

WI-142
Mt. Calvary Memorial M. E. Church
Fruitland
Public worship

1920-21

Within the decade following the Civil War, a score of black Methodist churches were organized in the newly created Wicomico County. In the village of Fork Town, renamed Fruitland in 1873, a black Methodist congregation formed, and in 1875, the trustees of the congregation purchased the former Presbyterian church property located on the east side of the village. Named in the transaction as grantors were the trustees of the Salisbury Presbyterian church along with Purnell Toadvine and H. H. Dashiell. The trustees of the black Methodist congregation were Israel Pollitt, Levin Morris, Sandy Pollitt, Daniel Morris, George Pollitt, Levin Robinson, and Solomon Humphreys. The trustees paid \$250 for the old Presbyterian church and the acre lot on which it stood.

The history of the Mt. Calvary congregation states that the old Presbyterian church was moved and a small chapel was erected around 1875. Approximately fourteen years later a second church was built. During the fall of 1920 the cornerstone of a third structure was set. Built in an asymmetrical tee-shape, the frame church was built in the prevailing Gothic Revival style with pointed arch windows on each side and a three-story entrance tower. The October 1920 cornerstone is inscribed with the name used at the time, the Mt. Calvary Memorial M. E. Church. The pastor at the time of construction was Reverend J. D. Pitts.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-142

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Mt. Calvary Memorial Methodist Church
 other Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church

2. Location

street and number 205 North Division Street not for publication
 city, town Salisbury vicinity
 county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Mt. Calvary Methodist Church
 street and number North Division Street telephone 410-546-3320
 city, town Fruitland state MD zip code 21826

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber folio
 city, town Salisbury tax map tax parcel tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>1</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-142

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The Mt. Calvary Memorial M. E. Church, now known as the Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church, stands on the east side of North Division Street in the city of Fruitland, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story, gable front frame church faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. Joining the church on the property is a late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century cemetery.

Built in 1920-21, the single-story, tee-shaped frame church is supported on a rusticated concrete block foundation, and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched gable roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Fixed in the corner of the foundation on the west side is a marble cornerstone inscribed, "Mt. Calvary Memorial M. E. Church, October 1920." Attached to the southeast corner of the early twentieth century frame structure is a mid twentieth century concrete block addition.

The west (main) elevation is a gable-front façade with a paired, pointed arch window with colored glass perimeter panes. The paired center window is flanked by single lancet windows with pointed arches and colored glass perimeter panes. Fixed in the upper gable end is a diamond shaped window. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave, open soffits, and exposed rafters tails. Rising in the southwest corner of the tee-shaped main block is a three-story entrance tower fitted with a double-door opening topped by a triangular colored glass transom. A small pointed arch window marks the south side of the entrance tower. The upper two floors are covered completely with aluminum siding. Finishing the top of the tower is a small balustrade.

The north side of the church is defined by a series of six pointed arch lancet windows filled with colored glass perimeter panes. The edge of the roof has an extended eave with exposed rafter tails. The center of the church roof is pierced by a stuccoed, single flue brick chimney.

Extending from the east (rear) gable end is a shorter single-story gable roofed apse with small pointed arch windows in each side.

The south gable end of the tee-shaped church is marked by three pointed arch lancet windows fitted with colored glass perimeter panes. A single-story concrete block walled addition fills the southeast corner of the tee-shaped frame church.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-142

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates October 1920

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Within the decade following the Civil War, a score of black Methodist churches were organized in the newly created Wicomico County. In the village of Fork Town, renamed Fruitland in 1873, a black Methodist congregation formed, and in 1875, the trustees of the congregation purchased the former Presbyterian church property located on the east side of the village.¹ Named in the transaction as grantors were the trustees of the Salisbury Presbyterian church along with Purnell Toadvine and H. H. Dashiell. The trustees of the black Methodist congregation were Israel Pollitt, Levin Morris, Sandy Pollitt, Daniel Morris, George Pollitt, Levin Robinson, and Solomon Humphreys. The trustees paid \$250 for the old Presbyterian church and the acre lot on which it stood.

The history of the Mt. Calvary congregation states that the old Presbyterian church was moved and a small chapel was erected around 1875. Approximately fourteen years later a second church was built. During the fall of 1920 the cornerstone of a third structure was set. Built in an asymmetrical tee-shape, the frame church was built in the prevailing Gothic Revival style with pointed arch windows on each side and a three-story entrance tower. The 1920-21 church was erected during the pastorate of Reverend J. D. Pitts.²

¹ Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 1/378, 5 February 1875.

