

D-267

St. John's United Methodist Church  
Golden Hill vicinity  
c. 1890-1900

The St. John's United Methodist Church, located in Kirwan Neck in southern Dorchester County, is a single-story, gable-front frame structure reflecting in a modest way the pervasive influences of the Gothic and Colonial Revivals that guided church designs during the period from 1840 through the mid twentieth century. At John's the Gothic Revival is represented in the use of pointed arch lancet window on each side, and the Colonial Revival modifications during the mid twentieth century were focused on a re-design of the front entrance. Fluted pilasters visually support a segmental arched pediment. The congregational history claims a formation date during the post Revolutionary War period. A Methodist Episcopal church is located at this site on the Lake District map of the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic St. John's M. E. Church

other St. John's United Methodist Church

## 2. Location

street and number 3244 Kirwan Neck Road not for publication

city, town Golden Hill  vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name Trustees of St. John's United Methodist Church

street and number RFD telephone

city, town Church Creek state MD zip code 21622

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 154 folio 135

city, town Cambridge tax map 85 tax parcel 27 tax ID number 05-076315

## 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 at MHT  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	<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	1	<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:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				_____	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-267

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

St. John's United Methodist Church is located at 3244 Kirwan Neck Road in the Lake's Election District of Dorchester County, Maryland. Built during the late nineteenth century, the single-story, gable-front frame church is supported on a mid twentieth century continuous brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Pointed arch Gothic style windows light the sanctuary. The church is joined on the lot by a nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery, and a single-story church hall is located across the road. The church faces southeast with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

St. John's United Methodist Church stands on the west side of Kirwan Neck Road in the northern end of the Lakes Election District in southwestern Dorchester County, Maryland. Supported on a mid twentieth century brick foundation, the Gothic revival inspired church is clad with aluminum siding, and the steeply pitched gable-front roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The church has a southeastern front exposure.

Built around 1890-1900, the gable-front church is defined by center, double-door entrance framed by a Colonial Revival surround dating to the mid twentieth century. The surround has a segmental arched decoration above the double doors, which are flanked by fluted pilasters. A handicapped ramp of poured concrete and brick extends forward of the doorway. The upper gable end is marked by a round, colored glass window with six pie-shaped panes. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave that has returns at the base of the roof.

The southwest side is a two-bay façade with a pair of pointed arch Gothic style windows lighting the sanctuary. Rising between the two windows is a single flue brick stove stack rebuilt during the mid twentieth century. The edge of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice. The northeast side is defined by two pointed arch, colored glass windows as well.

The northwest (rear) wall features a shed roofed, three-sided apse with small Gothic style pointed arch windows in each side wall.

The interior was not open for inspection on the site visit. Standing on the east side of Kirwan Neck Road is a single story frame church hall.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-267

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
X 1800-1899	x architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	x 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 history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

## SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The St. John's United Methodist Church represents the smallest form of rural meeting houses erected in Dorchester County during the late nineteenth century, and it reflects the pervasive influence of the Gothic and Colonial revivals that guided church designs during the period from 1840s through the mid twentieth century. At St. John's the Gothic revival is reflected in the use of pointed arch windows on each side, and the Colonial revival modifications were executed with redesign of the double door entrance with its fluted pilasters and segmental arched pediment. The congregation claims a date of formation during post Revolutionary War period. A Methodist Episcopal church is located at this site on the Lake District map printed in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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St. John's United Methodist Church  
3244 Kirwans Neck Road  
Golden Hill vicinity, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 85, Parcel 27

154/135

Edgar Albert Cusick and Doris D. Cusick, his wife, George Carroll Cusick and Merilyn T. Cusick, his wife, Helen C. Travers and Eugene T. Travers, her husband and Robert Washington Cusick and Jane M. Cusick, his wife, and Norman Lee Cusick, unmarried, all of Dorchester County, and Charles Maurice Cusick and Marie F. Cusick of Anne Arundel County, Clinton James Cusick and Reba L. Cusick, his wife of Baltimore County, Herbie Elmer Cusick and Virginia Emily Cusick his wife, of St. Timothy Parish, Louisiana, and Woodrow Granville Cusick and Wilma Jean Cusick his wife, of Dorchester County, Maryland

to

8.19.1967

Trustees of St. John's Methodist Church

All of that lot or parcel of land situate lying and being on the northwest Side of Kirwans Neck Road in Lakes or No. 5 Election District, which is more particularly described in a Certificate of Survey thereof issued under the date of December 7, 1966 by J. R. McCrone, Jr., Inc.

