

FOUNTAIN CHURCH
Lynch, Maryland
(1888)

K-365

According to its corner stone, Fountain Church was constructed in 1888. This building is the second on the site. Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson Atlas of 1877 shows a church building, a school, and about 20 houses in the present Big Woods area. When a congregation of Black Methodists first worshipped on this site is not known.

The building is frame, but has recently been sheathed in brick veneer. This has resulted in the destruction of most of the structure's wooden detailing; only the top of the belfry remains undamaged. The beauty of the detailing of this feature is an indication of the quality of the rest of the building.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

FOUNTAIN CHURCH

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Northwest side, near corner of Bigwoods Road, in Bigwoods

1st

CITY, TOWN

Lynch

XX VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Fountain United Methodist Church
c/o Corbella J. Brown

Telephone #: 301-778-5285

STREET & NUMBER

Colemans Corner

CITY, TOWN

Still Pond

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21667

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: RAS 33

Folio #: 259

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-365

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fountain Church is located on the northeast side of Big Woods Road. It serves the unincorporated community of Big Woods and the surrounding area. Southeast of the building is a concrete block social center. Northwest of the church building is the graveyard.

The building is frame, but has recently been sheathed in brick veneer. This has resulted in the destruction of most of the structure's wooden detailing; only the top of the belfry remains undamaged. The beauty of the detailing of this feature is an indication of the quality of the rest of the building.

Four bays long, the building is a true latin cross in plan. The nave, two stories in height, is covered with a very steep gable roof with overhanging eaves decorated with a simple crownmolding. The crossing or transcript has a 1½ story gable roof projection on the southeast and the steeple on the northwest. Windows along the sides of the building have pointed upper sash. The church is entered via a vestibule with a central gable and two flanking, shed-roofed extensions. The doorway has a pointed-arch transom and double doors. There are circular louvered ventilators in the gables, and a projecting altar at the rear.

Originally the exterior siding was German Shiplap; some is still visible on the rear. The belfry has a pyramidal roof with a wooden finial and vertically boarded cheeks decorated with wooden brackets and wooden applique.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-365

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 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 1888

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to its corner stone, Fountain Church was constructed in 1888. This building is the second on the site. Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson Atlas of 1877 shows a church building, a school, and about 20 houses in the present Big Woods area. When a congregation of Blacks Methodists first worshipped on this site is not known.

The building has an interesting and unusual plan, far more ambitious than other vernacular Gothic Revival churches in this area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-365

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

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

Kent - ³⁶⁵ ~~444~~
Fountain U.M. Church (Big Wood)
Rte. 292
Big Wood
near Still Pond, MD 21667

1849, 1882

Fountain U.M. Church (Big Wood) stands on the north side of Rte. 292 about 1/2 mile from its junction with Md. Rte . 298 in northern Kent County. The old wooden church was veneered with brick in 1956. This church once housed a predominately white congregation . It has been in the hands of a black congregation since 1882. The white graveyard is located on the west side of the church and the black graveyard is on the east side. It is interesting to see how a semblance of segregation is kept by the division of grave sites.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Fountain UM Church (Big Wood)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Rte.292

CITY, TOWN Big Wood

VICINITY OF Still Pond CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

STATE Maryland

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 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Trustees, Fountain U.M. Church
C/O Cordella Brown

Telephone #: 348-5832

STREET & NUMBER Rte. 1, Box 111

CITY, TOWN Worton

VICINITY OF STATE, zip code MD, 21678

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House

Liber #: GW 54
Folio #: 136

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Chestertown

STATE MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-365

CONDITION
 EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR
 DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE
 UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE
 ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED
DATE 1849

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fountain U.M. Church (Big Wood) stands on the North side of Rte. 292 about 1/2 mile from its junction with MD. Rte. 298 in northern Kent County. The old wooden church was veneered with brick in 1956. The only visible wooden part of the church is the open belfry with its short spire on the southwest corner of the church (the church faces south). The belfry is very ornate and is of the style designated as late Victorian. The building is 42' across the front and 56' long. The entranceway was added when the brickwork was done and has double wooden doors with a triangular color-glass arc atop (red glass). There are three lancet, 4-over-4 (clear glass) windows on either side of the church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-365

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
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<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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This church once housed a pedominately white congregation. They abandoned this church in 1882 and Fountain has had a black congregation ever since. The white cemetary is located on the west side of the church and the black cemetary is on the east side of the church. Fountain is a thriving congregation. It is interesting to see how a semblance of egregation is kept by the division of the graveyards.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-365

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Maryland Commission on Afro-American History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER 20 Dean St.

