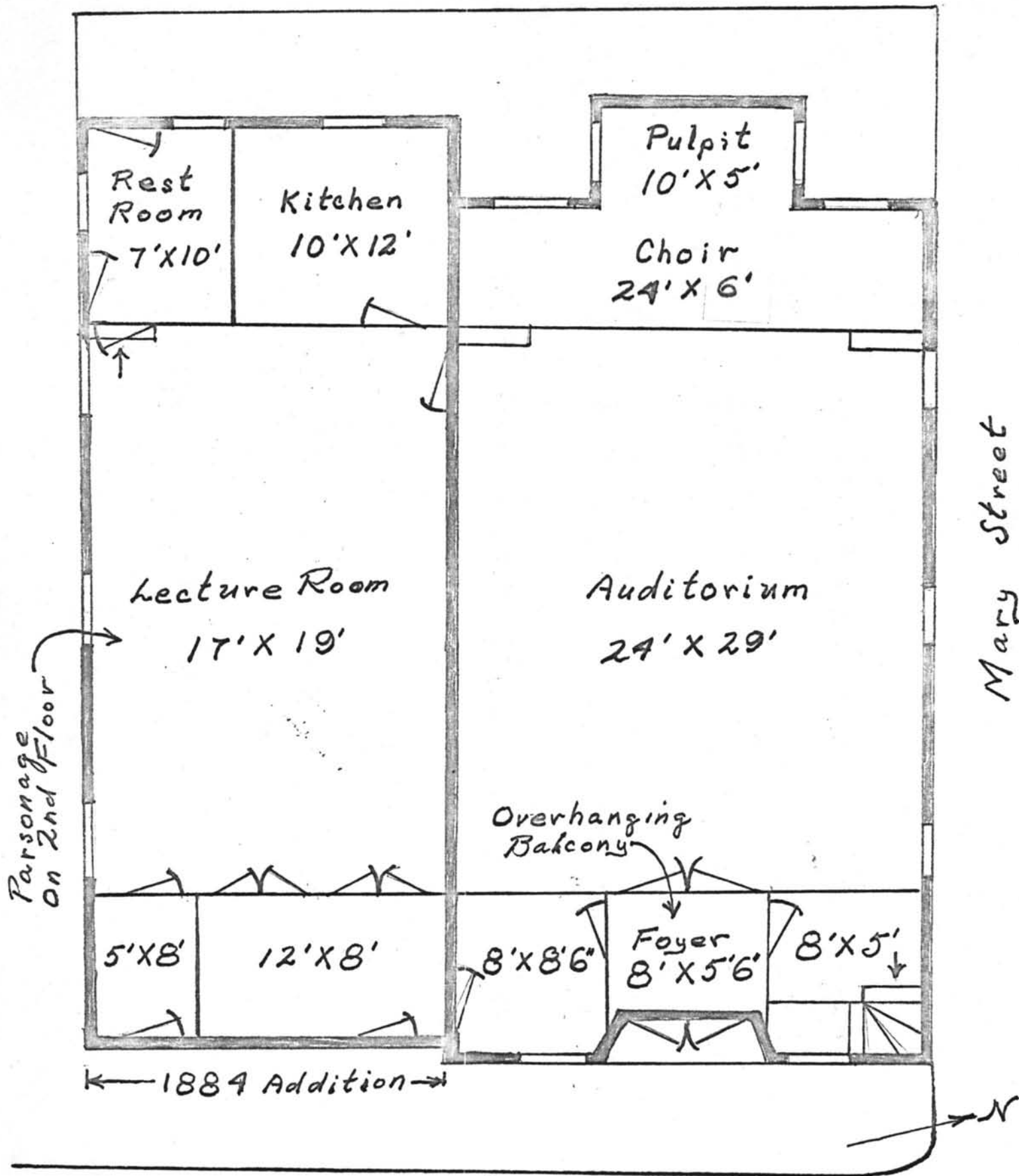
DATE OF PHOTO:

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Ground-level plan of church and southern addition in 1971.



