

CAPSULE SUMMARY

BA - 633

Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church

1415 Oakland Road

Freeland, Baltimore County

1900

Private

The Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church dates to a turn-of-the-20th century period of development in the small town of Oakland Station, a community located along the Northern Central Railroad in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. Constructed in 1900, the building is representative of the many Gothic Revival style churches built in small towns and rural communities throughout Baltimore County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This building is at least the second church to be constructed for this congregation, for an earlier church is indicated in the 1877 county atlas. Oakland Station began to develop after 1850, and by the late 1870s, the town comprised several residences, a school house, and the church, nearly all of which were centered around the intersection of the railroad and Oakland Road. After this initial period of development, Oakland Station—which is now known merely as Oakland—did not expand beyond its borders or population density.

The Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church is a one-and-a-half-story, three-bay wide Gothic Revival style building of wood frame construction clad in vinyl siding. The building, which sits on a random rubble stone foundation, features a front gable roof clad in standing seam metal. The façade fronts north and is dominated by a two-story wood frame bell tower with a steeply pitched pyramidal roof clad in wood shingles. The sloping second story of the tower is finished with alternating rows of square butt and octagonal wood shingles. Entry into the building is gained through the east elevation of the tower, which is pierced by one paneled double-leaf wood door with a multi-light pointed arch transom. The remaining two sides of the tower feature lancet-arched 4/4 windows, while two lancet-arched 4/4 windows on the main block flank the tower. A one-story canted apse with a half-hipped roof extends from the rear of the three-bay deep structure. A stretcher bond exterior chimney with a corbeled cap is located beside the apse. The accompanying cemetery of roughly fifteen graves is arranged into three north-south rows that face west. All grave markers are upright slabs of granite and marble. The cemetery was established in the 1870s and interment was discontinued after the 1920s.

7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 1633

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

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8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 633

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates

Evaluation for:
 National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church dates to a turn-of-the-20th century period of development in the small town of Oakland Station, a community located along the Northern Central Railroad in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. Constructed in 1900, the building is representative of the many Gothic Revival style churches built in small towns and rural communities throughout Baltimore County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This building is at least the second church to be constructed for this congregation, for an earlier church is indicated in the 1877 county atlas. The community of Oakland Station was nearly non-existent in the mid-19th century, for the majority of lands that it now comprises were primarily farms owned by the Hunt, Lowe, and Williams families.¹ The community began to develop after 1850, and by the late 1870s, the town comprised several residences, a school house, and the church, nearly all of which were centered around the intersection of the railroad and Oakland Road.² After this initial period of development, Oakland Station—which is now known merely as Oakland—did not expand beyond its borders or population density. Oakland retains its overall rural character.³

¹ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).
² *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).
³ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 633

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name New Freedom Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1900, the Oakland Methodist Episcopal Church has been associated with the 1.5 acre of land known as tax parcel 41 of map 2 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

