

F-4-54

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
Myersville vicinity
Private

1899

The Grossnickle Church of the Brethren is a 1-1/2 story brick meeting house built in 1899 to replace a log or frame church built in 1847. The building has a 7-bay east elevation with two main entrances with double doors ornamented with beveled raised panels and three-light transoms. A third door has a single 6-panel door. The window openings have segmental arches with decorative incised wood infills below the arches. The gable roof is pressed metal and standing seam metal. A 1965 educational section adjoins the meeting house on the west elevation and a shed dormer added at about the same time raises the west slope of the meeting house roof. A modern handicapped entrance is located on the south elevation. A cemetery adjoins the church on the northwest. The original part of the 1899 building is a fair example of the meeting house type of church favored by the German Baptist or Dunkard congregations in the 19th century. The attic half-story may be a refinement to the type resulting from the need for extra space for love feasts and other religious activities of the sect. Grossnickle Church marks the location of one of the first permanent churches of the Brethren in the Middletown Valley. From about 1760 to the 1840's, services had been held in private homes and barns because of the small number of members. By the middle of the 19th century, travel had become easier and settlement of additional members had reached the point that a permanent building for worship was needed.

F-4-54
Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
Myersville
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
Religion

Resource Types:

Category: Building

Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Religion/religious structure/church

Known Design Source: None

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
Frederick County

SURVEY NO. F-4-54

9.1 Bibliography (Continued)

Moser, Ira C. The History of Myersville, 1905. Reprinted and additional material added by Thomas Rose and Charles S. Martin, 1971.

Titus, C.O. Atlas of Frederick County, 1873.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Wolfsville Road and Meeting Hou not for publicationcity, town Myersville vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" 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 Grossnickle Church of the Brethren

street & number Rt. 1 telephone no.:

city, town Myersville state and zip code Md. 21773

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio

city, town Frederick state Md. 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-54

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

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

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Grossnickle Church of the Brethren is a 1-1/2 story brick meeting house built in 1899 located on the northwest corner of Wolfsville Road and Meeting House Road near Myersville, Frederick County, Maryland. The building has a 1965 education addition on the west elevation and a handicapped entry vestibule on the south elevation. The church is sited at the foot of a hillside on which the cemetery is located, extending toward the northwest from the building. An illuminated wood cross stands on a rocky outcrop at the top of the hill.

The 1899 meeting house is a rectangular brick structure on a stone foundation with a gable roof. The east elevation faces Wolfsville Road and has seven bays. The three entrances alternate with windows of 4/4 sash flanked by modern louvred shutters. The openings have segmental arches with wood infill panels ornamented with incised designs. Two of the doorways have double doors with raised, beveled panels. The third door near the northeast corner is a single 6-panel door. Above the doors are three-light transoms of painted glass. On the south gable end are three bays and an interior end chimney. The upper level has two windows with 6/6 sash. At the southeast corner is a marble cornerstone inscribed "Grossnickle's Church, Built 1847, Rebuilt 1899". The north elevation has an exterior chimney and the same bay configuration as the south elevation. The gable roof is covered with pressed metal on the east slope and standing seam on the west. The west roof al. has a shed dormer probably added in 1965 with the educational section. The interior of the church was not accessible for this survey; however, the sanctuary was renovated in 1969, according to The History of Wolfsville and the Catoctin District.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" 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 1899 **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.

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren is a fair example of the meeting house type of church built during the 19th century by the German Baptist or "Dunkard" congregations in Frederick County. The Grossnickle Church of 1899 replaced a frame or log structure built on the site in 1847. The 1899 structure included a large attic space which was used for love feasts and other Brethren activities, which may be a refinement of the original single level meeting house type. An early example of the meeting house type is the Beaver Dam Church of the Brethren (F-8-106) near Johnsville, built in 1832, which has no apparent upper level. The Grossnickle Church attic has been converted to Sunday School rooms. The church is also significant in religion as marking the location of one of the first Brethren church buildings in the Middletown Valley. Prior to the 1840's, Brethren services had been held in private homes and barns. The sect had been active in the area since about 1760, but the sparse population of the upper Middletown Valley provided only small groups of worshipers who met with lay preachers in homes until settlement and road travel had progressed to the point where regular meetings could be held and the numbers of congregants outgrew the home sites.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-4-54

Bond, Isaac, Map of Frederick County, 1858.

Martin, Charles S., and Tom Rose. The History of Wolfsville and the Catoctin District
Wolfsville Ruritan Club, 1972.

