

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CARR. 84
Magi No. 0700846027
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic STRAWBRIDGE LOG MEETING HOUSE (site)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Marston Road, Approx. .4 mile west of Marston (MD 407) not for publication

city, town New Windsor vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carroll County Courthouse Annex liber

street & number 55 N. Court St. folio

city, town Westminster, state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date 1970's federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

SUMMARY: The Strawbridge Log Meeting House was built about 1764 by Robert Strawbridge, the first preacher of Methodism in the United States. A stone monument was erected at the site of the church in 1914 and a State Highway Historical Marker stands on Marston Road near the site. The Methodist Centenary Album states that the log structure was almost square - 24 feet by 24 feet, three inches. Other local histories state that the building had openings on three sides for windows and on the fourth for a door. The artist's representation of the church in the Methodist Centenary Album was used by the Strawbridge Shrine Association for the 1982 replica constructed at the Strawbridge Methodist Shrine.

DESCRIPTION: The building once stood in a field approximately .4 mile west of Marston. A State Highways Historical Marker is located on Marton Road near the site and a stone monument was erected on the church site in 1914 which reads, "The First Preacher of American Methodism Robert Strawbridge arrived in Frederick County about 1760, Died 1781. On this spot stood the Log Meeting House erected about 1764. The First Methodist Meeting House in America."

The Historical Record differs somewhat on the appearance of the building. Bowen states that it was about 22 feet square, with openings on three sides for windows and on the fourth for a door. He also states that it was torn down in 1820 when a Mr. Engle used the logs to construct a barn. The authors of Methodist Centenary Album state that they inspected the barn and measured the logs at 23 feet and 23 feet three inches, and also located from marks in the logs the locations of the door and windows. An artist's representation from this inspection was used by the Strawbridge Shrine Association (except that the drawing shows a weatherboard covering and the replica has exposed logs) to construct a replica at the Strawbridge Shrine (CARR - 86).

8. Significance

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CARR-84

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1764 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY: The Strawbridge Log Meeting House was the first church constructed specifically for Methodist worship in the United States. Robert Strawbridge had organized a Methodist class meeting in his home about 1760. This group erected a log meeting house, architecturally typical of log churches in this region, about 1764. In 1914, the Methodist Historical Association erected a stone monument on the site of the church.

1. STATE COUNTY TOWN VICINITY STREET NO. ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY 2. NAME <i>Strawbridge Meeting Hse</i> DATE OR PERIOD STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
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4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION <p style="text-align: right;">OPEN TO PUBLIC</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Monument of granite & bronze plaque on or near site of Rev. Strawbridge's orig. log methodist meeting house. (1st. Methodist meeting house in country).</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(see map for location)</i></p>

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE	Endangered	Interior	Exterior
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6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
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8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.
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9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <i>Riviere</i> DATE OF RECORD
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



STRAWBRIDGE LOG MEETING HOUSE SITE

BUILT IN 1764 BY ROBERT STRAWBRIDGE.
THE FIRST METHODIST PLACE OF WORSHIP
ERECTED IN AMERICA. SUCCESSORS ARE
STONE CHAPEL (1783) 3 MILES NORTHEAST
AND BETHEL (1821) 1 MILE SOUTH.



METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1964



1. CARR-84 STRAWBRIDGE LOG MTG HOUSE
2. Carroll County, Md.
3. Joe Getty
4. February 1985
5. Historical marker
6. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis Md.
7. 1/2



1. CARR-84 STRAWBRIDGE LOG MEETING HSI
2. Carroll County, Md.
3. Joe Getty
4. February 1985
5. North & west elev. (cam. fac. se)
6. Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.
7. 2/2