

An Introduction to the Histories of Christ Church

There have been three published histories of Christ Church, Pottstown, PA, through 1939 by William Herbert Blake, in 1964 by

The first, by Wm. Blake, was commissioned by the Vestry when it was discovered that the Diocese had no copy of the Articles of Incorporation of the parish. Mr. Price was the Rector's Warden and wrote his history largely from the historical minutes of the Vestry. It reads much like Vestry minutes, including much detail but refraining from analysis.

The second, by Cmdr. Morison Blake, USNR (Ret.) derived from Mr. Blake's history, but abbreviated and with commentary, then extending to the departure of Rev. Lineker and the selection of Rev. Wilfred Penny .

The third is in the editing process and will be available soon (for certain undefined values of "soon." By Robert E. Day, PE, it was written in pursuit of a grant, briefly reviews the previous two works and continues thru early 1997. Day notes that it was intended to be a permanent work-in-process, and ends in early 1998. His work appears to be a series of summaries of *Annual Reports* thru the Annual Meeting of 1998 with a number of useful appendices.

One comment, made to this editor was that Day's history was written when he had been here for only a short period and could include inaccuracies. Since the work is primarily from Annual Reports it seems likely that the inaccuracies would be attributable to those, but verifying this statement, or the accuracy of any of the histories, is a future project for anyone who is interested.

Editing Notes:

I have attempted to maintain the grammar and spelling of the originals (which at times is idiosyncratic) and have approximated as closely as possible the page layout.

The documents were digitized by scanning into MS Word then converting to a PDF format. The process produces errors which I have tried to correct, but if you detect any that I have missed, please let me know. I have also left unchanged the authors' grammar and stylistic idiosyncrasies.

If you would like a copy of the MS Word version, please let me know.

Yours in Christ,

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