

QA-370

St. John's ME Church South  
Church Hill  
Private

1857, 1883

The lot on which St. John's Church stands was deeded to the Methodist Protestant Church in 1857. A church was built soon thereafter, and continued to be used by the MP Church until 1883, when the church and property were deeded over to the Methodist Episcopal Church South. This group "rebuilt" the church and named it St. John's. Further renovations were undertaken in 1935; apparently the belfry and bell were added at that time. In 1942 St. John's combined with St. Paul's to form a consolidated Methodist Church. A new church was built in 1954 and the two older structures were taken out of service.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church South

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

West side of old Maryland Route 213

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: storage

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

William C. Hall

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Church Hill

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21623

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CA-370

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<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**

St. John's Church, also known as the Methodist Episcopal Church South, is located on the west side of old Maryland Route 213 near the center of Church Hill. It is approximately one block north of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the most visible landmark in Church Hill.

The church is oriented on an east-west axis. It is of frame construction on a low, stuccoed foundation. A bell tower is centered on the east gable wall, and projects about two feet, breaking the facade into three distinct planes. A small, pitched roof anse is located on the center of the west gable, and a low shed-roof addition projects from the southwest corner of the same wall.

The entrance is located in the center of the projecting bell tower on the east gable, and consists of a Gothic arched opening with a pair of highly decorative Eastlake doors surmounted by a stained glass transom. A stained glass rose window is located in the east face of the bell tower above the door, and a pair of Gothic arched

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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 checked="" 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

According to a brief history of the Church Hill Methodist Church, the lot on which St. John's Church stands was deeded to the trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church on May 6, 1857. A church was built soon thereafter, and continued to be used by the MP Church until 1883, when the church and property were deeded over to the Methodist Episcopal Church South. This group "rebuilt" the church and named it St. John's. It was a member of the Baltimore charge, and was part of a circuit which included Sudlersville and Stevens. The Stevens Church eventually closed, and Millington was added to the charge. Further renovations were undertaken in 1935, and apparently the belfry and bell were added at that time. In 1942, St. John's combined with St. Paul's to form a consolidated Methodist Church. According to Frances Bobbit, a long standing member of the church, services were held in St. Paul's in the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

The Church Hill Methodist Church

Church Hill, Maryland. June 19, 1955. E. C. Hallman.

The Garden of Methodism (no date or publisher).

**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

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

12/29/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

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

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

stained glass windows flank the bell tower on the main floor. A cornerstone on the southeast corner of this facade bears the following inscription:

ME Church

South 1857

Rebuilt

1883

1935

A photograph taken of the church earlier in this century, while it was still in use, shows that the bell tower projected above the ridge of the main roof. An open belfry was enclosed by a simple railing, and four exposed corner posts supported a steeply pitched gable roof above the belfry. The upper part of the tower has been removed, and it is now terminated where it meets the roof of the main building.

The east and west facades are virtually identical, with three Gothic arched stained glass windows ranged along each wall. On the west gable end, small stained glass windows are centered on both side walls of the apse, and large windows similar to those on the front

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

and side walls flank the apse. A paneled exterior door is centered on the rear wall of the lean-to. A brick stove or furnace chimney rises against the west wall of the main building immediately to the south of the apse.

The building is now covered with wood shingles, the roof with asphalt shingles. The eaves are finished with a simple box cornice and crown mold which is carried up the gable eaves but does not return at the corners. The apse has boxed eaves, with beaded rakeboards on the gable eaves. The overall size of the main building is 41 feet by 34 feet.

None of the early interior has survived. All woodwork, pews, and furnishings have been removed, leaving a large, open storage space.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

summer and in St. John's in the winter, the latter church being smaller and easier to heat. A new church was built in 1954 to replace the two older structures, and they were taken out of service. St. John's was sold and is now used as a storage building, while St. Paul's was demolished to make room for the new church.

The most significant architectural features of St. John's Church are the handsome Eastlake doors and the very fine stained glass windows. These are relatively simple, but are pleasing in color and design. Unfortunately they have suffered some damage, both from weather and vandals, and their continued survival in situ is doubtful.





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St Johns Church

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ORV 1978



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