

Alexandria Chapel (relocated)
CH-309
Chicamuxen vic.
Public

Circa 1900

Alexandria Chapel is typical of the rural churches built in Charles County at the turn of the 20th century. The front-gable frame structure stands directly on the north side of Chicamuxen Road and is characterized by its central belltower attached to the principal elevation that serves as a foyer. The structure is three bays wide and four bays in length with a one-story addition attached to the rear elevation. It features an original turned wooden pinnacle, lancet windows and a decorative 3-part triangle-shaped window on the belltower's south elevation.

Alexandria Chapel (relocated) is significant as the home of one of the earliest African-American congregations in Charles County. The church is said to have been established by the Jordan Family on land they had acquired after Emancipation, and land records confirm that in 1872 William A. Jordan purchased 5 ½ acres of land in Chicamuxen from Thomas J. and Sophia Milstead. According to oral tradition, on this tract a log chapel was erected and camp meetings were held nearby. Originally known as Jordan's Chapel, a frame church was constructed in 1888. At the turn of the 20th century the present Alexandria Chapel was erected at a nearby site where the Alexandria Church Cemetery is still in use (CH-128). After the construction of MD 224, the church was relocated to its current location.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-309

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Alexandria Chapel (relocated)

other

2. Location

street and number 5601 Chicamuxen Road not for publication

city, town Indian Head X vicinity

county Charles

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

name Alexandria Chapel Methodist Church

street and number 3640 Stump Neck Road telephone 301-743-3939

city, town Indian Head state MD zip code 20640

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 29 p. 162

city, town La Plata liber 75 folio 252

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
- Other _____

6. Classification

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

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-309

Condition

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |
-

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

Alexandria Chapel is typical of the rural churches built in Charles County at the turn of the 20th century. The front-gable frame structure stands directly on the north side of Chicamuxen Road and is characterized by its central belltower attached to the principal elevation that serves as a foyer. The structure is three bays wide and four bays in length with a one story addition attached to the rear elevation. The structure features an original turned wooden pinnacle, lancet windows and a decorative 3-part triangle-shaped window on the belltower's south elevation. The structure has a composition roof and replacement vinyl siding. The original structure stands on a concrete piers infilled with block foundation, while the addition has a continuous concrete block foundation. The interior was not available at the time of the survey. Although some accounts state that a frame structure was built on the original site in 1888, the limited visible architectural features indicate that 1900 is a more likely construction date for this structure.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-309

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 industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1900; 1951

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates 1900; 1951

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 reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Alexandria Chapel (relocated) is significant as the home of one of the earliest African-American congregations in Charles County. The church is said to have been established by the Jordan Family on land they had acquired after Emancipation. Land records confirm that in 1872, William A. Jordan purchased 5 1/2 acres of land in Chicamuxen from Thomas J. And Sophia Milstead. (GAH 3/500). According to oral tradition, on this tract a log chapel was erected and camp meetings were held nearby. Originally known as Jordan's Chapel, a frame church was constructed in 1888. At the turn of the 20th century the present Alexandria Chapel was erected at a nearby site where the Alexandria Church Cemetery is still in use (CH-128). After the construction of MD 224, the church was relocated to its current location. The 8.5 acre parcel had been acquired in 1941 by the Alexandria Chapel Methodist Church trustees.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-309

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 8
Acreage of historical setting 8
Quadrangle name Indian Head Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Alexandria Chapel is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 29, Parcel 162, Grid 18.