² Ethel G. Conley, *A Short History of Fruitland*, Unpublished typescript, 1971, p. 37.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-142

Name Mt. Calvary Memorial Methodist Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Mt. Calvary Memorial M. E. Church
205 North Division Street
Fruitland, Wicomico County, Maryland

Wicomico County
Land Record
SPT 1/378

Humphrey Humphreys, A. G. Toadvine, George M. Todd, F. M. Slemmons
H. Laird Todd, Samuel A. Graham, E. L. Wailes, Thomas Humphreys,
N. J. Todd, Lemuel Malone, Stephen P. Dennis of the Committee or
Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in the Town of Salisbury and
Purnell Toadvine of Wicomico County, and H. H. Dashiell of Somerset
County

to

2/5/1875

Israel Pollitt, Levin Morris, Sandy Pollitt, Daniel Morris, George Pollitt,
Levin Robinson, and Solomon Humphreys, trustees

\$250 in the village of Fruitland (formerly Forktown)

Worcester County
Land Record
GMH 8/511

Polly Dryden and Elizabeth Morris of Worcester County

to

1/20/1846

Anthony B. Bennett, William Gunby, John Disharoon, William Disharoon,
Perry Rider, Henry White, Henry Toadvine, Henry Pollitt, James Burton,
George W. Humphreys, Jephtha Morris, James Morris, and William Morris,
Trustees of the Presbyterian Church at Fork Town

\$5 one acre...being part of the land formerly owned by Joshua Morris, dec'd

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-142

Conley, Ethel G. *A Short History of Fruitland*, Unpublished typescript, 1971.

Graham, John L. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

Worcester County Land Records, various volumes, Worcester County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre

Acreage of historical setting 1 acre

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/12/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

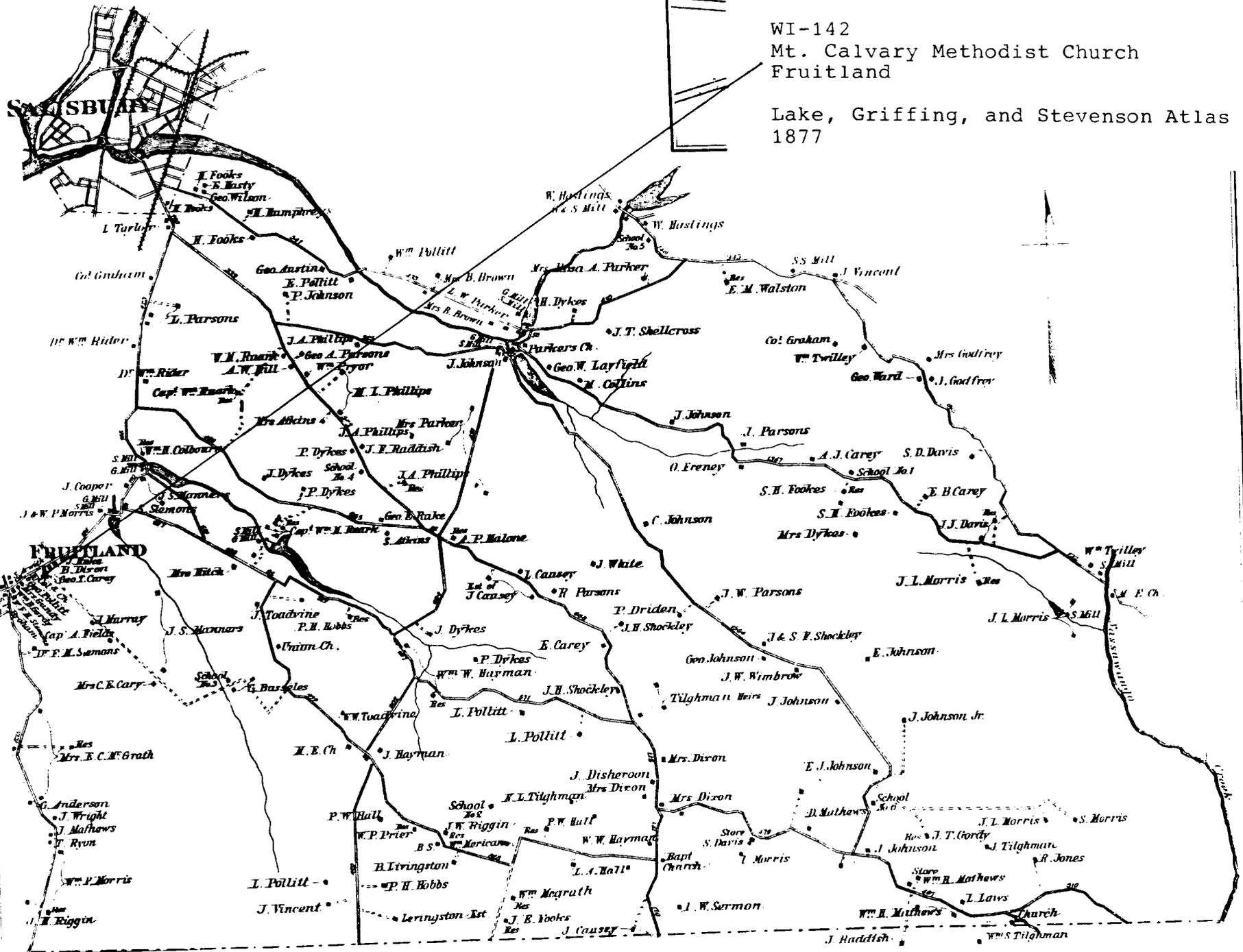
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