Trinity School House  
(Shiloh Baptist Church)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

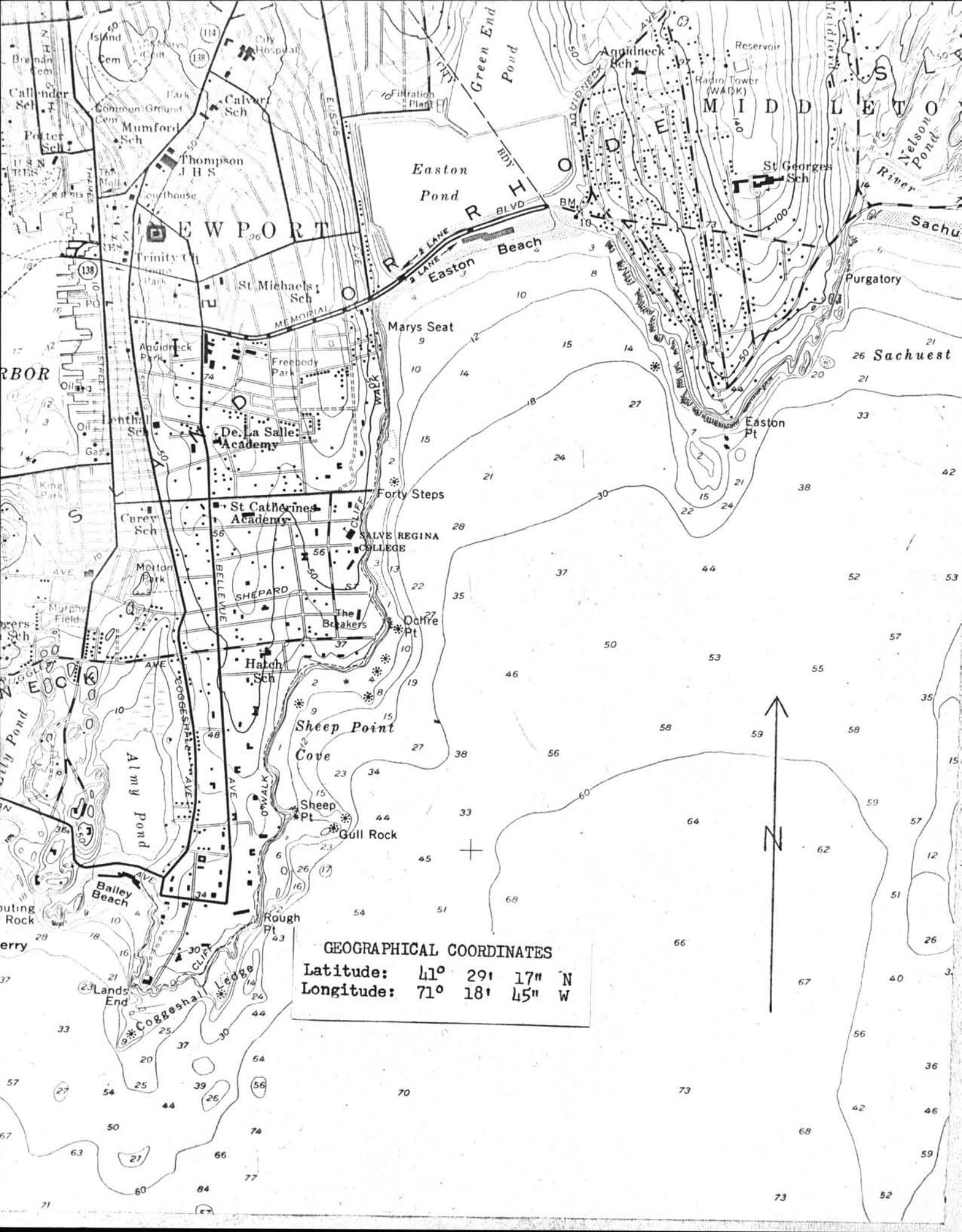
DATE OF PHOTO:

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Ground-level plan of church and southern addition in 1971.



**GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES**  
 Latitude:  $41^{\circ} 29' 17''$  N  
 Longitude:  $71^{\circ} 18' 45''$  W

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Rhode Island	
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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COMMON: Shiloh Church  
AND/OR HISTORIC: Trinity School House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
25 School Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Newport

STATE:  
Rhode Island

CODE  
44

COUNTY:  
Newport

CODE  
005

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE: 1: 24,000

DATE: 1957

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.