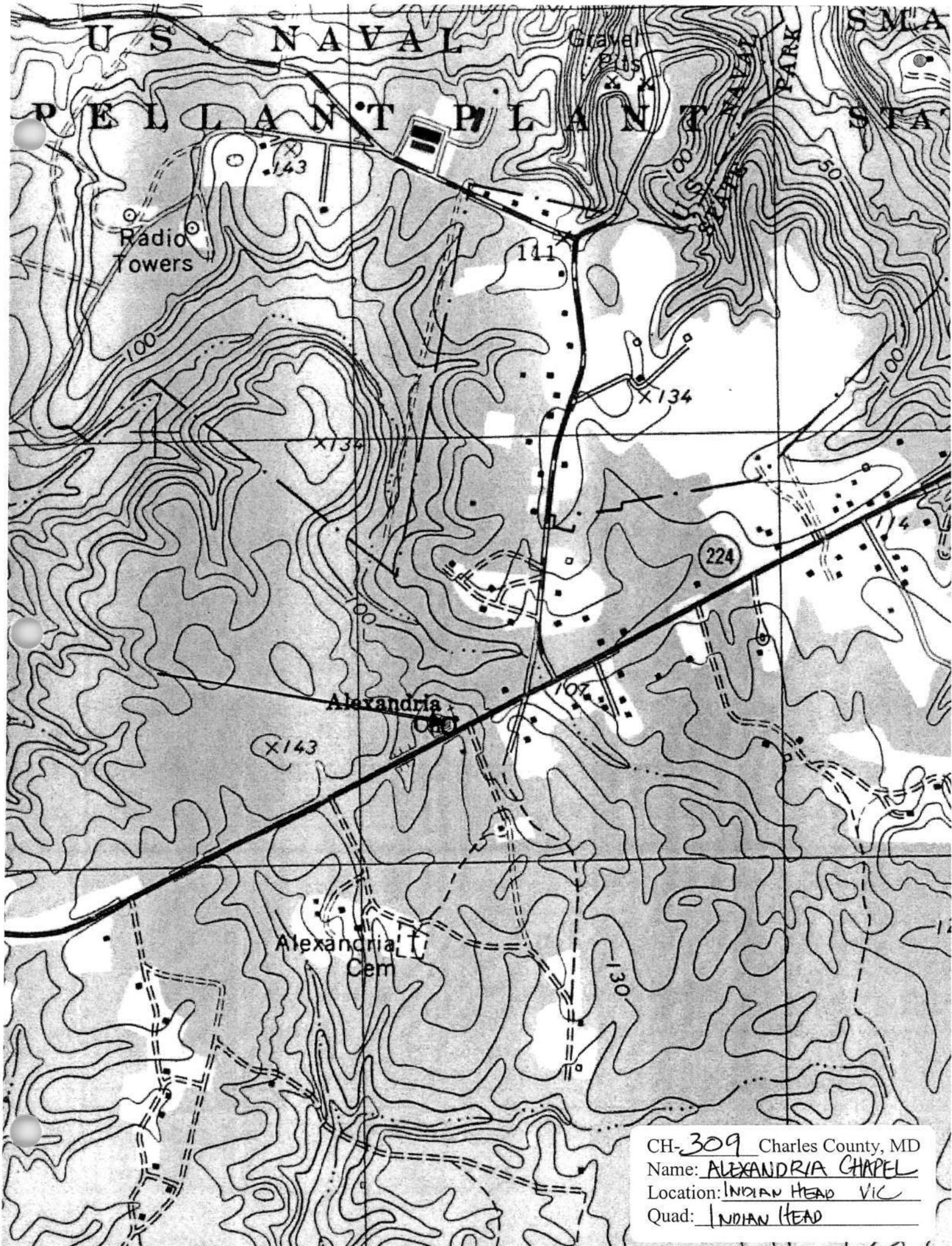
11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Hardy/ Historic Sites Survey		
organization	Charles County Planning	dat	9/5/2002
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-5815
city or town	La Plata	stat MD	zip code 20646

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
410-514-7600



CH-309 Charles County, MD
Name: ALEXANDRIA CHAPEL
Location: INDIAN HEAD VIC
Quad: INDIAN HEAD



CH-309
ALEXANDRIA CHAPEL (relocated)
CHARLES CO. MD
C. HAROY
6/2002
MD SHPO
LOOKING WEST

lof4

ALEXANDRIA METHODIST
CHURCH

RE-LOCATED 9-23-51

PASTOR

REV. N. M. GOOLSBY

CH-309
ALEXANDRIA CHAPEL (relocated)
CHARLES CO, MD
C. HARDY
C/2002
MD SHPO
CORNERSTONE

2004



CH-309
ALEXANDRIA CHAPEL (relocated)
CHARLES CO. MD
C. HARDY

6/2002

MD SHPO

REAR ELEVATION

30P4



CH-309
ALEXANDRIA CHAPEL (relocated)

