

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CARR-1011

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic White Rock Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number White Rock Road not for publication

city, town Eldersburg vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" 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	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber

street & number 55 North Center Street folio

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-1011

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The White Rock Church is located on the west side of White Rock Road, about 2½ miles west of Eldersburg in south-central Carroll County. The church sits near the top of a hill and faces east toward the road and the valley beyond. It has a rubble stone foundation, aluminum siding over asbestos shingles, and a gable roof with an east-west ridge. The roof has embossed metal shingles with a hexagon in the center. The church is one-story, and one-bay by three-bays. The east elevation has a new brick vestibule that has just been added. Above it, in the gable end of the original building, is a 2/2 lancet sash with blue glass. The north elevation has three 1/1 square-headed sash with blue glass. The west elevation has a new shed-roof addition, with nothing in the gable end above it. The south elevation has a large shed-roof addition that covers the whole side.

The interior has two-inch wide pine flooring that runs north-south. The original walls have beaded-edge vertical board wainscot below a chair rail. There is a new drop ceiling and new pews. The south wall has new folding doors that open up the south addition to the sanctuary. There is a chimney on the north elevation between the center and west bays. The west end has a new altar rail and furniture, and a three-sided apse in the new west addition. There is a new datestone on the east side of the south addition with "1868 1985" and another new, loose datestone, that has not yet been placed but gives these dates of construction and renovation. There is a cemetery on the west and north sides of the church with stones from the Thomas, Nugent, Costley, Gosnell, and Lowman families.

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-1011

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 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 1868; 1985 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
Chronological/Development Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition: A.D. 1815-1870
Historic Period Themes: Religion
Resource Types: Church, Rural vernacular

Architecturally, the White Rock Church has suffered a loss of integrity as a result of the many additions that have virtually subsumed the original structure. Historically and socially, however, it is still an important community landmark. The 1862 map does not show a church in this vicinity, but it is clearly shown on the 1877 atlas. Built in 1868, many of its first members were probably very recently freed from slavery as a result of the Civil War. The church they built helped to proclaim their independence, even though its forms were typical of the simple rural churches of Carroll County. Such an enterprise, so soon after freedom, must surely have been taxing. The cemetery contains members of black families who are still prominent in this region. The church was most likely associated with the White Rock Building Association which, among other things, was responsible for constructing the nearby Thomas Property (CARR-616) for a local black family in the 1890's.

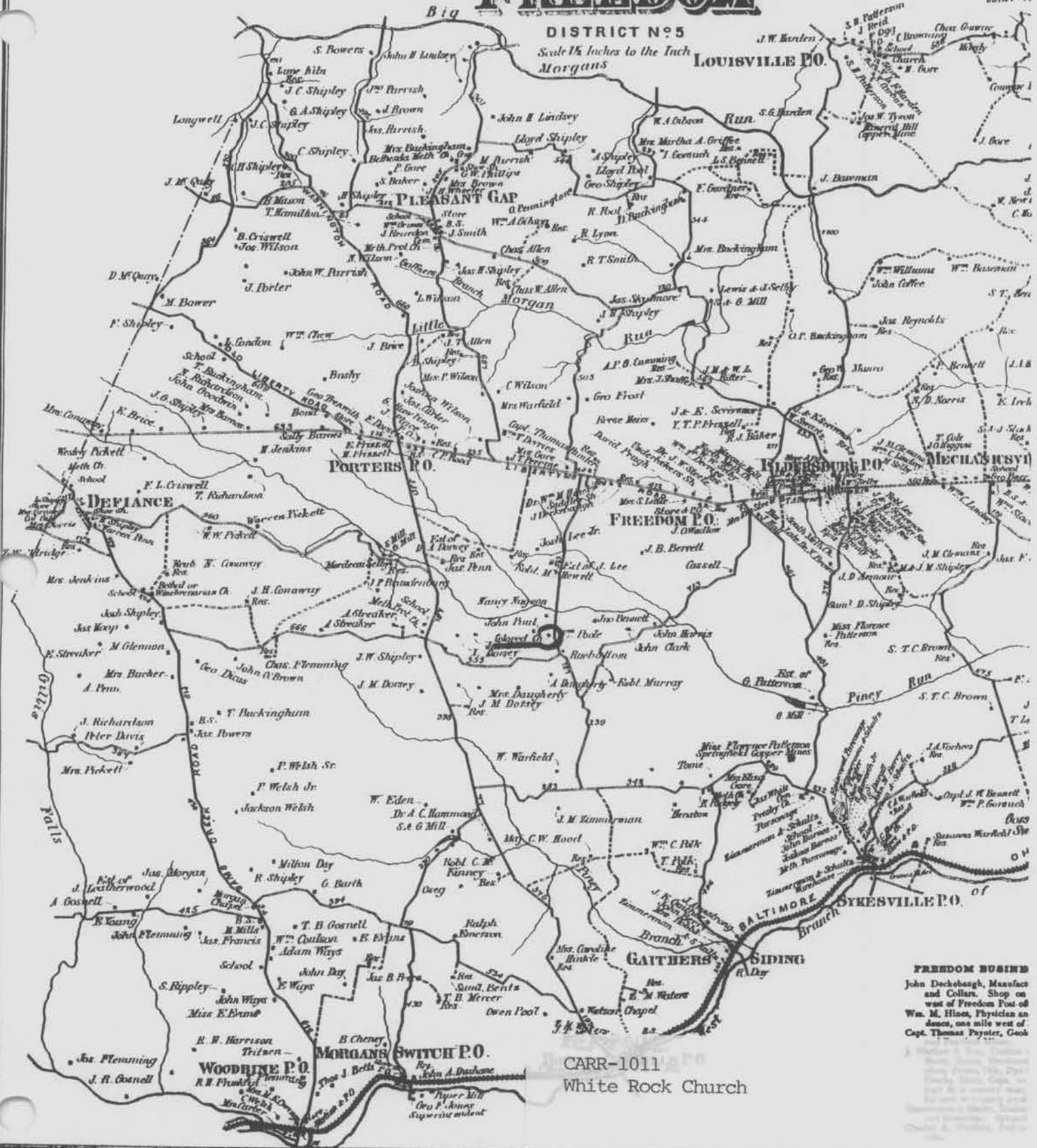
FREEDOM

Big

DISTRICT N^o 5

Scale 1/4 Inches to the Inch
Morgans

LOUISVILLE P.O.



FREEDOM BUSINESS
John Deckerbaugh, Manufact and Collier. Shop on west of Freedom Post of Wm. M. Hixon, Physician on James, one mile west of Capt. Thomas Poynter, Cook

CARR-1011
White Rock Church

Lake, Griffin & Stevenson, Atlas 1877



White Rock Church

White Rock Road

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: July 1993

Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
east • north elevations

1/1