Survey # WA-II-1074 Approximate date 1892
Street Address 64? South Main Street
Town, State Keedysville, Maryland
private X, public ___

Description

Mt. Vernon Reformed Church is a one story T-shaped brick structure with a square bell tower located in the corner of the T. It was constructed in 1892 on the site of an earlier church built in 1852. The design of the church shows High Victorian Gothic and Eastlake influence. Windows are round-arched with elaborate stained glass and separated by brick corbeled pilasters. The entrances are also round arched with the entrance into the main portion of the church covered by a gabled hood with a jerkenhead roof. The roofing material is slate with decorative imbrication.

The interior is remarkable with original brussels carpeting, Eastlake portieres and a chandelier from the original 1852 church. The pews are said to have been reused from the original church. Those from the 1852 church served as hospital beds when this church was used as a hospital after the Battle of Antietam.

This church is significant for its intact quality showing finishes and features of 1892, and for its associations with the early history of Keedysville and the Battle of Antietam. The original 1852 church was used as a hospital, and the story is told that decaying appendages that were amputated and buried in a pit against the foundation caused the foundation to fail. The original church was then replaced with the present one on the same site. The chapel portion of the 1892 church was constructed over a mass grave containing the remains of soldiers who died at the hospital.

The leading families of this congregation in the 19th century were also prominent in the surrounding community: Samuel Pry who owned a mill just west of Keedysville, the Cost family, and C.M. Keedy.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

I. Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

II. Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance

III. Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning
Religion

IV. Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Church

Known Design Source: Unknown

Photo Reference: Photo # 58, 59

Form Prepared By: Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian
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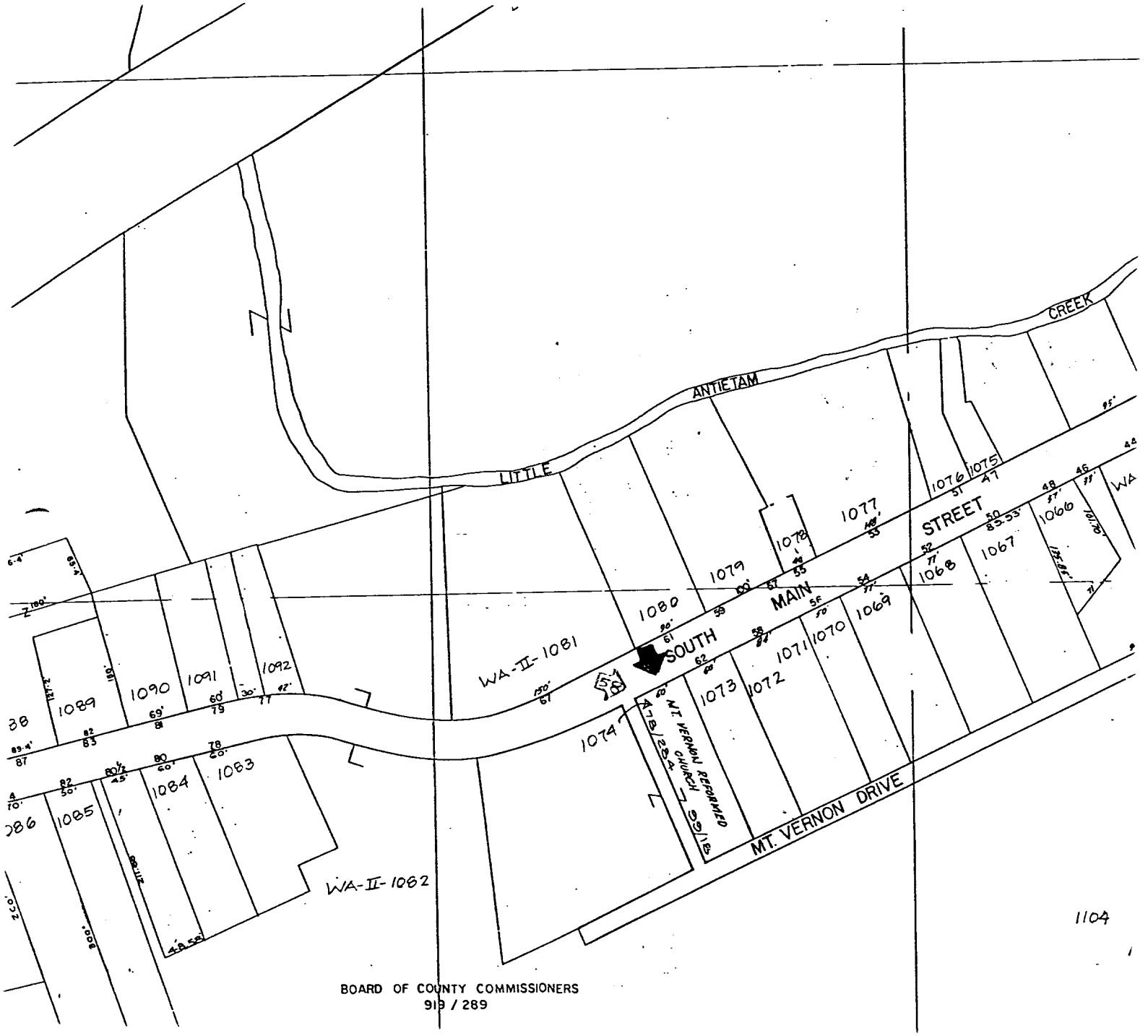
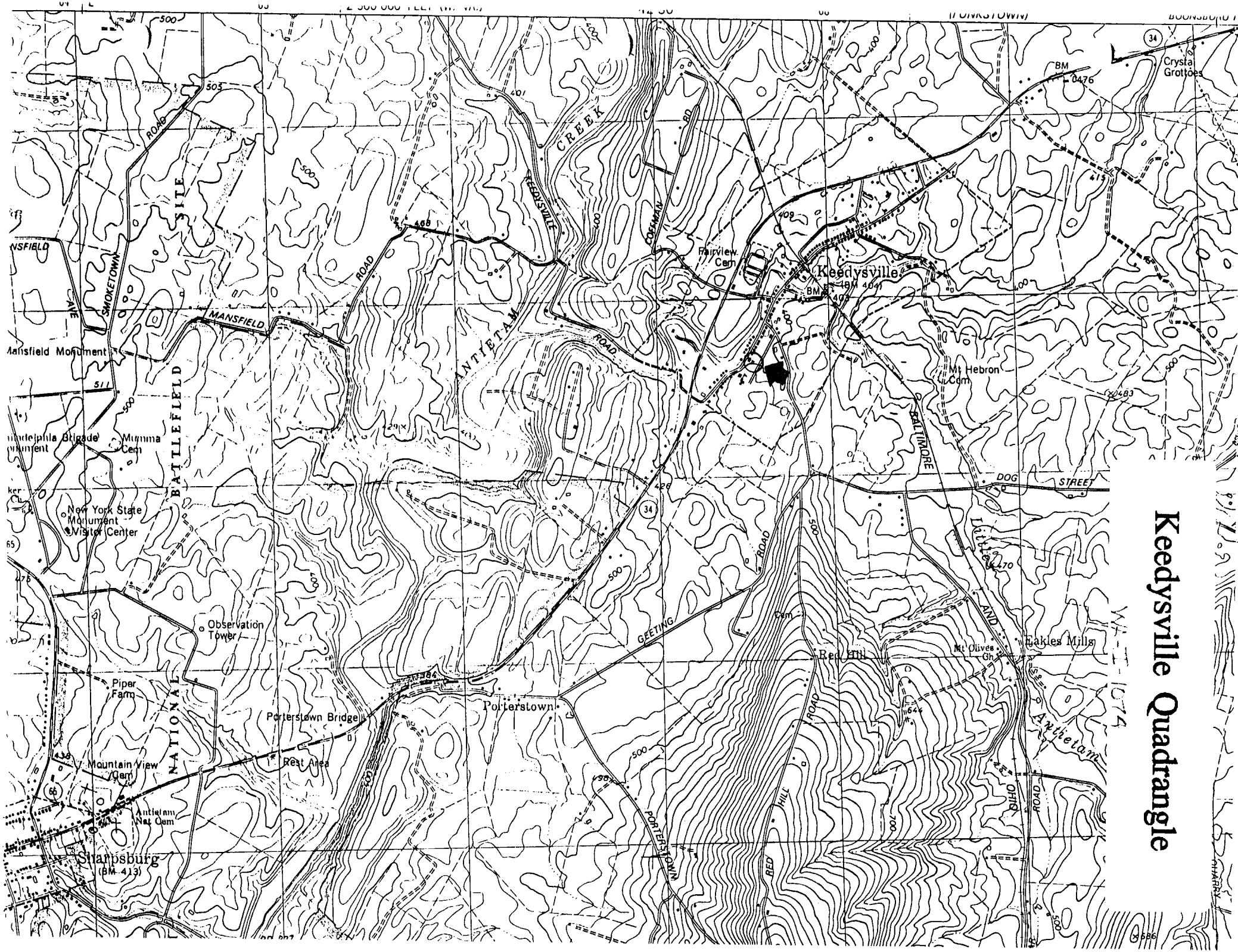
19942 Lehmans Mill Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742

