

St. Barnabas' Church, Leeland Episcopal / Anglican
P.O. Box 4528, 14111 Oak Grove Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20775

The Rev. Lawrence R. Harris, Jr. Rector

Genealogical Research

Thank you for your inquiry asking for information from the historical records of St. Barnabas' Church. Queen Anne Parish, for which St. Barnabas' is the parish church, was established in 1704. There have been three buildings for worship on or near the present site. The first was a wooden chapel-of-ease which was probably built in the late 1600's as part of St. Paul's Parish, Baden. Shortly after Queen Anne Parish was established by dividing the northern and southern portions of St. Paul's Parish, the Vestry built a small brick church on land given by John and Mary Duvall. This building was replaced in 1774 by the present church, which was restored under the direction of Mr. William Macomber, a well-known colonial architect, in 1974.

The earliest records of the church, which include both minutes of vestry meetings and records of baptisms and marriages are kept in the Hall of Records in Annapolis, Maryland. They cover the years 1686 to 1777. The Vestry Minutes cover the period from 1706-1773. They are bound in red leather. In the back of the book is a section containing listings of births and marriages.

The Historical Society of Prince George's County has published the records of four of the county's oldest parishes: St. Paul's Parish, Prince George's Parish, King George's Parish, and Queen Anne Parish. Our records are the latter. Copies of this two-volume publication are available in many of the Public Libraries in Prince George's County.

Unfortunately, all the parish records from 1777 up to 1901, the date of last record in the Historical Society Book, were lost in a rectory fire which apparently occurred around 1890. No information for this period is available.

The current records of the church, which begin with entries in 1901, are kept here in the Church Office. We are willing to allow persons to view the entries if the time is convenient with the Church Secretary and/or receptionist at Queen Anne School. No children or pets, please.

Another publication that people doing genealogical research have found useful is a book called *Stones and Bones*. A recent updated version of this book, which is a listing of every burial in every cemetery in Prince George's County, is also available in many of the County Libraries.