

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# 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. Philip's Episcopal Church

and/or common St. Philip's Church

## 2. Location

street & number Northwest side Main Street (NC 65 & 8),  
just Southwest of junction with Styers Street (SR 1957) not for publication

city, town Germanton \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Fifth

state North Carolina code 037 county Stokes code 169

## 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"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<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 Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

street & number P.O. Box 17025

city, town Raleigh \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state North Carolina 27619

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Stokes County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Danbury \_\_\_\_\_ state North Carolina

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Sites Inventory: Davie, Forsyth, Stokes,  
title and Yadkin Counties has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1976 \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county  local

depository for survey records Northwest North Carolina Historical Association, Inc., c/o North-  
west Piedmont Council of Government, 208 S. Liberty Street

city, town Winston-Salem \_\_\_\_\_ state North Carolina 27101

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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		

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

St. Philip's Episcopal Church is located in the small Stokes County community of Germanton adjacent to the Forsyth County line. Set back primly on its Main Street lot and separated from its surroundings by an ironwork fence, the church is a pristine example of late nineteenth century small town religious architecture. Built between 1887, when land for the church was purchased, and 1894, when the building was consecrated, St. Philip's is an unusually well-preserved representative of the small Gothic Revival board-and-batten churches built across America during the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Influenced by the architecture and writings (Rural Architecture, 1852) of prominent American architect Richard Upjohn, these churches played on the American builder's affinity for wood, and by utilizing the board-and-batten construction technique, emphasized the sense of verticality so essential to the Gothic style.

The design of St. Philip's is composed of a grouping of simple rectangles and squares. The bulk of the church consists of the four-bay-deep rectangular nave, to which is attached the square southeast corner vestibule/bell tower, the nearly square chancel projecting from the north end, and the rectangular vestry room at the northeast corner of the church. While the exterior of St. Philip's is austerely simple, Gothic Revival stylistic features are clearly stated in the use of the board-and-batten siding, the two-level corner tower with bellcast roof, and the lancet doors and stained glass windows, including the traceried front window surmounted by the round "rose" window. (The stained glass altar window is a ca. 1953 replacement of the original window of quatrefoil traceried design, the frame of which remains in storage in the vestry room.) Wooden crosses atop the bellfry and the south gable peak add the finishing touch to the decorative treatment of the exterior.

The foundation of the church consists of a solid brick wall across the front with brick piers along the sides. The rear of the building rests so close to ground level that the foundation is not visible. A small exterior brick chimney rises toward the rear of the west side of the church.

The unpainted interior of St. Phillip's carries out both the simplicity and the Gothic Revival character of the exterior. The walls are composed of a vertical bead-board wainscot with horizontal bead-board above. The bead-board pitched ceiling is supported by five sets of cross rafters in the nave and three sets in the smaller chancel. While the wooden pews are simple in design, the lectern and chancel furniture are more decorative, utilizing the quatrefoil and lancet motifs. St. Philip's has never been electrified and brass and glass kerosene hanging lamps and wall sconce lamps remain intact. A wood stove remains to heat the building.

Through the years St. Philip's has undergone almost no alterations, with a notable exception being the altar window, but at the same time disuse and lack of proper maintenance have adversely affected the building. However, since the summer of 1979 a group of interested people, informally known as the "Friends of St. Philip's", has labored to make necessary repairs to the church, and a \$5,000 grant from the Episcopal Church Foundation has made additional work possible. Accomplished through a phased process of several summers' duration, the repair work has included removal of ivy and painting of the exterior; recaulking of windows; replacement of rotted front steps; repair of water damage to vestibule/tower by replacement of some of the bead board sheathing and corner molding; removal of worn-out red carpet in the nave; repair or replacement of rotten and termite-damaged sills, beams, floor and walls in the vestry room; replacement of the vestry room door frame and outside steps; repair of several of the brick foundation piers; and repair of the roof.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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**                      Unknown                      **Builder/Architect**                      Unknown

