

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

19

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

**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

St. David's, Radnor Church and Graveyard

AND/OR COMMON

St. David's Protestant Episcopal Church

Let the present be the past

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Valley Forge and Church Roads

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Newtown Township

VICINITY OF

7

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Pennsylvania

42

Delaware

045

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

St. David's Church: Rector, Churchwardens and Vestryman

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Wayne

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania 19087

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Delaware County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Front Street

CITY, TOWN

Media

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

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

St. David's is a one story, rectangular rubble masonry structure with a wooden shingled gable roof. The orientation is east-west with the main door on the south and measures 44' long and 27' wide. A heavy moulded cornice is under the south eaves, with simple mouldings used elsewhere around the roof edge. Attached to the north side is a matching stone Vestry Room, 18' 29', erected in 1871, the third on the site, the previous Vestry Room, 17' square built in 1830. The first Vestry Room was also 17' square built in 1767.

The main entrance to the Church is through a round arch door on the south side now enclosed by wooden porch erected between 1915 and 1925. Originally there was also a door in the west end, the outlines of which are still visable. Windows, 2 in the south facade, 2 north side, 2 east, and 1 west are round arch of 33 panes with pannelled shutters. A large Chancel window replaced the earlier door in the west facade which was inserted by mason Benjamin Davis in 1786. All window and door hardware were replaced in 1893 except for the lock on the main door.

Above an east window is an opening in the masonry in which is inserted a slate inscribed "AD 1715" but this is a recently placed datestone.

At the west end of the church is an enclosed exterior stairway of matching masonry which leads to the west gallery and was probably built in 1771 when the gallery was added.

The church interior is a small rectangular room divided by south - north and west - east aisles. The plaster walls are probably original although often replastered and repainted white.

It is believed that the barrel vaulted plaster ceiling replaced at an early date the original open timber ceiling, the alteration possibly occuring at the renovations of 1771. The present random flagstone floor was laid in 1925 to the design of architect R. Brognard Okie, replacing a carpeted wooden floor laid in 1893 which succeeded an 18" thick masonry floor probably that laid in 1765 by Isaac Hughes. The Church previously had had an earthen floor. Title to actual "pew ground" permitted parishioners to be interred beneath their pew. Pew rents were not abolished until 1911.

The gallery on the west wall was first extended along the south wall and was erected by subscription in 1771; the south gallery was removed in 1830. The remaining open west gallery, contained three pews. After 1883, it was reduced in size and its pewing relinquished for a middle open space to hold folding chairs with the installation in 1950 or a large new Skinner organ contained in chambers on either side.

A pulpit, probably hexagonal, originally sited on the north wall near the end of the south-north alley, was replaced in the same location in 1813 by a platform carrying a new lectern type pulpit with the altar table, traditionally at the east end, placed below. That pulpit in turn, gave way in the 1830 renoyations to a large platform pulpit inserted at the east end, at which time the present Chancel, raised one step from the floor and enclosed

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by a balustrade of turned balusters of birdseye maple and newel posts of cherry, made by John Burns (and in 1893 painted white and has so remained) was composed around the altar which was returned to its original position. A smaller pulpit placed in the same position in 1852, was removed in 1862-63 as were the "old" (1830?) lamp posts. Thereafter sermons were delivered from the Chancel floor until the installation soon after 1912 of the present pulpit.

The present twenty-three east-facing wooden pews were installed in 1830, replacing the seventeen earlier square pews and a few benches. They were equipped with doors, removed in 1885 and replaced prior to 1907 by the present simple panelled wooden doors on all the pews facing the Chancel; only the two half pews to the immediate left (north) of the Chancel remain without doors.

In 1893 there was installed on the east wall of the Chancel the present raised panel wainscoting and the Georgian revival lamp posts erected on either side of the Chancel, by Vestryman T. Mellon Rogers, architect and W. H. Burns, builder. An altar table was given to the Church in 1874 as were a pair of chairs for the Chancel, these probably the high back Gothic carved chairs with triangular tops and cross finials which appear in the photograph of 1907. The present altar table and present lectern were installed in 1908 to the design of Vestry man architect R. Brognard Okie who seems also in 1912 to have designed the present Georgian style panelled "wine glass" raised pulpit installed after 1912. Also a later addition were the pair of white-painted scroll-arm rush seated American Empire armchairs now in use in the Chancel.

The only mural ornament in the Church is over the entrance door: a Caerbwdy stone from St. David's Cathedral in Wales incised with the cross of St. David in imitation of a similarly cut stone in the Cathedral; this was presented in 1894.

There is no electricity in the Church; brass antique reproduction candelabra and candlesticks equipped with wax candles provide the illumination.

The Church and the older section of its graveyard are enclosed on three sides by a fieldstone wall; the south section of this, with the stone mounting block, are mentioned in 1776 when Jonathan Hughes was paid "for Making horse Block" and in 1786 in the record of payment to Samuel Pugh for "Mason work at the Church Wall, and horse Block." Outside the west wall is one range, and at right angles to it running north west a second range of timber-framed open horse sheds, part earlier than 1871 and part erected in that year together with a "wishing gate" and a covered gateway into the churchyard on the south wall. The latter was replaced in 1901 by a lichgate designed by T. Mellon Rogers, evidently the present one.

