

CT-48

BROOK'S METHODIST CHURCH (site)

ca. 1870

This simple, one story Victorian Gothic structure was torn down a few years ago and a new church built adjacent to the site of the original.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 48

MAGI # 0500486527

CT-48

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Brooks Methodist Church (SITE)
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Maskull Rd (Maryland Route 265)

CITY, TOWN

Mutual

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

MUTUAL

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

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

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JLB 157/76

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

DEMOL.

CT-48

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR

- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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

Wayne L. Nield, II
 Historic Sites Survey
 Brookes Island, Maryland 20615

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Winter 76-77

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

0500486527

Form 10-445
(5-62)

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Calvert County TOWN STREET NO. Mutual ORIGINAL OWNER -- ORIGINAL USE Church PRESENT OWNER Brooks Methodist Cong- PRESENT USE Church regation WALL CONSTRUCTION Clapboard NO. OF STORIES 1-1/2	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY CT-48
	2. NAME Brooks Methodist Church DATE OR PERIOD C. 1870 STYLE Victorian Gothic ARCHITECT BUILDER
	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

This is a simple frame structure notable for its gingerbread and Gothic decorations. It was one of the few small late 19th century Churches of any interest discovered in Calvert County. The Church is three bays wide. The central bay projects, contains the door, and forms the base for a small tower which rises above the peak of the A-roof and then opens into a small open cupola summounted by a steeple. The Church is 4 bays deep and a small three sided apse projects from the rear. All of the windows are pointed lancet-arch Gothic ones filled with plain panels of colored glass. The interior of the Church has simple Victorian wainscoting and simple pews of stained pine.

The interesting feature of the Church is the fleur-de-lis patterned bargeboards and roof trim. Much of the decoration is broken but enough remains to make the Church an attractive and pleasing structure.

In need of repairs, this structure should be maintained.

In need of repairs

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 7. PHOTOGRAPH

delete town map

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER PAB 7/25/67 DATE OF RECORD
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

BROOKS METHODIST CHURCH

The Brooks Methodist Church has been demolished since first being recorded in 1967. At that time, it was described as being "in need of repairs" and was noted for its "gingerbread and gothic decorations". Among those were fleur-de-lis patterned bargeboards.

Photographs show that the building was a wooden frame and clapboard structure, three bays wide and four bays deep. There was an entrance tower decorated with fishscale shingles and a diamond shaped window. The transom over the entrance door, as well as the other windows, are gothic-arch windows with tracery. Brinkman reported these to have contained panels of colored glass.

It is unfortunate that this building did not survive, for it documented nearly a century of the history of this congregation, which claims to be the oldest Methodist Church in the county. According to its own published history, the Brooks Methodist Church was organized in the early nineteenth century. The first building was known as "the meeting house" and public records show the church as being known by several names including "Brooks Chapel", "Brooks Methodist Church and Parsonage", "Colored Methodist Church of Calvert County", and the "Island Creek Church". It was named "Brooks Church" in 1908 in honor of John I. Brooks, a local pastor and undertaker. The "meeting house", which also served as a school, burned c. 1881 and was eventually replaced by this late Victorian building. Both this building and the white Methodist Church, which was its neighbor, stood on ground which people say was donated by the Waters family. Some believe that this donation took place as early as the 1840's. GWD 6/115 of the Land Records of Calvert County indicates that Sewell D. Waters

and his wife Elizabeth conveyed three acres to the "Trustees of the Methodist Church and School of the Colored Population" in 1867. It is not possible that a church existed on this spot prior to taking title for the land.

The Waters Memorial Church is of a different style than the old Brooks building, but is of the same vintage. Both churches shared the same graveyard and stood within one hundred yards of each other. One served the white community and the other the colored. Both owe their beginnings to the Waters family and shared a long history of serving the Methodist community in this area. Many important family names, both black and white, can be found in the cemetery, names which are connected with many of the historic names in the Island Creek and Mutual area.

It is interesting to note that both buildings were known as the "Island Creek Methodist Church" and that both assumed their present names in 1908. According to JLB 54/352 it was at this time the white church became Waters Memorial Methodist Church.