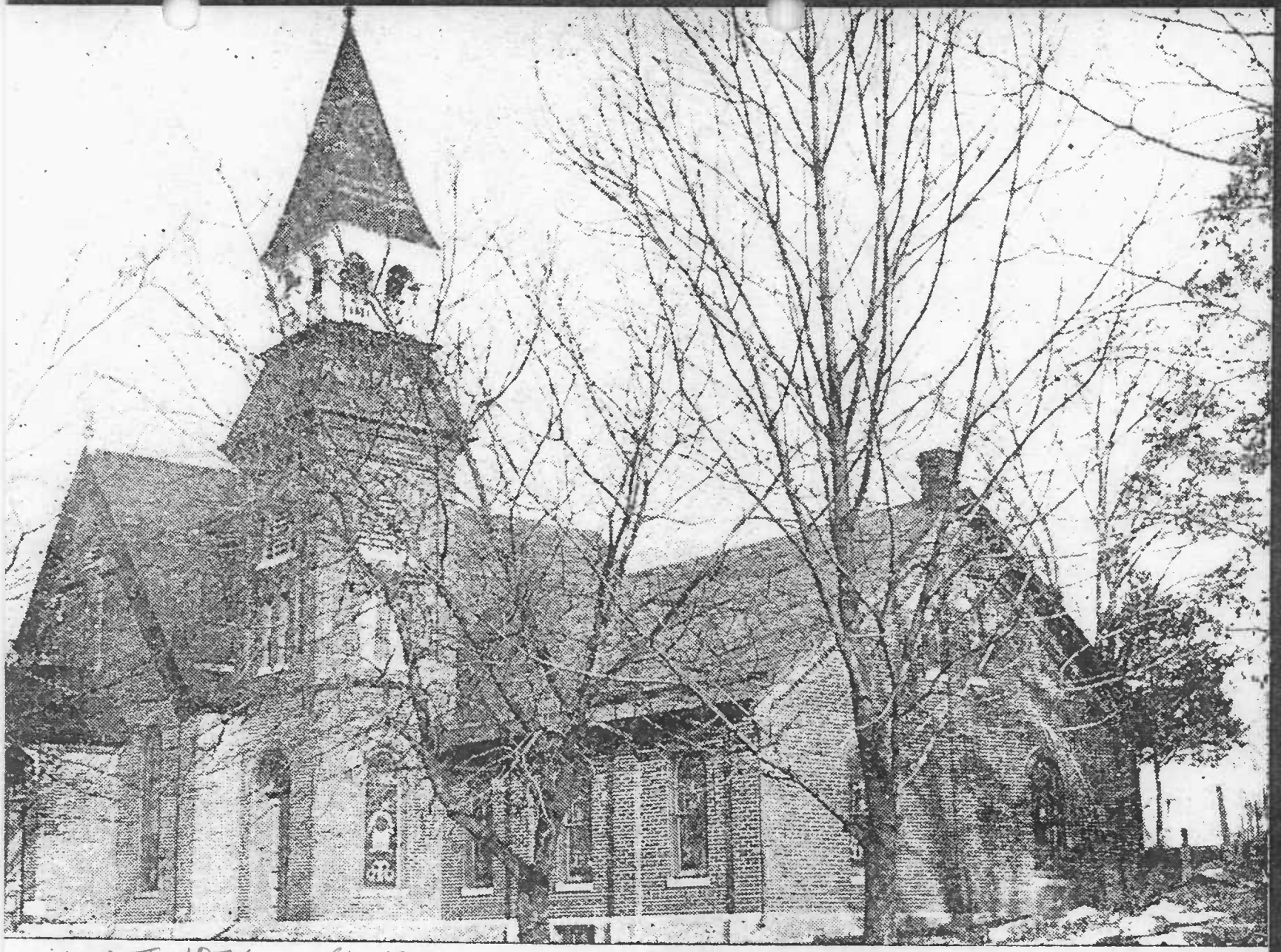
Date: 11/93

WA-II-1074



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
919 / 289


Keedysville Quadrangle
Keedysville
Fairview Cem
Mt Hebron Cem
Crystal Grottoes
Mansfield Monument
Mumma Cem
New York State Monument Visitor Center
Observation Tower
Piper Farm
Porterstown Bridge
Porterstown
Rest Area
Mountain View Cem
Antietam Nat Cem
Sharpsburg
(BM 413)
Red Hill
Mt Olives Ch
Eakles Mills
Antietam
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD SITE
ANTIETAM CREEK
SMOKETOWN ROAD
MANSFIELD AVE
KEEDYSVILLE ROAD
COFFMAN RD
BALTIMORE ROAD
DOG STREET
GEETING ROAD
PORTERSTOWN ROAD
RED HILL ROAD
OHIO AND ROAD
BM 1476
BM 1041
BM 493



WA-II-1074 CA. 1910

Vernon Reformed Church, Keedysville, Md. — Erected in 1892

Mt. Vernon Reformed Church
WA-II-1074
64? S. Main St., Keedysville, MD
NE view, S + W. elevations
10/93
photo by P. Reed, Preservation Assoc Inc
#58