18 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 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 checked="" 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 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 1715-17

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A Welsh-speaking Anglican congregation formed in 1700 on the borders of what are now Newtown and Radnor Townships in Delaware County and Easttown Township in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and noticed in print by the English historian Oldmixon in 1708, "heartily engaged" on September 7, 1714 to build a stone church. The cornerstone of the structure -- which would be served prior to the American Revolution by missionary clergy sent from England by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts -- was ceremoniously laid on May 9, 1715 and much of the subsequent actual building was done by parishioners in the style of the simple, one room, rectangular mediaeval Welsh country churches with which they were familiar.

The Church is said to have opened for worship the same year but was definitely in use by March, 1717. Its dedication to St. David, patron of Wales, was of record at least by 1719.

This small, then remote country church was represented at the first General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, held at New York in 1784. The parish was incorporated within the American church in 1792.

St. David's is the parent parish of ten other congregations: St. John's, Pequea (1720), St. James's, Perkiomen (1721), Bangor Church (1733), St. Peter's - in- the-Great Valley (1744), St. Thomas's, Morgantown (1765), St. Paul's, Glen Loch (1829), Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr (1852), St. Mary's Wayne (1889), St. Alban's, Newtown Square (a mission maintained by St. David's from 1922, consecrated 1954) and St. Francis-in- the-Fields, Sugartown (1962). The Church held services at the old Eagle School House, Strafford in 1820-1832 and 1861-1873. In the 1890's it maintained a mission in the then Village of Devon for summer visitors.

The clergy have served from time to time as deans of the ecclesiastical Convocation of Chester, to which St. David's belongs, and its parishioners have held notable positions in the diocese of Pennsylvania and in the national church.

A fine example of an early stone church, the fabric of St. David's represents the oldest non-Quaker house of worship in Delaware and Chester Counties and one of the earliest in the State. Despite 19th and early 20th century interior restorations and additions, the basic structure remains externally as erected in 1715, with its outside stone stairway of 1771 and Vestry Room extension of 1871.

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The churchyard contains the identifiable gravestones of eleven soldiers of the War of the Revolution including those of Major General Anthony Wayne (1745-1796) later Commander-in-Chief of the Army; Naval Captain William Hayman (1740-1823) and Militia Major William Nrooke (1746-1829) who became a General in the War of 1812.

Other veterans of the War of 1812, of the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and of both World Wars are herein interred.

The obelisk to General "Mad" Anthony Wayne in the Churchyard is probably to the design of architect William Strickland (1787-1854) who sketched the Church and this monument soon after its 1811 erection and who designed a similar marker for the Paoli Massacre site nearby.

The Church has been portrayed, inter alia, by the following American artists:

William Strickland (1787-1854), architect, in a drawing (original medium unknown) reproduced in a mezzotint engraving, circa 1812

William L. Breton (d. 1855) in a watercolor drawing, circa 1828, in several copies

Howard Pyle (1853-1911), in a (probably black and white wash) drawing, circa 1879

Frederick DeBourg Richards, in an etching, 1894

John Ramsey Conner (1869-1952), in an oil painting, date unknown

Jacob Riegel, Jr., in an etching, 1930

Andrew Wyeth (1917-living), in a pen and ink drawing, circa 1932

Henry T. MacNeill, in a pen and ink drawing, 1947

St. David's has also been described and illustrated in the popular press as early as October, 1829 when the subject of an illustrated article in The Casket (Philadelphia). Included in Sherman Day, Historical Collections of the State of Pennsylvania (1843) and in George Smith, History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania (1862) and in all subsequent histories of both Delaware and Chester Counties, St. David's Church became known in national literature as the subject of the poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "Old St. David's at Radnor." The poet, while a visitor at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition came to the Church in May, of June, 1880 and later in the same year in Ultima Thule, a volume of his verse. It has since been often reprinted.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 465450 4430600

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C _____

E _____

G _____

B _____

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D _____

F _____

H _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Francis James Dallett (parishioner)

ORGANIZATION

University Archivist, University of Pennsylvania

STREET & NUMBER

North Arcade, Franklin Field E6

CITY OR TOWN

Philadelphia

DATE

10/25/77

TELEPHONE

1-215-243-7024

STATE

Pennsylvania 19104

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE WILLIAM J. WEWER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE 3/17/78

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

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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St. David's Church
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

Script ledgers: "Parish Record" (1705-1805)