CHARLES CO. MD

C. HARDY

6/2002

MD SHPO

LOOKING N

4 of 4

ADDENDUM

CH-309A
Alexandria Church, Chicamuxen Community Hall
Charles County, MD
Chicamuxen vic.
Cathy Hardy, January 2003

7. Description

Chicamuxen Community Hall, is a one-story front-gable frame structure located on the northwest end of the Alexandria Church Property. The building, standing on the north side of Chicamuxen Road and the west side of Stump Neck Road, has a metal roof and rests on poured concrete piers. The south elevation includes a centered double front door flanked by single 2/2 windows on either side. The eave elevations include four bays under exposed roof rafters. The rear elevation includes a rear entrance door and a window. The front elevation is covered in vinyl siding while the remaining walls are covered in asbestos shingle siding with a scalloped edge.

8. Significance

The structure appears to date from the early 20th century, and in overall size and design it is similar to schoolhouses and other modest public buildings in Charles County built during the first half of the 20th century. However, USGS maps of 1913 or 1925 do not indicate the presence of a structure on the site.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The site is designated as Parcel 162 , Map 29 on the Charles County Property Tax Map.



CHAMBERLAIN
COMMUNITY HALL

5601

CH 309A
ALEXANDRIA CHURCH, Chicamuxen Community Hall
CHARLES CO. MD
C. HAROY
6/2002
MD SHPO
CHICAMUXEN HALL
FRONT ELEV
1 OF 2



CH-309A

ALEXANDRIA CHURCH, Chicamuxen Community Hall

CHARLES CO. MD

C. HARDY

6/2002

MD SHPO

CHICAMUXEN HALL

REAR ELEV

2 of 2

Charles - 309
Alexandria Chapel (Methodist)
Rt.224
Rison,MD 20681

1891, 1951

Access:Public

This church was moved from its original site in 1951. It stands on the west side of Rt.224 in an area known as Chickamuxen. Alexandria Chapel is in an isolated region of western Charles County. It's history is obscure but the congregation was founded in the later half of the nineteenth century, The church membership is made up of small farmers and agricultural workers. The original site of the church was on Stump Neck.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CH - 309
MAGI#090309⁵⁵08

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Alexandria Chapel (Jordan's Chapel)
AND/OR COMMON Alexandria M.E. Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER (MD Rt. 224) Mason Springs Chicamuxen Road
CITY, TOWN Rison VICINITY OF Chickamuxen CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First
STATE Maryland COUNTY Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" 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 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 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, Alexandria Chapel Telephone #: 753-6553
C/O Rev. Harvey R. Custis
STREET & NUMBER Box 121
CITY, TOWN Indian Head VICINITY OF STATE, zip code MD, 20640

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles County Court House Liber #: 17 Folio #: 128
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN La Plata STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE N/A
DATE
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN STATE

_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE DATE 1891
 MOVED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This church was moved from its original site near Stump Neck Rd. in 1951. It stands on the west side of Rt. 224 in an area known as Chickamuxen. It is reached by a flight of 11 concrete steps from the road. The entrance is another 25' from the top of these steps. The church faces east. It is 36' across the front facade and 60' in depth. It is constructed of weatherboard now covered with asbestos shingles. There is a small entrance tower with 6-panel double wooden doors. There is a triangular clear glass window mid way up the tower. The tower has a louvered belfry with a squat spire. There are two three-ft. 3-over-3 clear-glass lancet windows in the front facade (one on each side of the entrance tower). There are 4 of these identical lancet windows on the north side of the building and four more on the south side.

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 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 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 1891-1951

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Alexandria Chapel is in an isolated area of western Charles County. It's history is obscure but the congregation has been located near Rison since the later half of the nineteenth century. The church membership is made up of small farmers and agricultural workers. It is a very poor region. The original site of this church was on Stump Neck.

