

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes   
no

Property Name: Falls Road United Methodist Church Inventory Number: BA-845

Address: East side of Falls Road North of Stringtown Road City: Butler Zip Code: 21023

County: Baltimore County USGS Topographic Map: Hereford

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Is the property being evaluated a district?  yes

Tax Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: Butler Stone Quarry Agency: Federal Communications Commission

Site visit by MHT staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the property is located within a historic district?  yes  no

<i>If the property is within a district</i>	District Inventory Number: <u>BA-2215</u>
NR-listed district <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes Eligible district <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Name of District: <u>Worthington Valley</u>
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Non-contributing but eligible in another context <input type="checkbox"/> yes	

<i>If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)</i>	Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
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Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:  
Maryland Historical Trust Library, Crownsville, Maryland

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Falls Road United Methodist Church was most recently observed and photographed in February 2003. Its condition was largely unchanged since the preparation of the State Historic Sites Inventory Form in the library of the Maryland Historical Trust, dated September 1976

The property is described in the following document(s) located at the Maryland Historical Trust Library:

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form, by Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr., September 1976.

The following observations were made during the visit to the property:

The building is a rural church structure constructed on property that has remained associated with religious use since 1876. The first church was erected on the site in 1876 after the property was sold to the Trustees of the United Brethren in Christ. The land originally was part of Richard Johns' Black Rock Farm. The church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1914, owing in part to a

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
MHT Comments: <u>Contributes to NRHD</u>	
<u>James J. Tall</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>6/11/03</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>6/20/03</u> Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Falls Road United Methodist Church

Inventory Number: BA-845

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sum bequeathed to the church by Miss Rebecca Cole, who is memorialized by a window placed where the original main entrance had been. The building reflects the simplicity of the congregation for which it was erected, and is qualified for registration under Criterion C, Design/Construction. Criteria Consideration A, Religious Properties, is applicable. Criteria Consideration D, Cemeteries, may also apply to the cemetery adjoining the church to the north.

Prepared by: William C. Riggs, RA Date Prepared: 5/19/2003



MN 11° TN



Map created with TOPO! © 2002 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

**SITE VICINITY MAP**  
 Hereford Quadrangle, MD  
 (Dated 1991)  
 SCALE: As Shown



**Determination of Eligibility**  
 Falls Road United Methodist Church  
 (BA-845)  
 Falls Road  
 Butler, Baltimore Co., Maryland 21023



FALLS ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BA-845

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TAKEN BY: KATHRYN ELGIN

DATE: FEB 2003

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: MARYLAND SHPO

*Falls Road United Methodist Church*

*Butler, MD 21136 BA-845*

*02-03*



FALLS ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BA-845

BALTIMORE CO., MD

PHOTO BY: J. SMITH

2103

NEGATIVE LOG.: WMD SHRQ

Falls Road United Methodist Church

Butler, MD 21136

BA-845

02-03

Falls Road United Methodist  
Church  
East side of Falls Road north  
of Stringtown Road  
Restricted accessibility  
1876; rebuilt 1914

This rural church building reflects the simplicity of the congregation for which it was erected. The land, originally part of Richard Johns' Black Rock Farm, was sold to the Trustees of the Society of United Brethren in Christ in 1876. The first church was erected in the same year. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1914, through the generosity of Rebecca Cole who left \$1000 for that purpose and stipulated that the building should contain a Sunday School room in its basement. A memorial window to Miss Cole was placed in the northwest facade where the original main entrance had been. A cemetery adjoins the church to the north.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Falls Road United Methodist Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

East side of Falls Road north of Stringtown Road

CITY, TOWN

Butler

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees of the Falls Road United

Telephone #: 472-2290

STREET & NUMBER

Methodist Church

c/o Irving Naylor, 2714 Black Rock Road

CITY, TOWN

Reisterstown

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21136

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 110

Folio #: 413

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Powson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Falls Road Methodist Church is a frame church five bays in length, its end facing the road to the west; extending from its south side, with east walls flush, is a two-bay educational wing of equal height. A square tower rises from the southwest corner formed by the church and the wing; the principal entrance is in the first storey of the tower and the tower's dimensions reduce above the adjacent church cornice, above which point the walls are covered with diamond-butted wood shingles; a square belfry rises above the shingled walls, topped with a concave pyramidal slated spire. Jig-sawn spandrels between the corner columns and the spire roof beams form a semi-circular arch. All other exterior walls are covered with aluminum siding, recently installed. Gables are said to have been covered with wood shingles, the bottom line of the shingled areas arched to reflect the three pointed-arched Gothic-revival windows below. Side windows of the church are rectangular with sliding sash containing leaded opalescent glass in geometric designs, the principal design being a single pointed-arch lancet within each rectangular opening. Three west end windows of the church and the two south end windows of the educational wing have pointed-arched tops; they, too, are fitted with sliding sash, their wooden muntins describing two lancets.

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PA-5-46

# 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 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 1876; rebuilt 1914 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This rural church building reflects the simplicity of the congregation for which it was erected. The land was originally part of Richard Johns' Black Rock Farm. It was sold to the Trustees of the Society of United Brethren in Christ at Black Rock in 1876 by Shadrach Kemp. The first church was erected in the same year and was so small that it was locally known as the "Pepper Box".

In October, 1885, the congregation became part of the Hereford Circuit of the Methodist Church and remained in the circuit until 1959 at which time it became a station. In June, 1970, Falls Road United Methodist Church joined Salem United Brethren congregation in Hereford and they now share a minister.

The church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1914, owing in part to the generosity of Miss Rebecca Cole who had left \$1,000 for that purpose and stipulated that the building should contain a Sunday School room in its basement. A fine memorial window to Miss Cole was placed in the northwest facade where the door had originally been, and other improvements were added.

A cemetery adjoins the church to the north.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Telephone interview with Rev. O.F. Kibbe (November, 1976).

Will of Rebecca Cole: Will Liber WJP folio 221, Baltimore County Courthouse.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/2 acres ±

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 continued

Interior walls and ceilings are wainscotted with narrow beaded material and the walls are divided horizontally into three fields; below the chair rail, wainscotting is vertical; a band of horizontal wainscotting is above the chair rail and above that are panels of diagonal wainscotting alternating in direction.

A marble cornerstone in the southwest corner of the rubble stone foundation is inscribed on its long west face

FALLS ROAD M. E. CHURCH  
REBUILT 1914  
IN MEMORY OF  
MISS REBACCA COLE

and on its shorter south face

1876