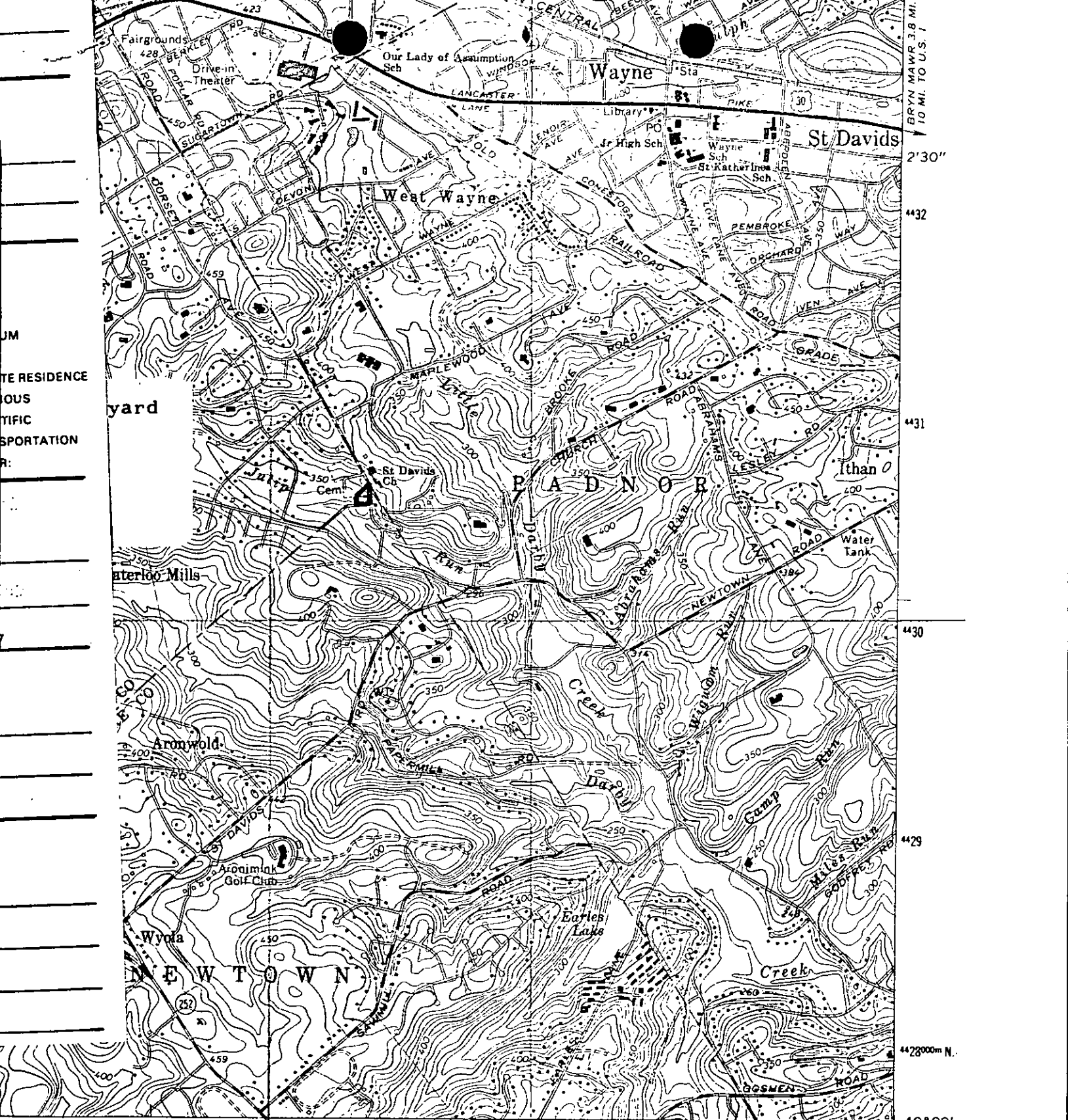
"Record Book 1820-1894"

"Minute Book of the Vestry & the Congregation from 1894 to 1921"

(all in the St. David's Church Collection, Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

Henry Pleasants, The History of Old St. David's Church, Radnor, Delaware County, (Philadelphia, 1915). This is the enlarged revised edition of the author's anonymously published The History of Old St. David's Church, Radnor, in Delaware County, the latter being an expansion of Pleasants' also anonymously published Historical Sketch of Old Radnor Church 1685-1875 (Media, Pa., 1875) both earlier works corrected in the 1915 edition.

Other works listed in footnotes. (NOT USED: Philip B. Wallace and William Allen Dunn, Colonial Churches and Meeting Houses in Pa. New Jersey and Delaware (New York, 1931) which publishes drawings of the Church on p. 129.



UM
 TE RESIDENCE
 OUS
 TIFIC
 SPORTATION
 R:

BRYN MAWR 3.8 MI.
 10 MI. TO U.S. 1

2'30"

4432

4431

4430

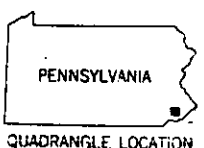
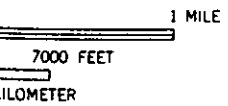
4429

4428000m N.

40° 00'

75° 22' 30"

(LANSDOWNE)
 5863 N NE



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

VALLEY FORGE, PA.