

Mt. Zion, the former Finksburg M.P. Church is a brick structure with central front tower, of Garden Wall bond. The jerkinhead and gable end north/east roofline creates a three-sided back wall which ends the otherwise rectangular building. Its prominent position in Finksburg is clearly visible from the main thoroughfare of Md. 140 which runs west from Reisterstown.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MA6I #0702084608

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Finksburg Methodist Protestant Church
Mount Zion

AND/OR COMMON

Mount Zion Methodist

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

(Now Old Westminster Pike)

Old Finksburg Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Finksburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

Finksburg

COUNTY

Carroll

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
 COMMERICAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Finksburg Meth. Ch.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

W/S Old Finksburg Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Finksburg

VICINITY OF

Finksburg

STATE, zip code

Md. 21048

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #:

NONE

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

225 North Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| 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 DATE 1896 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1856 Brick Structure-
(from photo)

...was a one story, two bay front, three-bay side building with gable roof and stone foundation. Windows had a wood lintel and a base (of either stone or wood), louvered shutters and probably 6/6 panes in a double-hung sash window. The two front 6-panelled doors had a five-pane transom, over each, pilaster and entablature trim. Decorative brackets, supported the front facade cornice. A single chimney accomodated the back. The old cemetary sat to the right of the church.

trivia: The laborers worked from seven to twelve and one to six, as one day's work. Wages were \$2.50 per bay for bricklayers, \$1.75 for plasteres, \$1.25 for painters and 50¢ for general laborers. Total cost of the project was \$6500.

In comparison --1963 statistics for the educational unit:
carpenters - \$2 - \$3 an hour; bricklayers - \$3 - \$3.75 an hour; laborers - \$2 - \$2.25 an hour; painters - \$1.80 - \$2.50 per hour total cost about \$42,000.

1896 Building

The present Mt. Zion is located on the north side of Old Westminster Pike on a soft hill, about 15 yards from it and facing south-west. Directly in back of it, about 10yards, is Maryland 140. It is in the Finksburg area.

The 3 x 4 bay brick building is anchored by a high coursed, rock-faced stone foundation which supports the brick walls of Garden Wall bond. The gable and jerkinhead roof, as well as the tower spire is topped with asphalt shingle. All cornices, save for back wall gable end are supported between each bay and at corners. Between the brackets are wooden dentals. All are box cornices.

The three-bay, south-western front was a central bay entrance bell tower, and a pointed arch, stained glass window with protruding voussoir, stone keystone and plain wood trim, on either side of the tower. The square tower is brick buttressed at the corners with open brick Greek cross designs under the belfry cornice. A finial tops the spire. The open, wooden belfry has a set of three open, pointed arches on all four sides.

The tower front has a vertical, four-part pattern of windows and doors. Below the belfry, there is a round stained glass window with plain wood and dentals in brickwork, trim. Below that a stone reads "Finksburg M. P. Church". Above the stone is a triangular pattern of openbrickwork. Below the stone is a pointed arch, stained glass window with protruding brick voussoir and stone keystone trim. On the main floor level, the front entrance has the same trim as above, a pointed arch, stained glass transom and a double, two-panelled door. There are double trefoil shaped lights above the panels on the doors. Two side, recent brick, one-run stairs with a central landing accomodate the entrance.

The south-east and north-west side walls are fourbays of windows each on the sanctuary story. Their shape and wood trim is the same as windows on the front wall, but the voussoir does not protrude and they lack the stone keystone. On all the pointed arch windows around the structure it is interesting to note the row of brick dentals as the innermost rim below the voussoir work. The basement levels of these two side are four bays each built into the high stone foundation. The south/east side has three bays of 6/6 windows with brick trim and a northernmost, six-panelled, double recessed wooden door with

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Finksburg Methodist Church
Mount Zion Methodist

7 DESCRIPTION

a five light transom. Trim is the same on this door as the windows. Windows are identical on the north-west wall (four bays) basement level,

The north-east back wall has a central exterior, single brick chimney with a corbelled cap and a bay of a single, pointed arch, window with voussoir trim and dental work on either side. The jerkin head and gable end roofline affect the back wall which is a three-part structure. The wall structure accomodates the interior chancel area. The working basement level of the back wall is unexposed. It is attached to the 1962 running bond addition, which has a flat roof.