WI-142
Mt. Calvary Methodist Church
Fruitland

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877



ROYAL OAKS
CATCHPENN

4246000m N

4245

4244

4243

20'

PRINCESS ANNE 11 MI

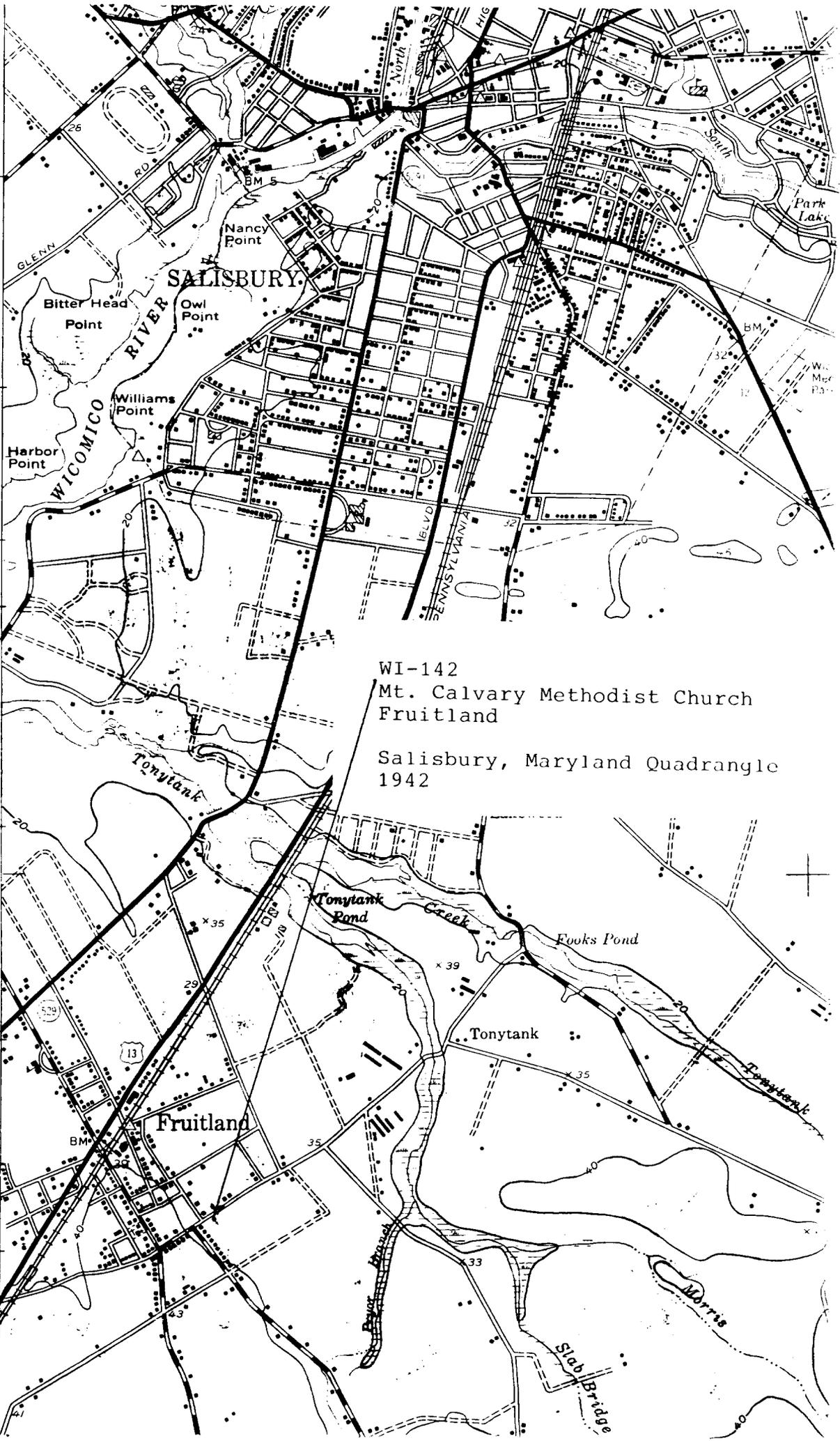
ALLEN 4.5 MI

PRINCESS ANNE 9 MI

EDEN 2.7 MI

5860 / SW

(EDEN)



WI-142
 Mt. Calvary Methodist Church
 Fruitland
 Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
 1942

WI-142

Wicomico - 142
Mt. Calvary ME Church
So. Division St.
Fruitland, MD 21826

1880, 1920

Access: Public

Mt. Calvary ME Church is located 25' from the south side of So. Division St. in Fruitland. This church was rebuilt in 1920 on the site of an older chapel. It is the oldest black Methodist congregation in this rural community. The cemetery on the south and east sides of the church is very large. It contains the remains of a number of black clerics, including the Rev Daniel Ridout (died-1919).

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Mt. Calvary ME Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER So. Division St.

CITY, TOWN Fruitland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

___ VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Wicomico

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 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 checked="" 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 Trustees, Mt. Calvary ME Church
Rev. William T. Wallace, Sr.

Telephone #: 742-9042

STREET & NUMBER Anderson St.

CITY, TOWN Fruitland

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code 21326

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Wicomico Co. Court House

Liber #: Unable to locate
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Salisbury

STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE N/A

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

WI-142

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 <u>1920</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Mt. Calvary ME Church is located 25' from the south side of So. Division St. in Fruitland. It faces North. The present structure was built in 1920. It measures 70' across the front facade and is 60' in depth. The building rests on a concrete foundation. The building is gabled (North-South) and has an el at the northwest corner where the entrance tower is located. The entrance is reached by eight brick steps that lead to double wooden doors (modern). The tower is square (without a spire). There are two 5' lancet windows one on each side of a double 5' frontispiece lancet window in the north-gable end of the building. There are seven of these lancet windows on the east side of the church. These windows have single panes of glass (upper and lower) and they are surrounded by 16 colored lights. There is a 10' extension at the rear of the building where the sacristy is located. A cement block extension has been added at the south side of the church. The building has a composite shingle roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 rebuilt 1920

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mt. Calvary ME Church was rebuilt in 1920 on the site of an older chapel. Mt. Calvary is the oldest black Methodist congregation in this rural community. It dates from 1890. The cemetery on the east and south sides of the church is very large. It contains the bodies of a number of black clerics, including the Rev. Daniel Ridout (died-1919).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

