### 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, 02810

**Code:**
- 44

**County:**
- Newport

**Code:**
- 005

### 3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category (Check One)</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Accessible to the Public</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ District</td>
<td>□ Public</td>
<td>□ Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: □ Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Site</td>
<td>□ Private</td>
<td>□ In Process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Structure</td>
<td>□ Both</td>
<td>□ Being Considered</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Object</td>
<td>□ Public Acquisition</td>
<td>□ Preservation work in progress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Present Use (Check One or More as Appropriate):**
- □ Agricultural
- □ Commercial
- □ Educational
- □ Entertainment
- □ Government
- □ Industrial
- □ Military
- □ Religious
- □ Transportation
- □ Other (Specify)

### 4. Owner of Property

**Owner's Name:**
- Shiloh Baptist Society

**Street and Number:**
- 25 School Street

**City or Town:**
- Newport

**State:**
- Rhode Island, 02810

**Code:**
- 44

### 5. Location of Legal Description

**Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc.:**
- City Hall

**Street and Number:**
- Broadway

**City or Town:**
- Newport

**State:**
- Rhode Island, 02810

**Code:**
- 44

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

**Title of Survey:**
- Rhode Island Statewide Survey of Historic Buildings

**Date of Survey:**
- 1970

**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
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 1714; 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 21 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 1881 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.)
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.
Nathaniel Kay, collector of customs in Newport in the reign of Queen Anne, died in 1731, 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 1731 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 1866 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.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mason, George Champlin: Annals of Trinity Church ... (Newport, Rhode Island, 1891), pp. 28, 36, 71, 75-76, 83, 84, 87-89, 201, 212, 219, 220.
Trinity Church, Newport, Rhode Island: Vestry records, pp. 2-56.
Jeters, Henry N.: Twenty-five Years' Experience With The Shiloh Baptist Church ... (Providence, Rhode Island, 1901), pp. 5-9, 12-18.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFining A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<td>71° 18' 15&quot; W</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0° 29' 17&quot; N</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>0° 29' 17&quot; N</td>
<td>71° 18' 15&quot; W</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF Nominated Property:

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

STATE: CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

Ruth Kennedy Myers

ORGANIZATION
Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
State House, 90 Smith Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Providence

STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Rhode Island, 02903

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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
   - **COUNTY**: Newport

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.
**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)*

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**PROPERTY INFORMATION**

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**IDENTIFICATION**

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**

Interior, looking east towards main entrance and gallery.
<table>
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<tr>
<td>DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.:</td>
<td>Ground-level plan of church and southern addition in 1971.</td>
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Trinity School House
(Siloh Baptist Church)
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)

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
   CODE 44
   COUNTY: Newport
   CODE 005

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° 20' 17" N
Longitude: 71° 18' 45" W
Snz0 = Snz

In

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

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
   CODE 141
   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.