(Continued on separate sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name Myersville, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Concurrent with lot marked + at n.e. corner of Wolfsville and Meeting House
Roads on Tax Map 38

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Frederick County Planning & Zoning Dept. date April 1992

street & number 12 E. Church Street telephone 696-2958

city or town Frederick state MD 21701

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

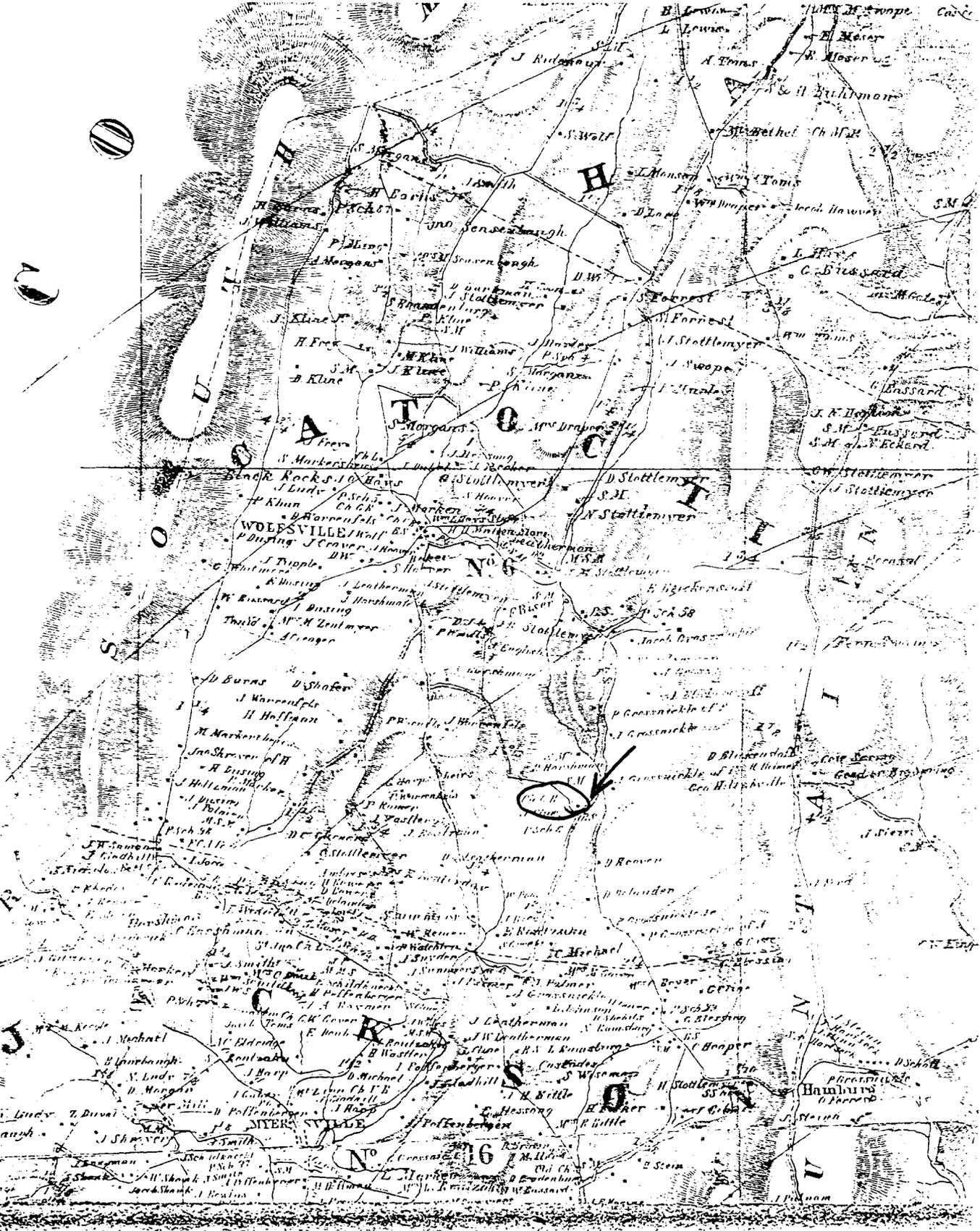
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCC
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

Neigh-
 laid down by
 dwellings when
 es, Mills, &c.,
 abbreviations, viz:
 E—Episcopal,
 rman Reformed,
 M—Methodist
 et : F M H—