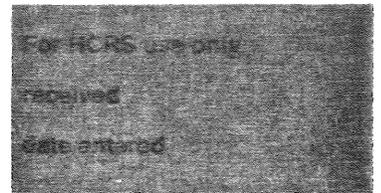
**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, located in the Stokes County community of Germanton, houses an unorganized mission, which despite its small size has held regular services since the building was consecrated in 1894. St. Philip's reached its peak in size in 1895 when it reported twenty-two communicants. Completed in the early 1890s, the church is a nearly unaltered representative of the small Gothic Revival board-and-batten churches built across America during the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Influenced by works such as Rural Architecture (1852) by Richard Upjohn, these churches used board-and-batten construction to achieve the vertical essence of the Gothic style. The interior of St. Philip's remains as it was built including the original kerosene lamps, woodstove, and furniture.

C. St. Philip's Episcopal Church is an excellently preserved example of late nineteenth century ecclesiastical architecture in a small town setting. Reflecting the influence of architectural works such as Richard Upjohn's Rural Architecture (1852), the church is a representative example of the board-and-batten Gothic Revival style churches built across the United States during the mid-to late nineteenth century.

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Continuation sheet    HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE    Item number 8    Page 1

The St. Philip's Episcopal Church is located in the small Stokes County community of Germanton, near the Forsyth County line. The church was completed in the early 1890s. Its congregation has always been small, and for most of its existence the church has had the status of an unorganized mission.

St. Philip's owes its existence largely to the efforts of Reverend Harry Olmsted Lacey (1857-1889). Sporadic attempts had been made to organize a mission in Germanton as early as 1878. Little was accomplished, however, until the Brooklyn born Lacey took over the work in Stokes County in 1887 and established missions in Germanton and Walnut Cove. In 1888 Lacey reported to the Episcopal Convention that "the congregation has bought a fine lot for a church, cost \$175.00. They have also about \$400.00 toward a building." Lacey reported that the congregation was comprised of six families and fifteen communicants.<sup>1</sup> The next year it was reported that Lacey was ill and inadequate funds were hindering the construction of the church. Reverend Louis Williams reported that "a handsome lot stands waiting to receive a church building." Lacey died late in that year of bronchial consumption. The uncompleted building was called a "monument of his faith and zeal."<sup>2</sup>

In 1891 it was reported to the convention that "a beautiful little church is about completed which is entirely free from debt and will be consecrated by the Bishop during the coming summer . . . There is a very earnest and energetic band of church people at this point. . . . The future seems bright for the church." The church still reported fifteen communicants.<sup>3</sup> Bishop Theodore Lyman preached at the church in both 1892 and 1893 but did not consecrate it, most likely because the building had not been completed, either because of a lack of funds or difficulty in securing the services of a minister.<sup>4</sup> After the death of Lacey, St. Philip's had new ministers in 1889, 1890, 1891, and 1892. It was forced to share its minister with the church in Walnut Cove, and frequently with other churches in the area, including those in Mount Airy, Elkin, and Mayodan.<sup>5</sup>

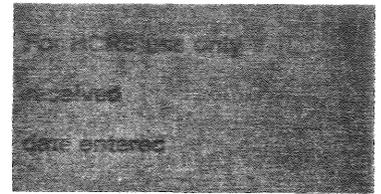
St. Philip's was formally consecrated by Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire, Jr. on February 8, 1894. At the time the church had nine families and twenty communicants. The estimated value of the church and land was \$1,500. The next year the congregation consisted of twenty-two communicants. This would be the largest number of communicants the church would attain.<sup>6</sup>

In 1896 James H. Williams took over as minister. He remained at St. Philip's until 1904, the longest tenure of any minister at the church.<sup>7</sup> In 1899, with the number of communicants down to fifteen, Williams reported that "this church has been greatly weakened during the past twelve months by removals to Winston."<sup>8</sup> The size of the congregation remained relatively stable until after the Second World War, with a range of from nine to fifteen communicants from 1905 until 1947.<sup>9</sup> St. Philip's had numerous ministers during this period. Those with the longest period of service were W. Lawton Mellichampe, 1907-1909; Arthur W. Taylor, 1915-1918; James Reginald Mallett, 1919-1922; Arthur H. Marshall, 1926-1928; Daniel W. Allen, 1929-1931; Edwin W. Hurst, 1932-1934; Alfred Stratton Lawrence, Jr., 1939-1944; and Franklin Friley Fagan, III, 1962-1964. During this period St. Philip's usually had between ten and twenty annual services.<sup>10</sup>

At the present time St. Philip's is without a minister. It has five communicants and services are held weekly from June until October, with the help of clergy of one of several nearby churches.<sup>11</sup> Most of the Episcopal Church's impact in North Carolina has been in urban settings. St. Philip's is highly representative of the state's few rural Episcopal churches.