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

K-365

0141

(CHESTERTON BRANCH) 22



Hepbron
Stiltpond Station

Bigwoods

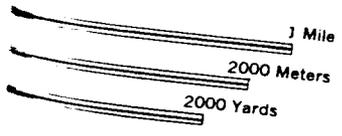
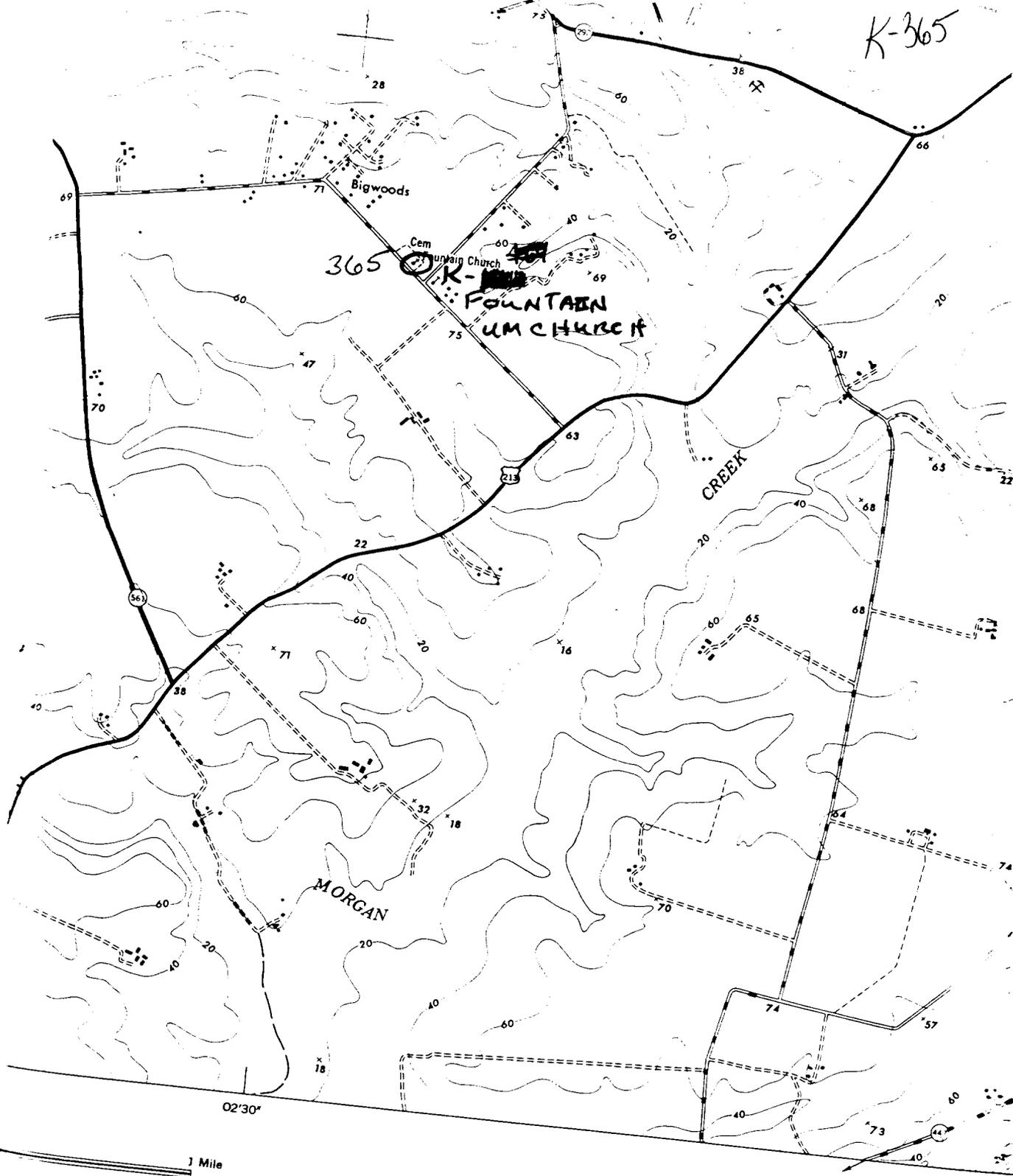
Cem Fountain Church

291
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K-365

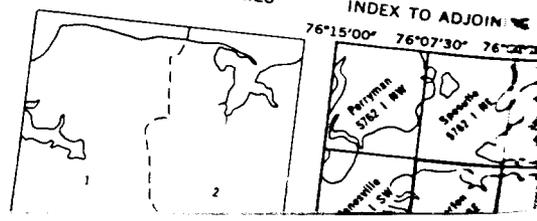


CHESTERTOWN 4.7 MI.

BETTERTON

INDEX TO BOUNDARIES

INDEX TO ADJOINING





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Fountain Church

View to Northeast

Lynch

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

7/1980

PRINTED BY

J. Tyler Campbell

CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JUN 11 1980



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Photograph by
J. MICHAEL HOSFORD

Annapolis, Md. 21401
301 - 263 - 4995

Fountain United Methodist Church
Big Wood, Kent County, Maryland
Michael Hosford

~~K-365~~
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Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Southwest elevation
3/79



K-365

Photograph by
J. MICHAEL HOSFORD

Annapolis, Md. 21401
301 - 263 - 4995

Fountain United Methodist Church
Big Wood, Kent County, Maryland
Michael Hosford

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K-365

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Bell tower
3/79