

First Methodist Church
Chestertown, Md.
privately owned

A handsome Gothic Revival church built in 1875, First Methodist Church was "colonialized" in 1927. The very tall spire and side axis pilasters and modillions remain from the original structure.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K 69
1500691507

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

First Methodist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

High and Mill Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Kent

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"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<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 Methodist Episcopal Church

Telephone #: 778-2977

STREET & NUMBER

corner Mill and High Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Clerk

Liber #: JKH 9

Folio #: 183

STREET & NUMBER

Kent County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

none known

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1875 and originally a late Gothic Revival structure, First Methodist Church underwent a massive "colonial" alternations in 1927.

The ^{common bond} brickwork and painting are kept in excellent condition and multipaned clear glass windows are used throughout the building.

The High St. or southern facade now has a two and $\frac{1}{2}$ storey Ionic portico which is supported by four fluted columns and topped by a pediment with an octagonal bullseye. The facade is 3 bays wide, and there is a new doorway with a broken pediment terminating in rosettes without a center finial. The Church has an extremely high spire or bell tower with large multipaned windows at the base, louvered ventilators on the section above, flanked by classical columns, with a slate roofed spire terminating in a gilded cross.

The side axis is 5 bays long with rectangular windows above the stone trimmed water table which rises to the window base. Panelled shutters flank these windows. Immediately on top of the first floor windows is a large wooden face belt course to punctuate the side axis. There are also 6 original pilasters rising from the water table to the cove cornice, which dates probably to the 1927 alterations.

The second floor has 5 taller clear glass windows with segmental arches punctuated by 3 keystones. The cornice has large plaster cove moulding punctuated by the tops of the pilasters which flare out as in a capitol effect.

Only the spire roof of slate is original with the rest being of composition material. A decorative element of the first church is just below the cornice. ~~These~~ These brick modillions are made up of bricks 6 courses high with 2 courses or curvilinear brick work at their top.

The northern gable, sanctuary end, has almost been totally covered by one part of a two part Parish House added in 1958. Only a small lunet window remains under the peak of this gable.

Uniform new brick work is visible under the 2nd floor windows on the side axis seeming to suggest that the original church windows were longer.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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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 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 checked="" 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 *prior to 1877*
dedication in 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT ?

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A handsome Gothic Revival church built in 1875, First Methodist Church was "colonialized" in 1927. The very tall spire and side axis pilasters plus modillions remain from the original structure.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fred G. Usilton, History of Chestertown

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 90' x 140' main lot

parcel #2 to add to property.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

90' on High St.
140' back on Mill St.

parcel #2. all that lot or parcel of land, or part of a lot ofland, lying and being on SE side of Mill St., at the N corner of the lot previously conveyed and running thence S 45.5°E with line of said lot heretofore conveyed, 90' to the lot now held by Rachel Farchild, thence N 44.5° W 90' to Mill St., thence by and with Mill S 44.5° W 93' to beginning

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kathleen B. White, Historic Site Surveyor

Nov. 1976

ORGANIZATION

Md. Historical Trust/Town of Chestertown

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

JKH 9/183 3/15/1870 John N. Usilton to Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Chestertown, a gift of the lot of land on which to build a new church. (The Methodist Meeting House located at the Market Place had been their House of Worship)
Act of General Assembly of Maryland, Nov. session 1801, ch. 37 and supplements, last of which was passed at the Jan. session 1870 authorized this.
90' on High St., 140' depth on Mill

DCB 1/374 2/19/75 John N. Usilton and Sarah M. Usilton to Trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church, to add to the lot already given.