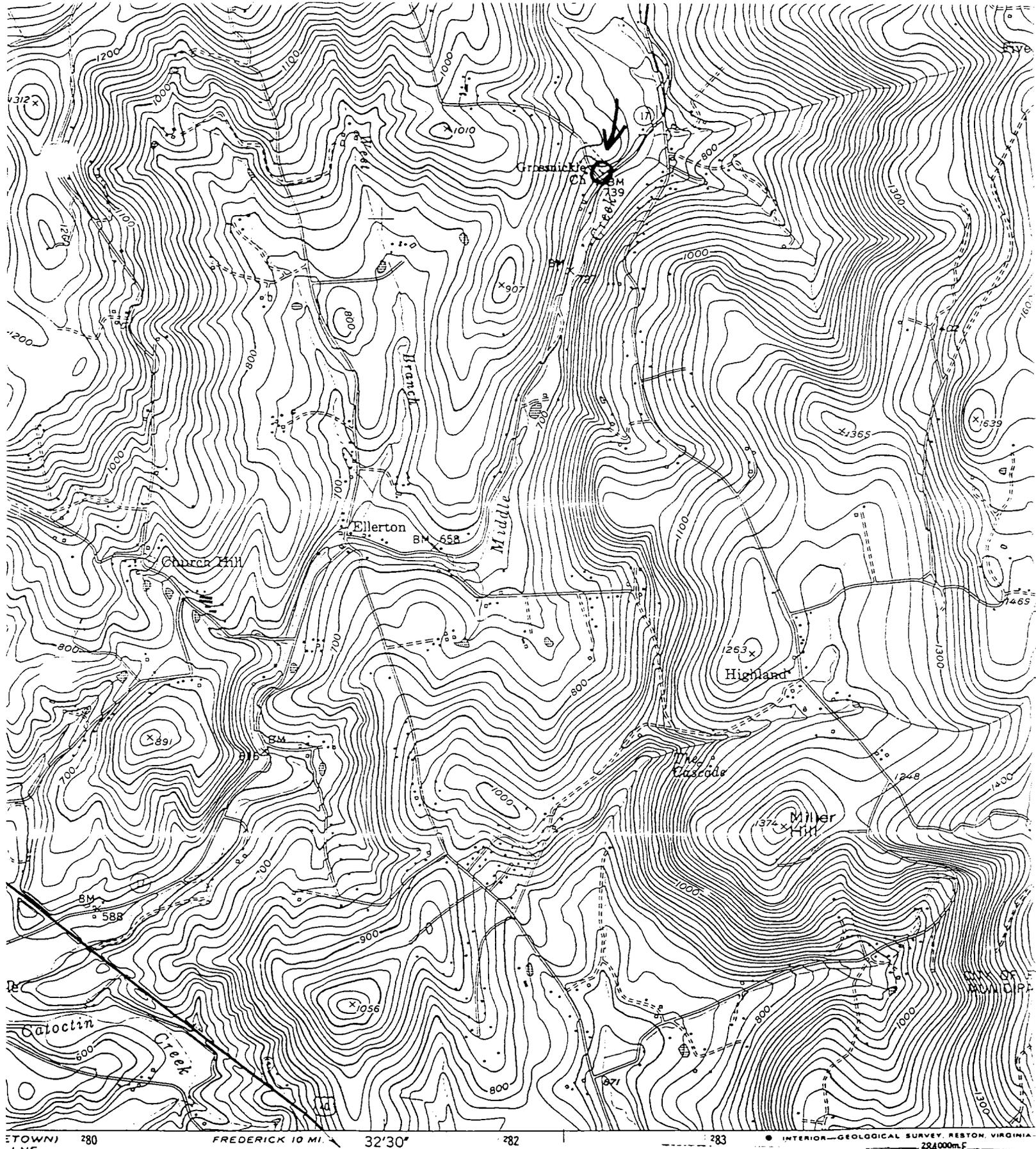
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 Mount Pleas-
 of Rocks, 13 1/2;
 Wolfsville 16
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 the stream, is 36

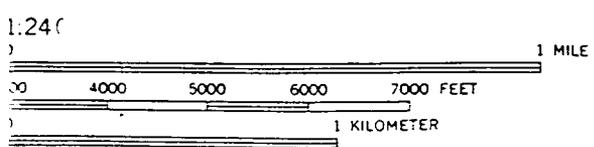


F-4-54
 Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
 Frederick County
 Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County,
 1858.



TOWN) 280 FREDERICK 10 MI. 32°30' 282 283

INTERIOR- GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 284000M.F.



F-4-54
 Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
 Frederick County
 USGS Myersville, Md.
 1:24000

VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929





F-4-54

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
Fredricks County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1972

Near Loc. 116, SHINE, Greenville, Md
South - at corner rd 66

1/2



F-4-34

Grossnickle Church of the Brethren
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1932

Near Loc. 111d. SA PO, Crownsville. Md

Northwest corner of

2/2