38,825 square feet of land

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. D-267

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 38,480 square feet

Acreage of historical setting \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Golden Hill, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	9.20.2013
street & number	Cedar Hill, P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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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:

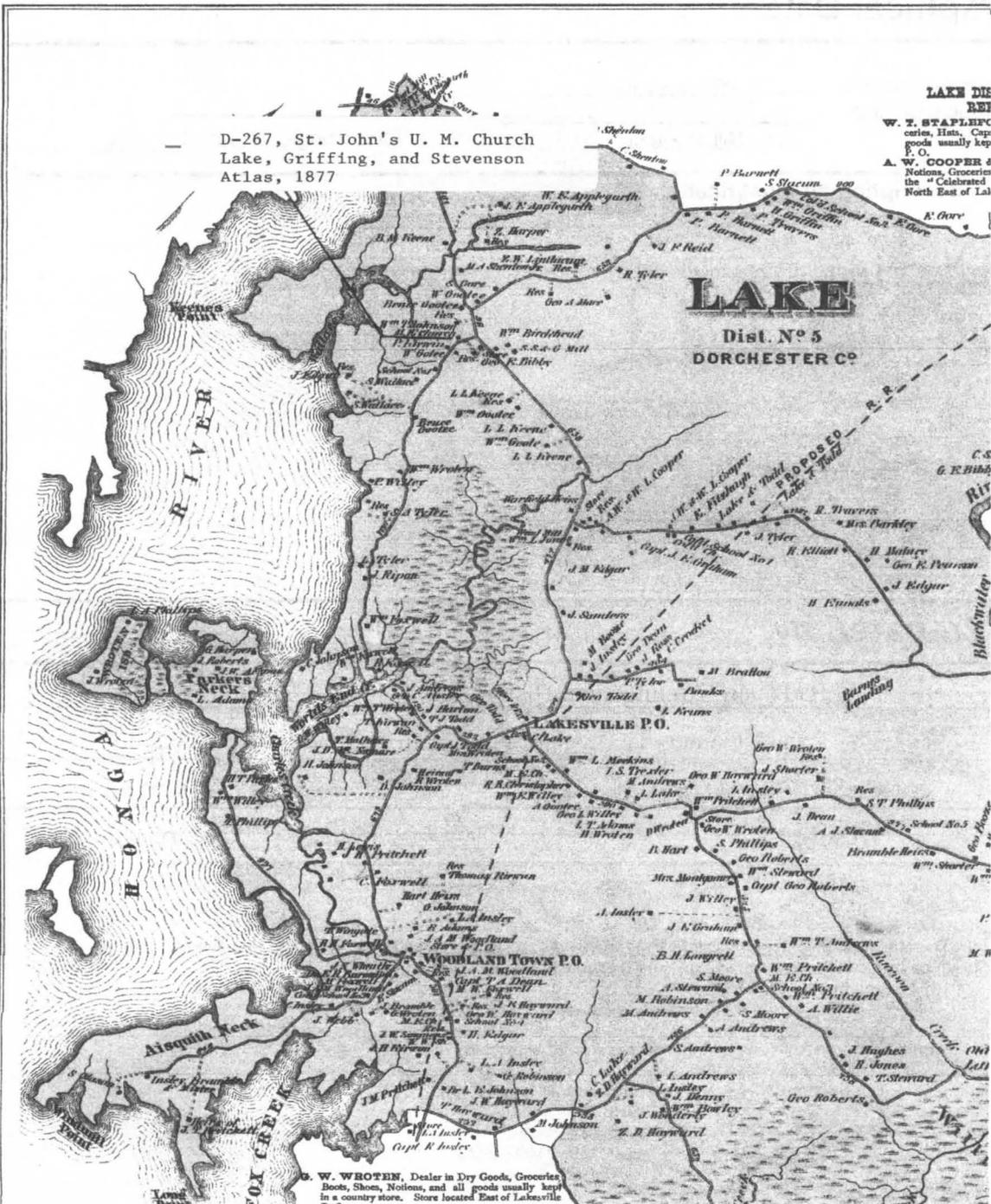
Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

