

Worcester - ~~1855~~ 1851  
New Bethel ME Church  
Germantown Rd.  
Berlin, MD 21811

1855, 1905

Access:Public

New Bethel ME Church stands 25' from the east side of Germantown Rd. It faces west. The present structure was built in 1905 and is covered with aluminium siding. New Bethel is the oldest black Methodist congregation in Berlin. It was founded by Free Blacks in 1855. It is located in a black area known as South Berlin.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

New Bethel ME Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Germantown Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Berlin

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Worcester

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees, New Bethel ME Church  
C/O Rev. Ewart C. Hackshaw

Telephone #: 641-9812

STREET & NUMBER

P.O.Box 46

CITY, TOWN

Berlin

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
MD, 21311

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Worcester Co. Court House

Liber #: JTM 11

Folio #: 36

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Snow Hill

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

WO-181

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 <u>1905</u>

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

New Bethel ME Church stands 25' from the east side of Germantown Rd. It faces west. The building is gabled (North-South) and (East - West) the entrance tower is located in the southwest corner of the building where it makes an ell. It rests on a concrete base and has a composite shingle roof. The building is covered with aluminium siding. There are five brick steps up to double wooden 2-panel doors (modern) The entrance tower has been covered (the church once had a wooden belfry). It has a short blunt spire. The church is 20' across the front facade and 30' in depth. There is a 20' frontispiece colored glass widow in the west facade with a triangular top. There are two 12' lancet windows (colored glass) in the west gable one on each side of the frontispiece window. There is another of these 20' frontispiece windows in the gable that faces north. On the south side of the church are 4 12' lancet windows. There is a modern addition on east side of the church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

WJ-181

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 Ed. 1855-1905

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

New Bethel ME Church is the oldest black Methodist in Berlin. It was founded by Free Blacks in 1855. The present structure dates from 1905. It is located in an area known as South Berlin. This area is historically a black area. Also located on Germantown Rd., 1/4 mile from New Bethel, is an AME church, but it's founding date is 1924.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

WO-181

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 &amp; NUMBER 20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE 269-2893

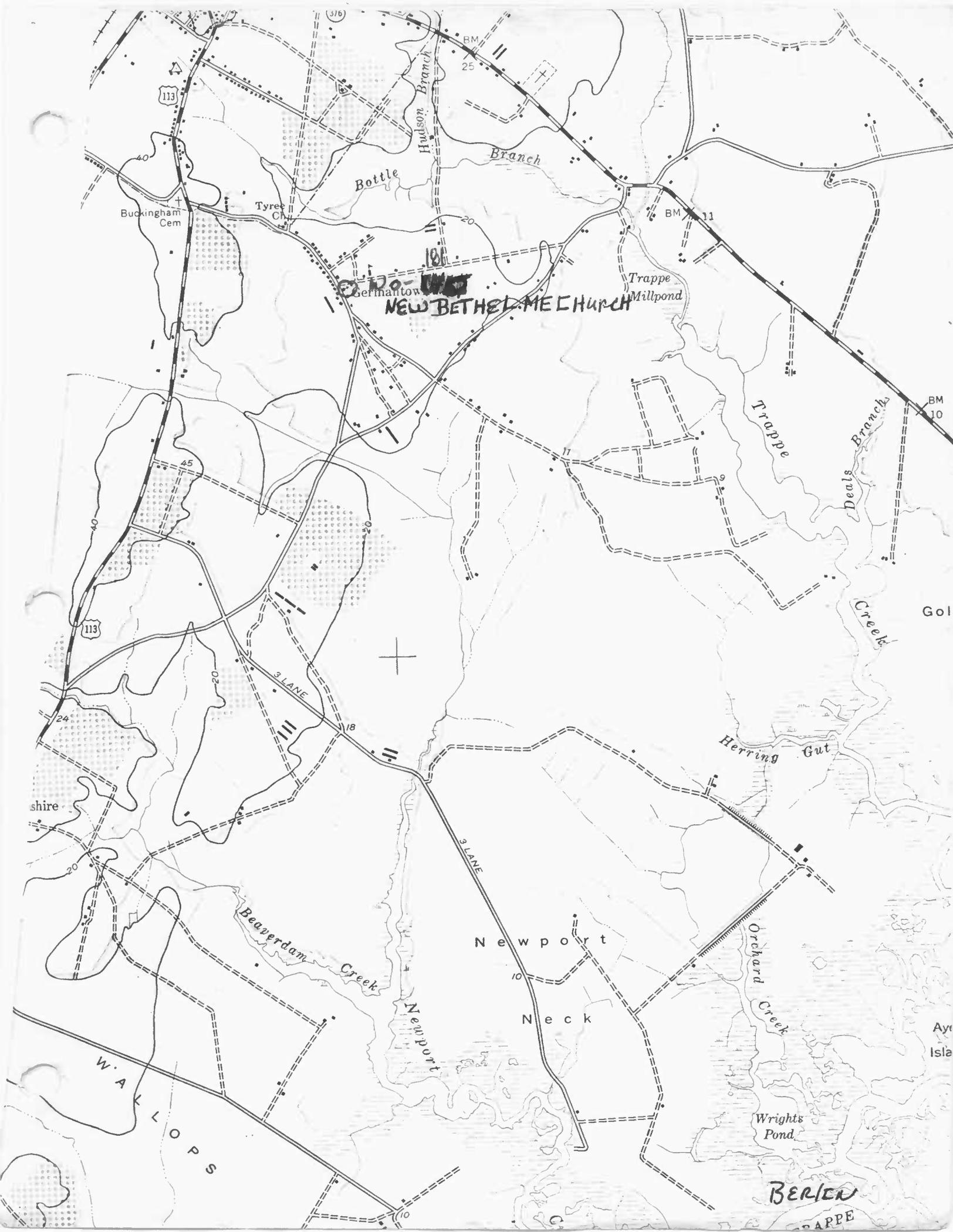
CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE MD 21401

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



113

376

BM 25

Hudson Branch

Branch

Bottle

Buckingham Cem

Tyree Ch

BM 11

~~NEW BETHEL ME CHURCH~~  
NEW BETHEL ME CHURCH

Trappe Millpond

Trappe

Deals Branch

BM 10

40

45

30

113

20

3 LANE

18

3 LANE

Herring Gut

shire

20

Beaverdam Creek

Newport

Neck

Newport

Orchard Creek

W. A. KLOPS

Wrights Pond

BERLEN

TRAPPE



WO-181

New Bethel M.E. Church  
Berlin, Worcester Co



WO-181

New Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church 181  
Berlin, Worcester County, MD WO-~~181~~  
Michael Hosford

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