Brick buttresses divide the bays and are on each corner of the structure.

INTERIOR One enters from the tower entrance into a narthex whose shape echoes the broken lines of the front facade and tower. The flat ceiling and walls are plaster. Walls have contemporary wainscot. The interior window and door trim is plain. A central and two side double contemporary swinging pointed arch doors lead to the nave. An interior, curved stairway, with a heavy wood railing, balusters, and a square newel accomodates either side of the narthex.

The nave is eleven pews deep with a central and side aisles. Floors have wall to wall carpeting. Walls are painted, moulded sheets of tin with repetitive fleur-de-lis pattern and have high contemporary wainscot. The ceilings are the same tin sheets, but coffered. The ceiling is gable shaped. The chancel wall and ceiling adhere to the exterior wall and roofline. The northeast central altar furniture, as well as the rest of the chancel and nave furniture is contemporary.

Windows, fourbays on either side wall and one bay on either side of the altar, have plain trim and three inch sills.

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 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 checked="" 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 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1856, the Finksburg Congregation, a group of Methodist Protestants, met in the Finksburg School House to incorporate and to elect trustees to manage their interest and organization. The papers of incorporation were drawn up and recorded in the Carroll County Court House in this year. A plot of land, part of a tract called "Hookers Meadows" on the west side of the turnpike was bought by the trustees from one Benjamin Byers for \$100. The 30 x 40 foot, brick structure described in #7 of the form was put up in 1856. At this time, the Finksburg M.P. Church was part of the Baltimore Circuit.

In 1860, the Finksburg Circuit included itself, Mt. Gilead, Deer Park, Providence, Pleasant Gap, Cullisons, Armacosts and Sandymount.

In 1883, the Finksburg Circuit was divided and it included the recently renamed Mt. Zion, Sandymount, Mt. Gilead and Providence.

By 1896 the Finksburg Congregation outgrew the small one-story structure. They first purchased a four-acre lot from one S.B. Stocksdale and sons Harry and Mordecai for \$500 for a new building and cemetery. On July 5th, a Farewell Anniversary was held marking the 26th Anniversary of the Sabbath School Association as well as the last anniversary to be held in the then present Church building. The original building was torn down in such a manner as to make it possible to reuse the old bricks and wood in the new building. In order to sell the old church lot, the bodies of two former parishoners had to be taken up and reinterred in the New Cemetery. The lot was then sold for \$102.

The new cornerstone was laid on Thursday August, 20, 1896, dedication October 31, 1897. On the 30th Anniversary of the Sabbath School, 1907, the church found itself out of debt.

In 1909, a 1000 pound bell was hung. In 1925 when an electric line from Reisterstown was extended through Finksburg, the church was rewired and electric lights installed.

1944, extensive repair was made on the church, including painting and carpentry work.

In 1952, the sanctuary walls and ceiling, all woodwork, pews and pulpit furniture were repainted. Again new wiring and electrical fixtures were acquired. A tile floor was laid in the vestibule. Around the same time, wooden steps at the entrance of the church were replaced with brick steps on either side of a brick landing. Cement walks and iron railings were added also. The belfry was repaired and the outside woodwork of the church was painted.

On October 28, 1962, a new educational unit was dedicated and included, a 40 foot by 60 foot all-purpose room joined the rear of the church and a kitchen area of 16 feet by 26 feet.

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 | MARYLAND | COUNTY | CARROLL |
| STATE | | COUNTY | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Fredi Eckhardt historic site surveyor

ORGANIZATION Carroll County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER 210 East Main Street

TELEPHONE 848-6494

CITY OR TOWN Westminster

STATE Md.

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

Cont. - ~~165~~ 165
Mt. Zion Methodist
Finksburg



ORIGINAL FINKSBURG METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
1856



Mt. Zion Methodist, Fatesburg

March - 79

Can. - ~~208~~ 165

s/w tower devation

fredi E.



Mt. Zion Methodist, Finksburg

March - 79

Car. - ~~208~~ 165

W/E back + S/E side

free E.