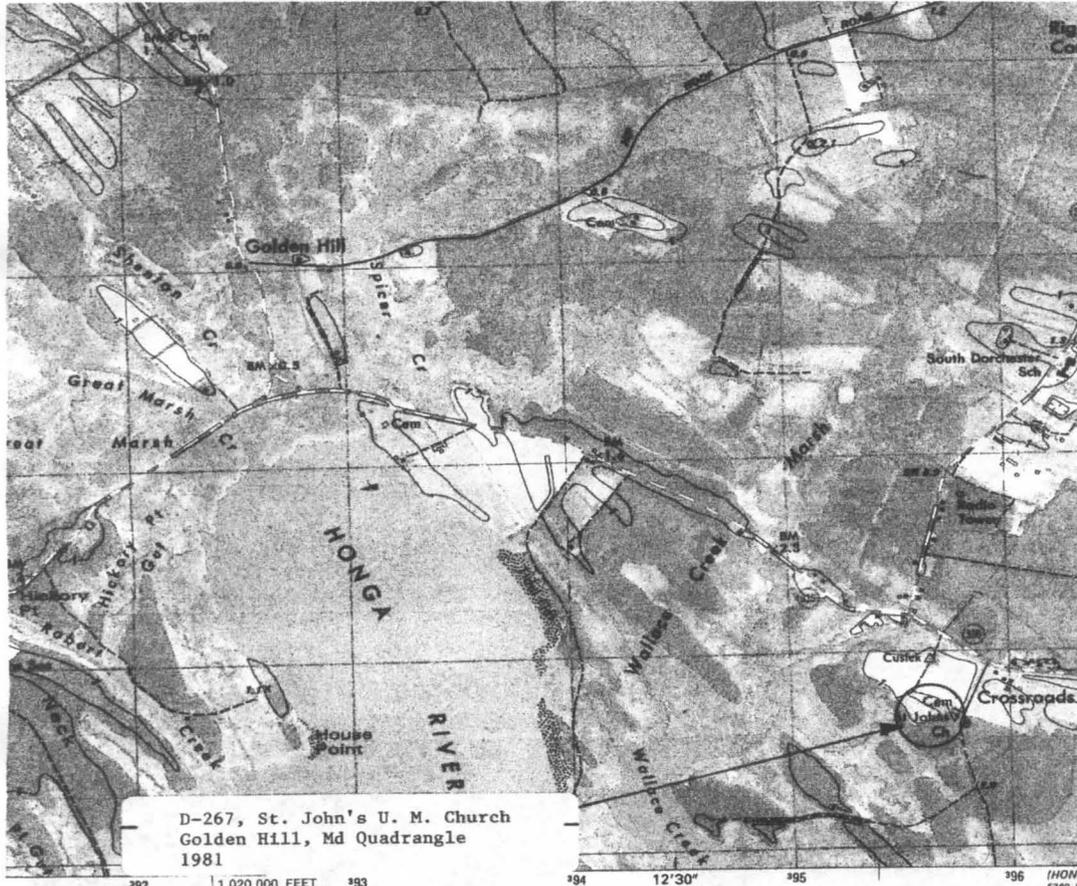


# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

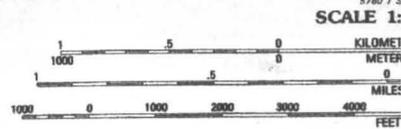
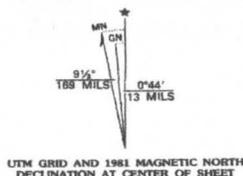
Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2



United States Geological Survey  
and NOS/NOAA

Prepared from aerial photograph taken  
topography by planimetric surveys  
dated 1980. Map edited 1981  
Map Service topographic map dated 1942  
Topographic data compiled from NOS chart 12264 (1980)  
Map is not intended for navigational purposes  
1:50,000-meter grid, zone 18: Universal  
Transverse Mercator  
Coordinates based on Maryland coordinate system  
Vertical datum: Mean Sea Level  
Horizontal datum: Predicted North American Datum 1983  
Grid lines 8 meters south and  
shown by dashed corner ticks  
Private inholdings within the boundaries of  
Federal reservations shown on this map