WI-142

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

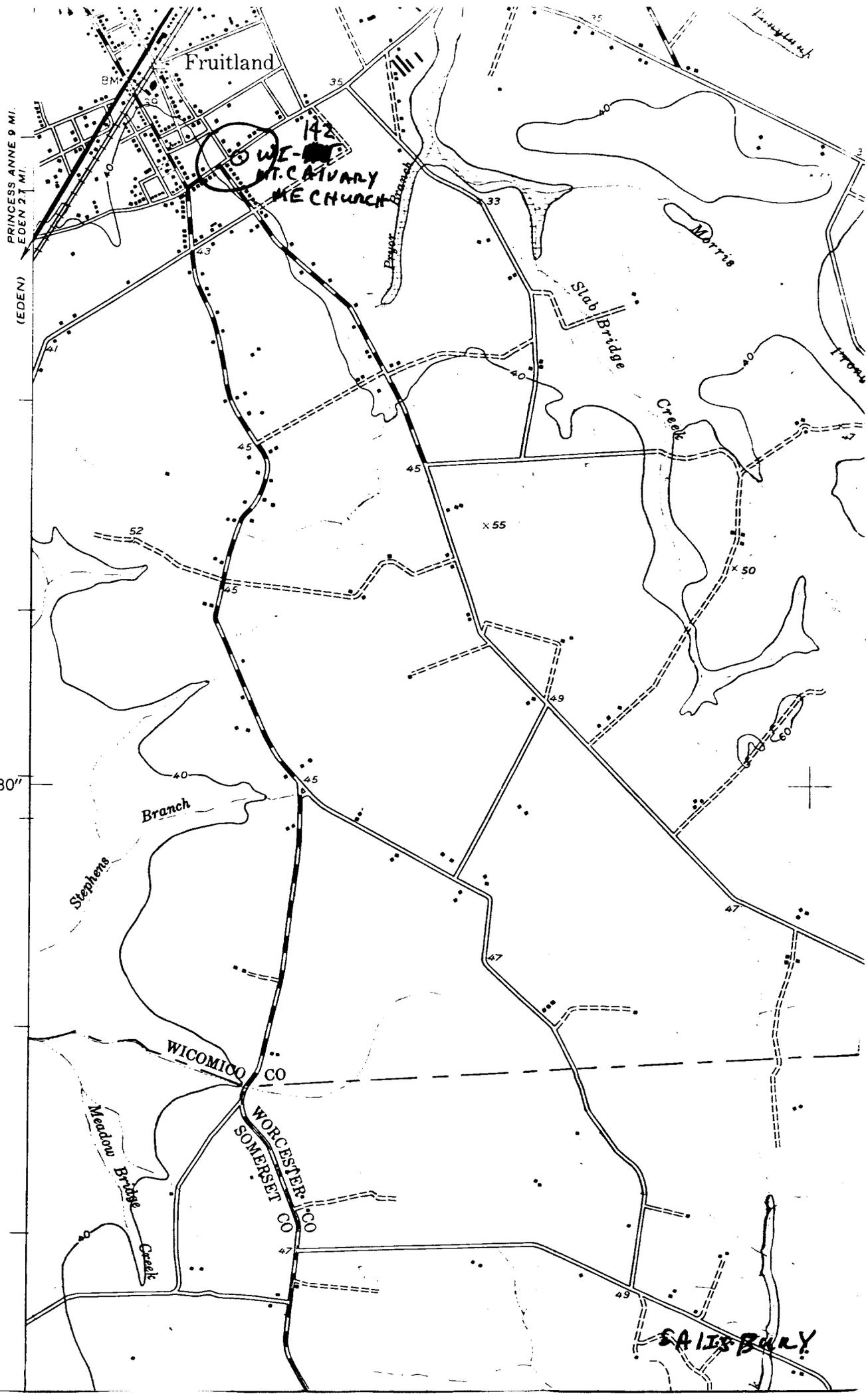
STREET & NUMBER 20 Dean St. TELEPHONE 269-2893

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland

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



Fruitland

142

WI-MT.
MT. CATVARY
ME CHURCH

PRINCESS ANNE 9 MI.
EDEN 2 1/2 MI.
(EDEN)

Morris

Slab Bridge

Creek

17°30'

Branch

Stephens

WICOMICO CO

WORCESTER CO
SOMERSET CO

Meadow Bridge

Creek

SALISBURY



WT-142

MT CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH
FRANKLIN'S BUSINESS CO. INC.
NORTHWEST CLEVELAND

4/01 PAUL TOWNSEND, ADMINISTRATOR
1111 J 107 1111 J 107

1 of 2



W1-142

Mr. CARLTON MERRITT CHURCH
Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., Pa

Southern Elevation

6700 Park Terrace, Pittsburgh, Pa

Not Paid Historical Trust

2 of 2



Mt. Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church

Fruitland, Wicomico County, MD

Michael Hosford

WI-~~1185~~

142

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD

Northeast elevation

2/81



Mt. Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church
Fruitland, Wicomico County, MD WI-~~012345~~
Michael Hosford 142

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Northwest elevation
2/81