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

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American
History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

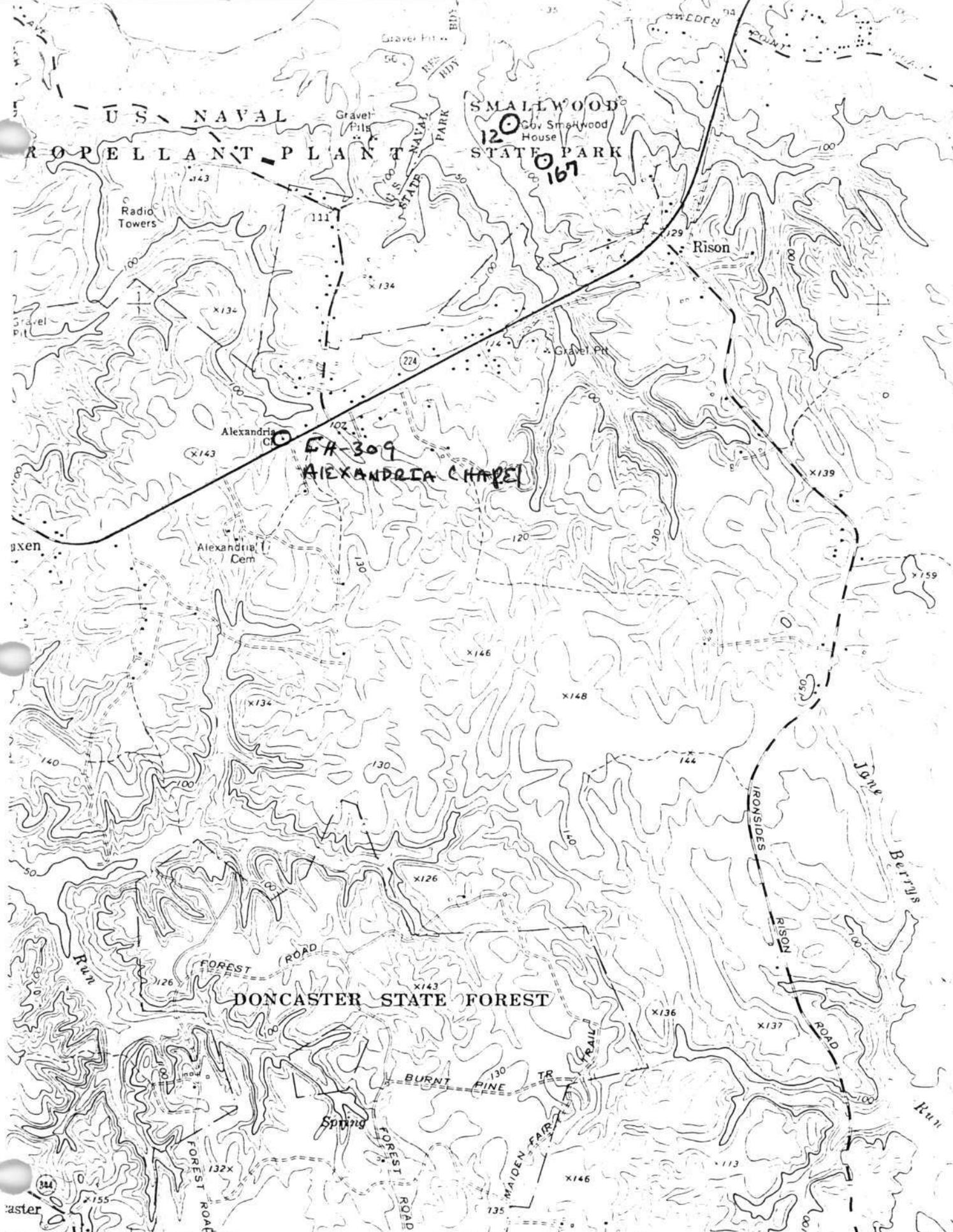
STATE

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



MOY 4 MI 12'30" 308 309 (NANJEMOY) 5560 I NW 310 10'

CH-309

SCALE 1:24,000

INDIAN HEAD

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET



CH-309

Alexandria Chapel
Rison, Charles County, Maryland
Michael Hosford

CH-309

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



CH-309

Alexandria Chapel
Rison, Charles County, Maryland
Michael Hosford

CH-309

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



Ch 309
Jordan Chapel
Chicamuxen, Md.
West elevation
GWM
7-77



ALEXANDRIA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
WORSHIP SERVICE 12 NOON
CHURCH SCHOOL 10:45 A.M.
PASTOR HARVEY R. CUSTIS

CH 309
Jordan Chapel
Chicamuxen, Md.
Facade, south elevation
GWM
7-77