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N

FOODS
EW)
FARM

COUNTY

MEATERY

VITA FOODS

MORGNEC

STREET

ELM STREET

GREENWOOD

ST

VALLEY

CEDAR

SCHOOL

STREET

SCHOOL

AVENUE

STREET

MORRIS

AVENUE

AVENUE

WASHINGTON

COLLEGE

COLLEGE

CAMPUS

MY VERNON

WASHINGTON

U.S. 213

BROWN

RIVER

VIEW

STREET

SCHOOL

STREET

SCHOOL

AVENUE

STREET

MORRIS

TERRACE

BYFORD DRIVE

WALDO DRIVE

DAVID DRIVE

BARROLL DRIVE

PHILOSOPHERS

KENT

BYFORD DRIVE

WALDO DRIVE

DAVID DRIVE

BARROLL DRIVE

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SPRING ST

ROW STREET

PARK CHURCH ST

COURT ST

AVENUE

STREET

BYFORD COURT

COURT

MILL

KENT

STREET

CALVERT STREET

STREET

STREET

STREET

POPLAR ST

LYNCHBURG

STREET

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

KENT

CROSS

TWILLEY LANE

QUEEN

CANNON

HIGH

STREET

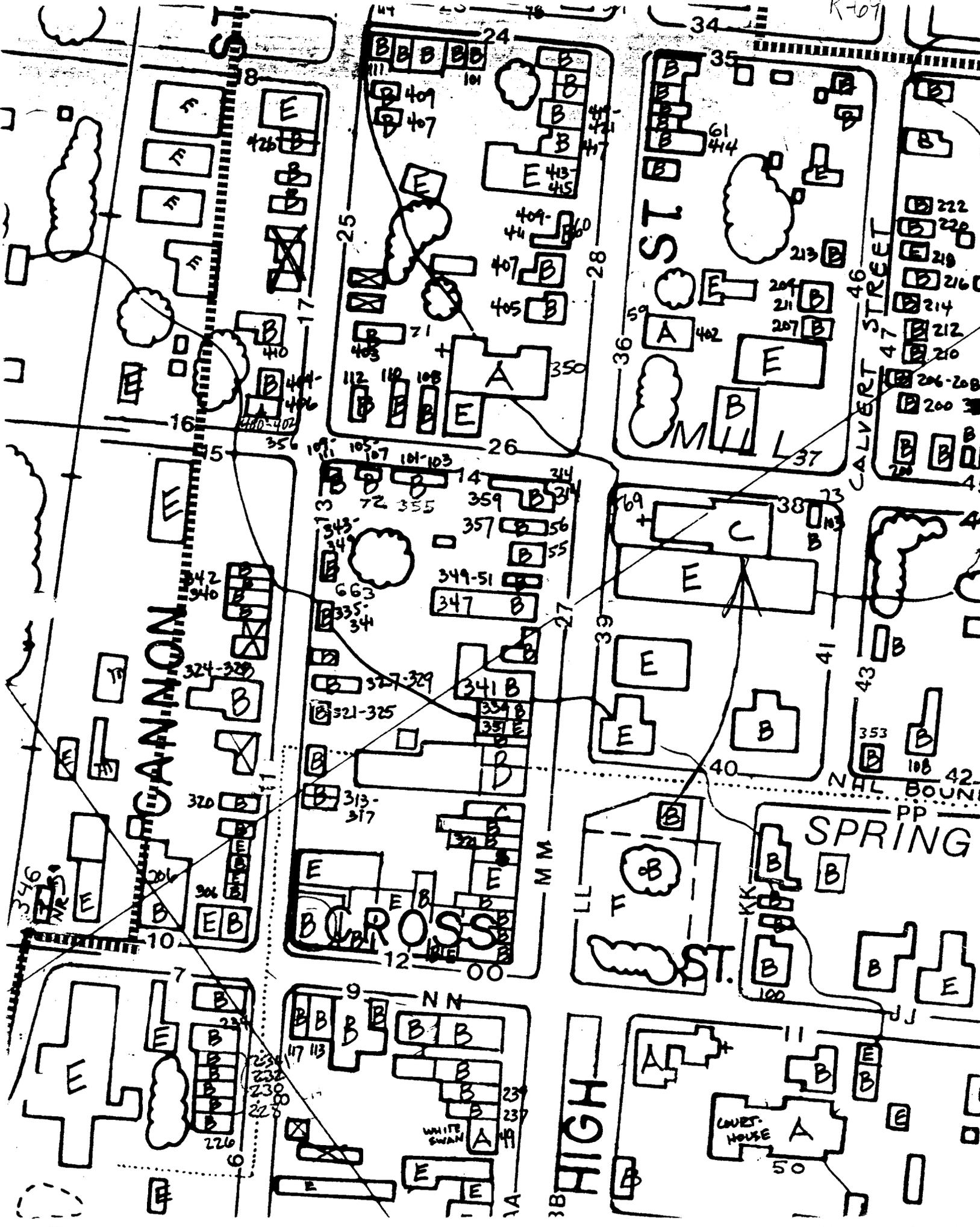
MAPLE

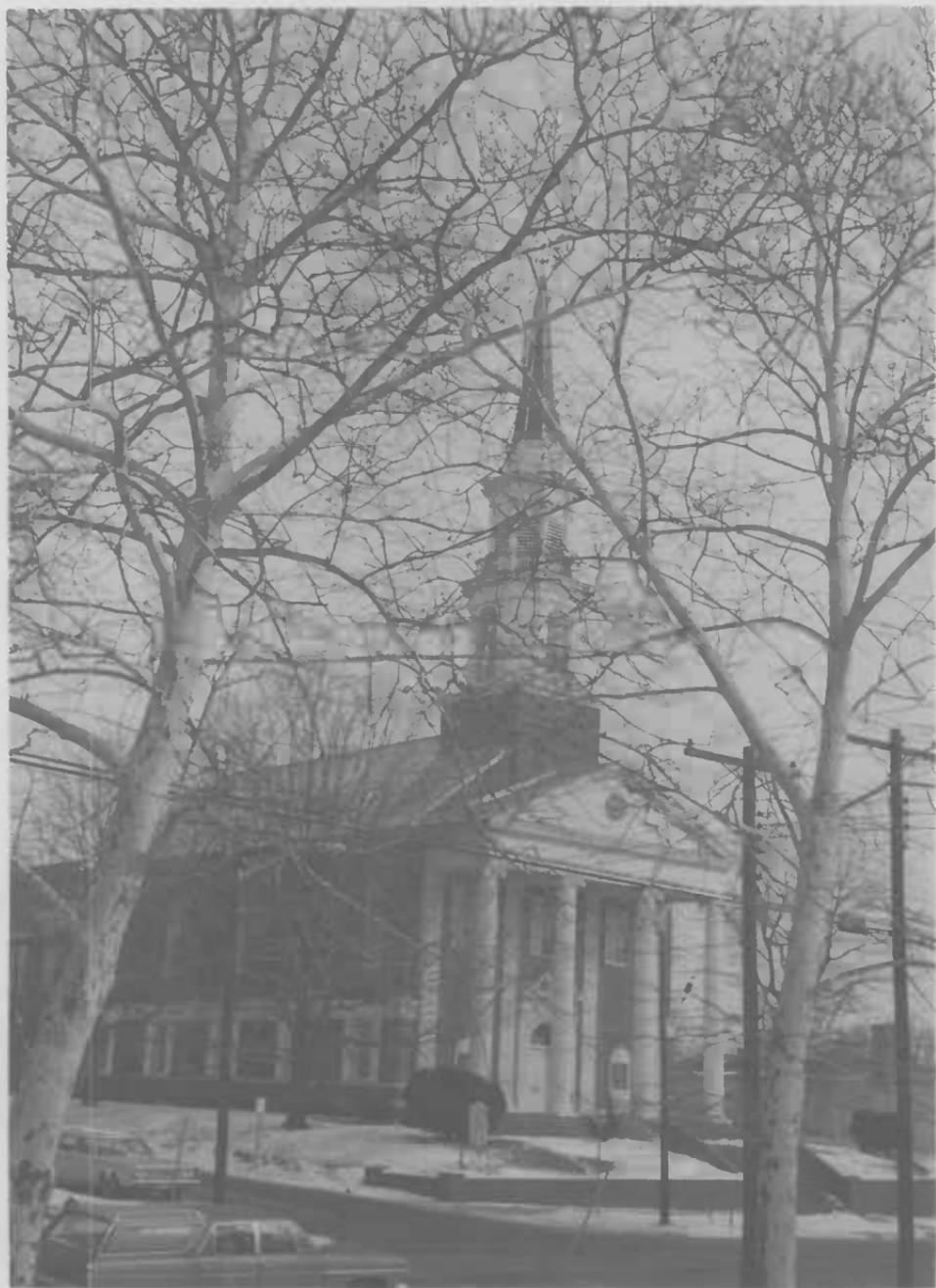
RIVERSIDE TERRACE

213

River

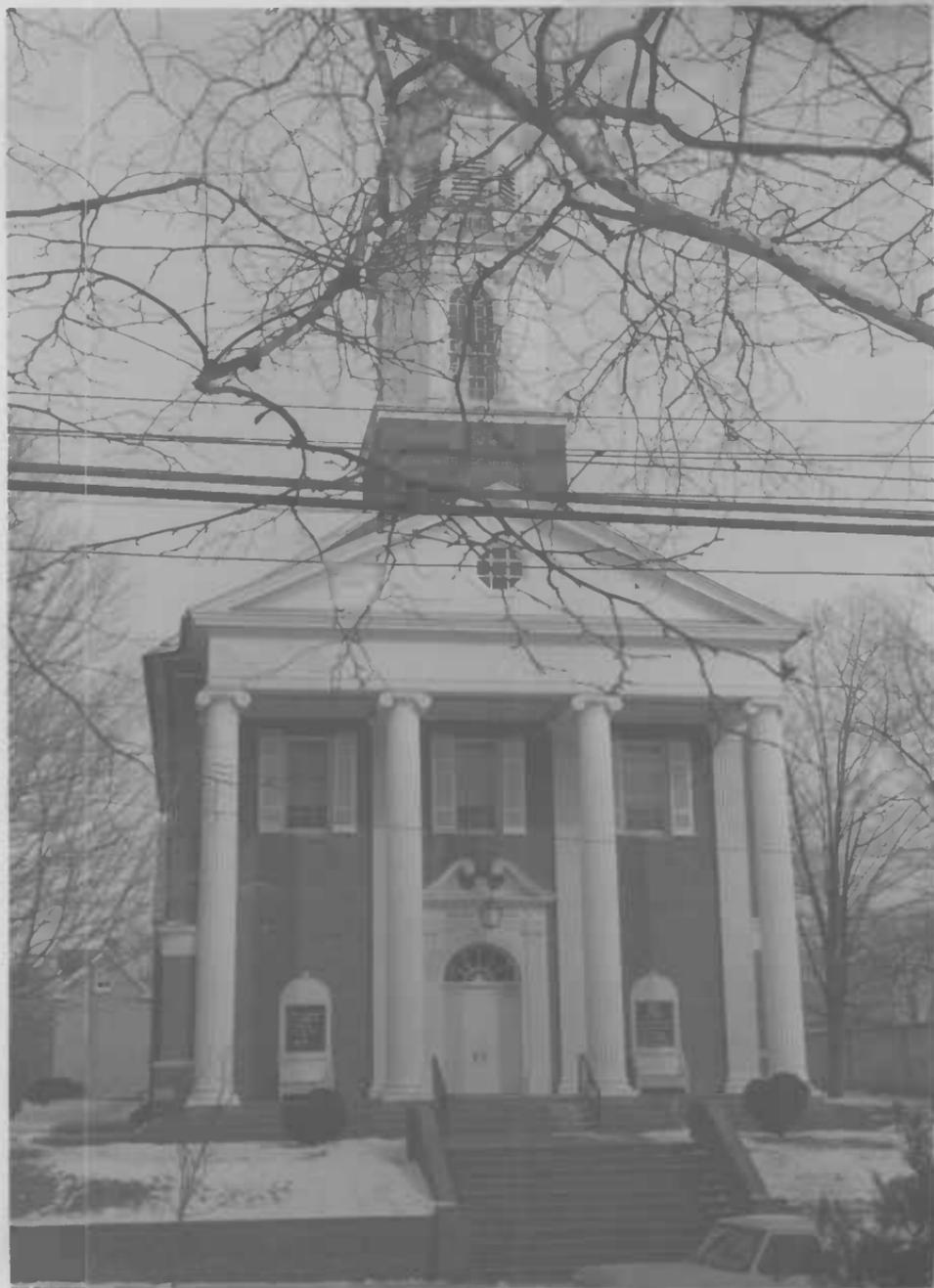
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K 69 First Meth. E. Church

1/77 S & W



K 69 First Meth. E. Church

1/77 S