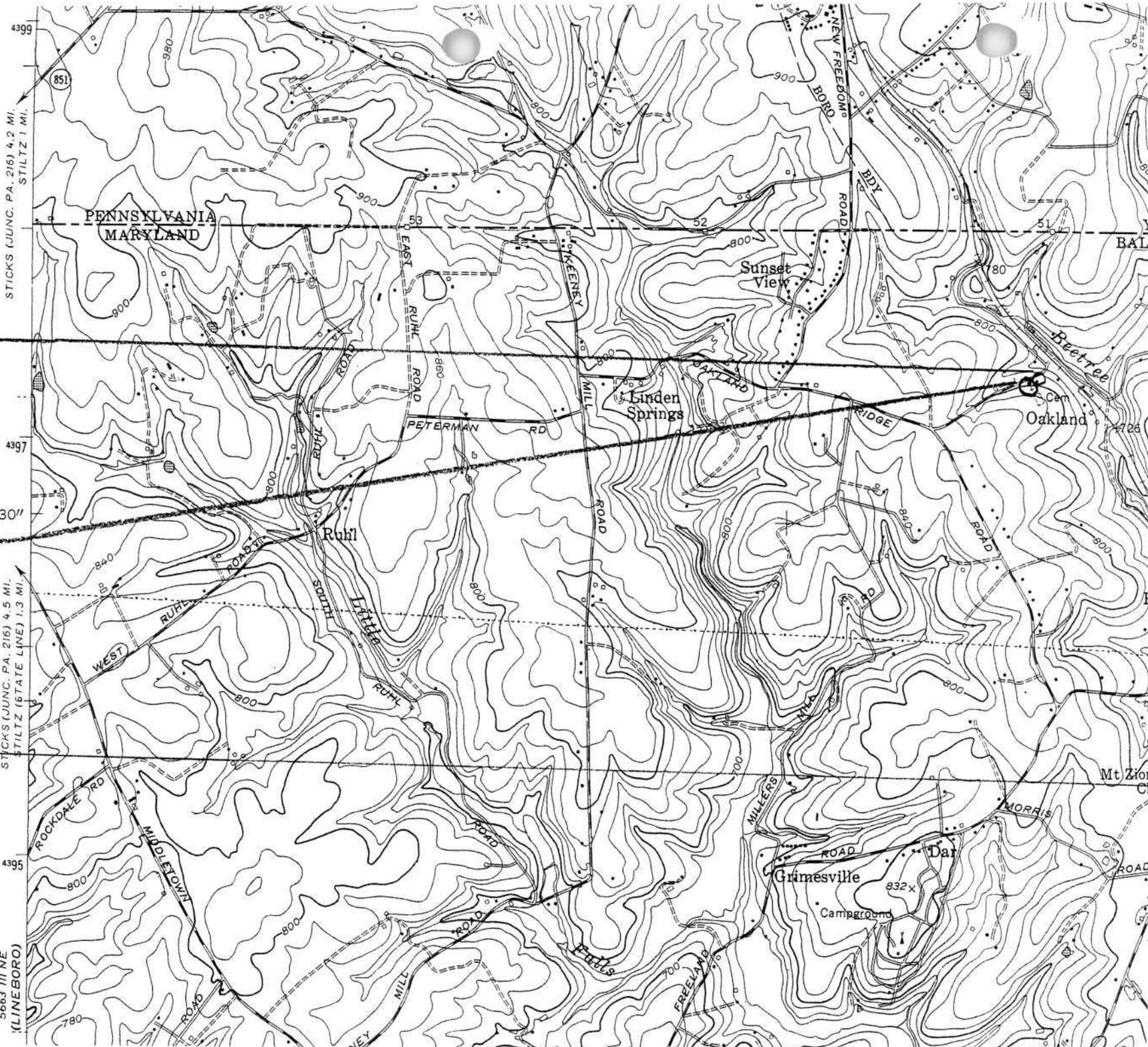
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 4, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

NEW FREEDOM
QUADRANGLE



STICKS (JUNC. PA. 216) 4.2 MI.
STILTZ 1 MI.

4397

42/30"

STICKS (JUNC. PA. 216) 4.5 MI.
STILTZ (STATE LINE) 1.3 MI.

4395

5663 III NE
(LINEBORO)

BA-0632
1415 OAKLAND AVENUE
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1633
1415 OAKLAND ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY

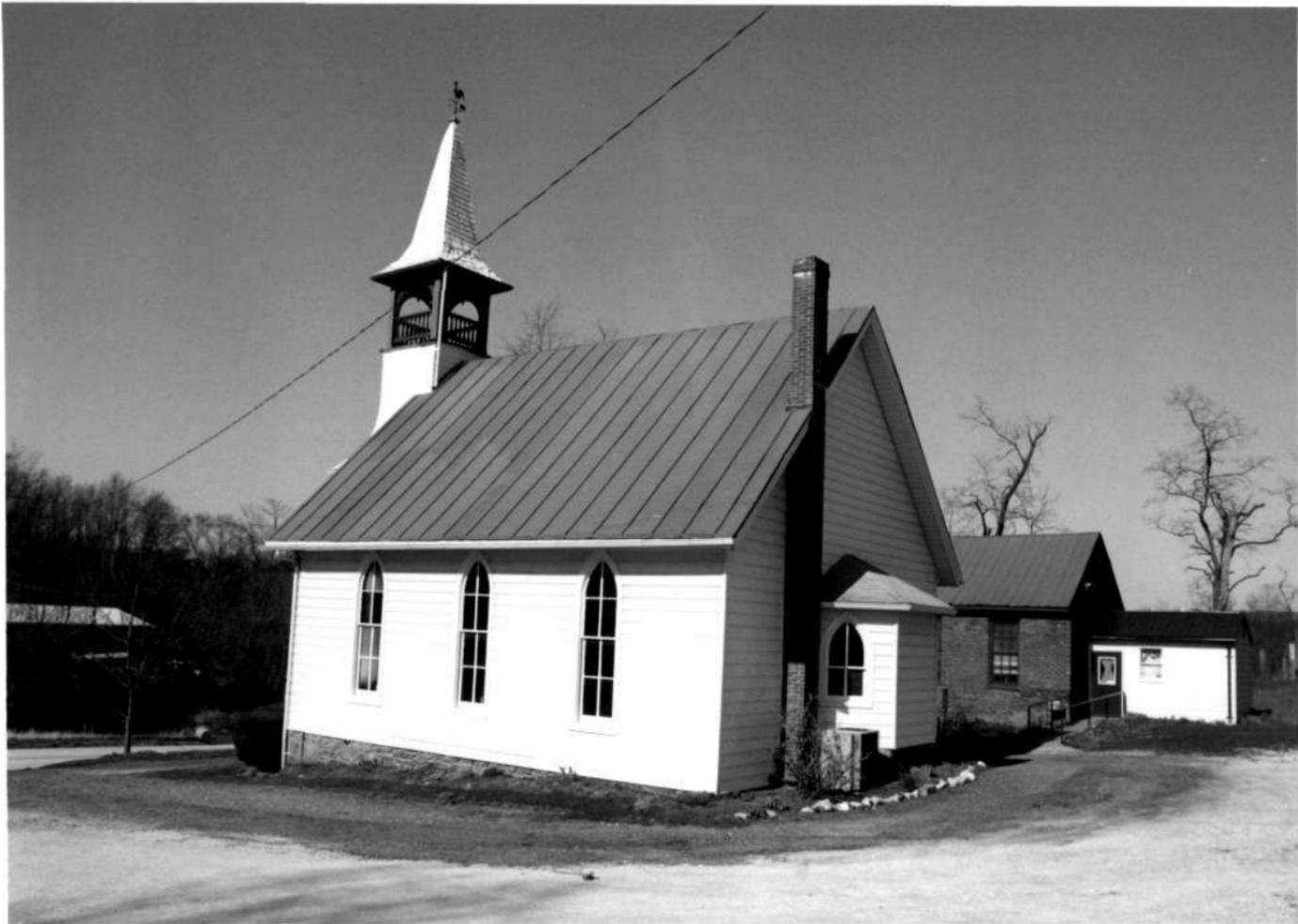
BA-1364
MT. ZION U.M. CHURCH
2091 MT. ZION ROAD
FREELAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1223



BA-0633
1415 OAKLAND AVENUE
OAKLAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRAILERES
4/2001
MD-SHPD
NE CORNER

1 of 3



BA-633
1415 OAKLAND AVENUE
OAKLAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
412001
MD-SHPD
SW CORNER

2 of 3



BA-633
1415 OAKLAND AVENUE
OAKLAND
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRALELIES
4/2001
MO-SHPO
CEMETERY

3 of 3

BA-633
Oakland Methodist Church
1415 Oakland Road
(south side, just west of BA-632)
Oakland

1900

The congregation here was formally organized in 1870, and the first church was built on land furnished by William H. Hoffman, the paper maker, and his wife Sophia. The present structure dates to the reconstruction of 1900; there is no cornerstone.

The frame building is of Victorian Gothic style, and is three bays deep. There is a central entrance spire with a door on the east side. This has a belfry with a spoked railing, with imbricated shingling on the belfry base, and shingle roofing on the spire. The nave has a tin gable roof. The church is currently covered with plastic siding resembling clapboard. It has a stone foundation.