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Continuation sheet    Historical Significance    Item number 8

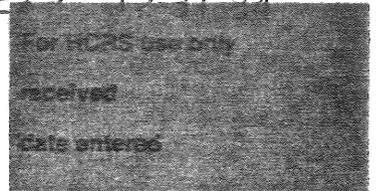
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The church, of course, is closely related to the surrounding environment. Archeological remains, such as trash pits, wells, and structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the church. Information concerning use patterns, social standing and mobility, as well as structural details are often only evident in the archeological record. Therefore, archeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the church. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is probable that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

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NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Journal of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of North Carolina (Raleigh: Greensboro and other cities: various publishers, published annually from 1817 until the present), 1888, p. 101; 1890, p. 15, hereinafter cited as Episcopal Journal, with appropriate year. In 1887 E. J. Styres sold 2/7 acre to the congregation for \$175.00. The property was formally conveyed to the Episcopal Church in 1894. Stokes County Deed Book 29, p. 223; Book 35, p. 389.

<sup>2</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1889, p. 11, 95; 1890, p. 15.

<sup>3</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1891, p. 99.

<sup>4</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1892, p. 61; 1893, p. 72.

<sup>5</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1889-1967, passim.

<sup>6</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1894, p. 81, 110; 1895, p. 85.

<sup>7</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1896-1904, passim.

<sup>8</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1899, p. 83.

<sup>9</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1905-1947, passim.

<sup>10</sup>Episcopal Journal, 1905-1967, passim.

<sup>11</sup>Telephone interview with Mrs. Carol Penick, June 18, 1981, notes in file.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Walnut Cove

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	7	5	6	8	6	1	1	0	4	1	0	1	2	8	1	1	0
Zone			Easting						Northing								

B 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

C 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

D 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

E 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

F 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

G 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

H 

Zone			Easting						Northing								

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property, located on Main Street in Germanton consists of Parcel 1 of Tax Map 174-D, Stokes County, North Carolina and measures 85' x 140' (approximately). It is outlined in red on the attached map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A.W. Phillips, Consultant  
Jim Sumner, Researcher

organization Survey & Planning Branch  
Archeology & Historic Preservation Section date September, 1981

street & number Division of Archives & History  
109 East Jones Street telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina @7608

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

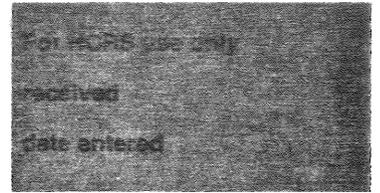
State Historic Preservation Officer signature William S. P... [Signature]

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6.2.82

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	date
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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Continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY

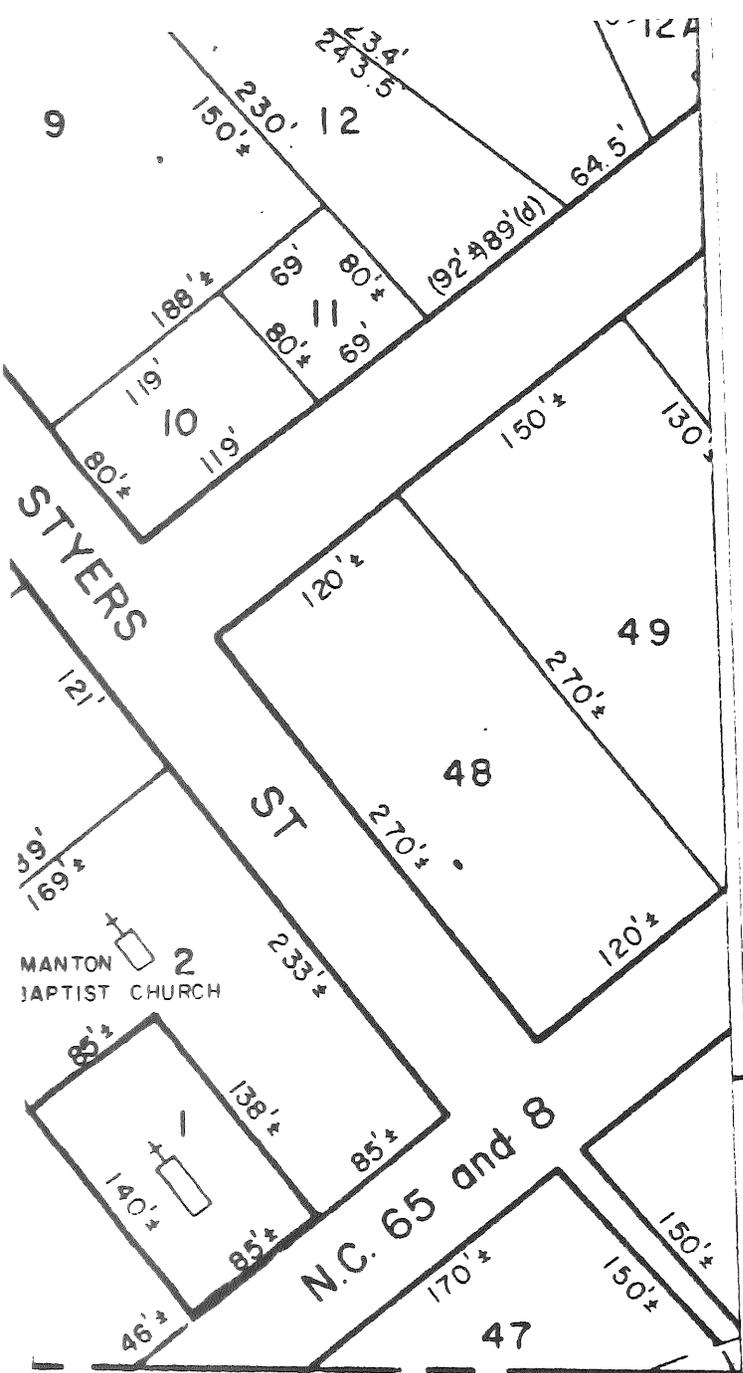
Item number 9

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Journal of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of North Carolina.  
Raleigh, Greensboro, and other cities: Various publishers, 1888-1967.

Penick, Mrs. Carol. Telephone interview with. June 18, 1981. Notes in file.

Stokes County Deed Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.



**— LEGEND —**

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| PROPERTY LINE —————       | TAX LOT NO. ....     |
| CITY LIMIT LINE - - - - - | TAX BLOCK NO. ....   |
| COUNTY LINE ————          | LEGAL LOT NO. ....   |
| TOWNSHIP LINE ————        | LEGAL BLOCK NO. .... |
| SCHOOL ..... □            | SUBDIVISION CORNERS  |
| CHURCH ..... □            | ADJOINING MAP NO.    |
| CEMETERY ..... †          | WATER LINE ~~~~~     |

TOWNSHIP MEADOWS

MAP COMPILED BY J.S. DATE 3/

COMPILATION EDIT BY P.G. DATE 3/

MAP INKED BY R.L.P. DATE 3/

INK EDIT BY D.R. DATE 3/

**REVISIONS**

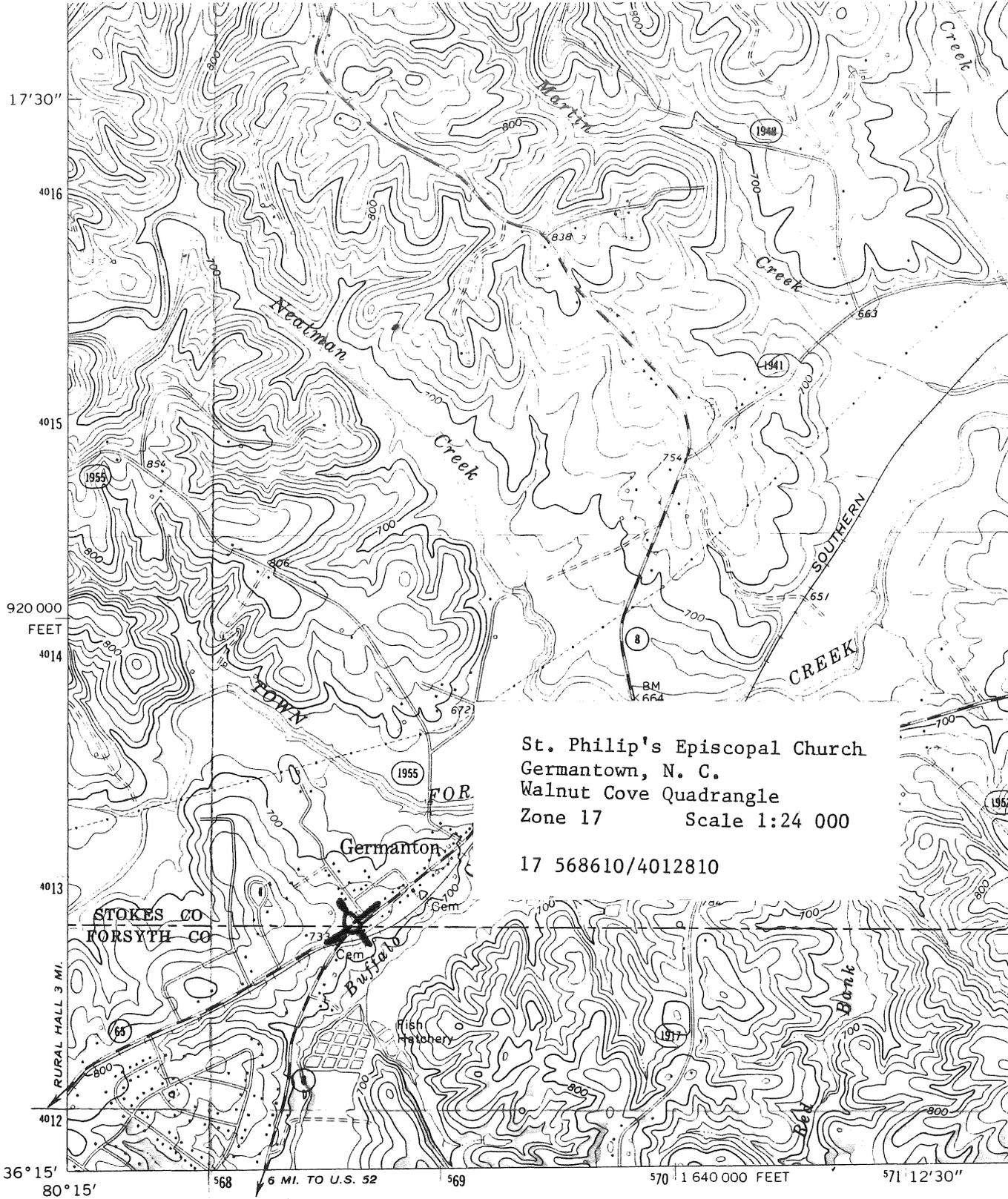

**SUBDIVISION REFERENCE**

Nº	SUBDIVISION	P.B.	PG.	Nº	SUBDIVISION

**— MAP NO. —**

**174-D**

**ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

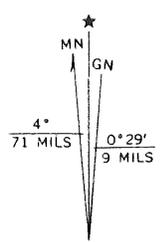


St. Philip's Episcopal Church  
 Germantown, N. C.  
 Walnut Cove Quadrangle  
 Zone 17      Scale 1:24 000

17 568610/4012810

(RURAL HALL)  
 4956 III NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS and USC&GS  
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
 taken 1966. Field checked 1971  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on North Carolina coordinate system  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 17, shown in blue



UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



六五

SUMMER  
SERVICES  
Sweet Spot