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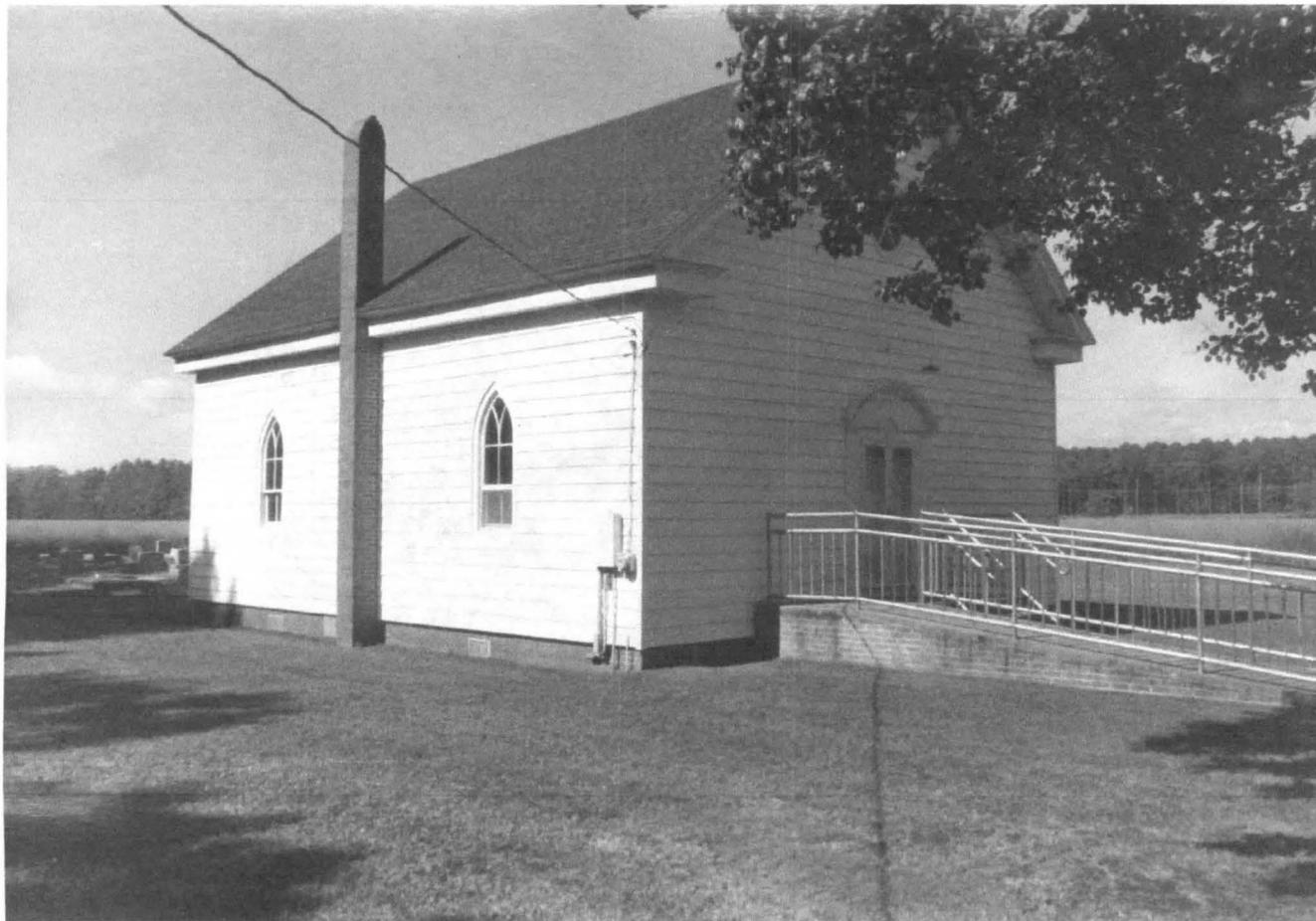
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATION  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL S  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 3



D-267, St. John's United Methodist Church, southeast elevation, Golden Hill vicinity, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-267

Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 4



D-267, St. John's United Methodist Church, east elevation, Golden Hill vicinity, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

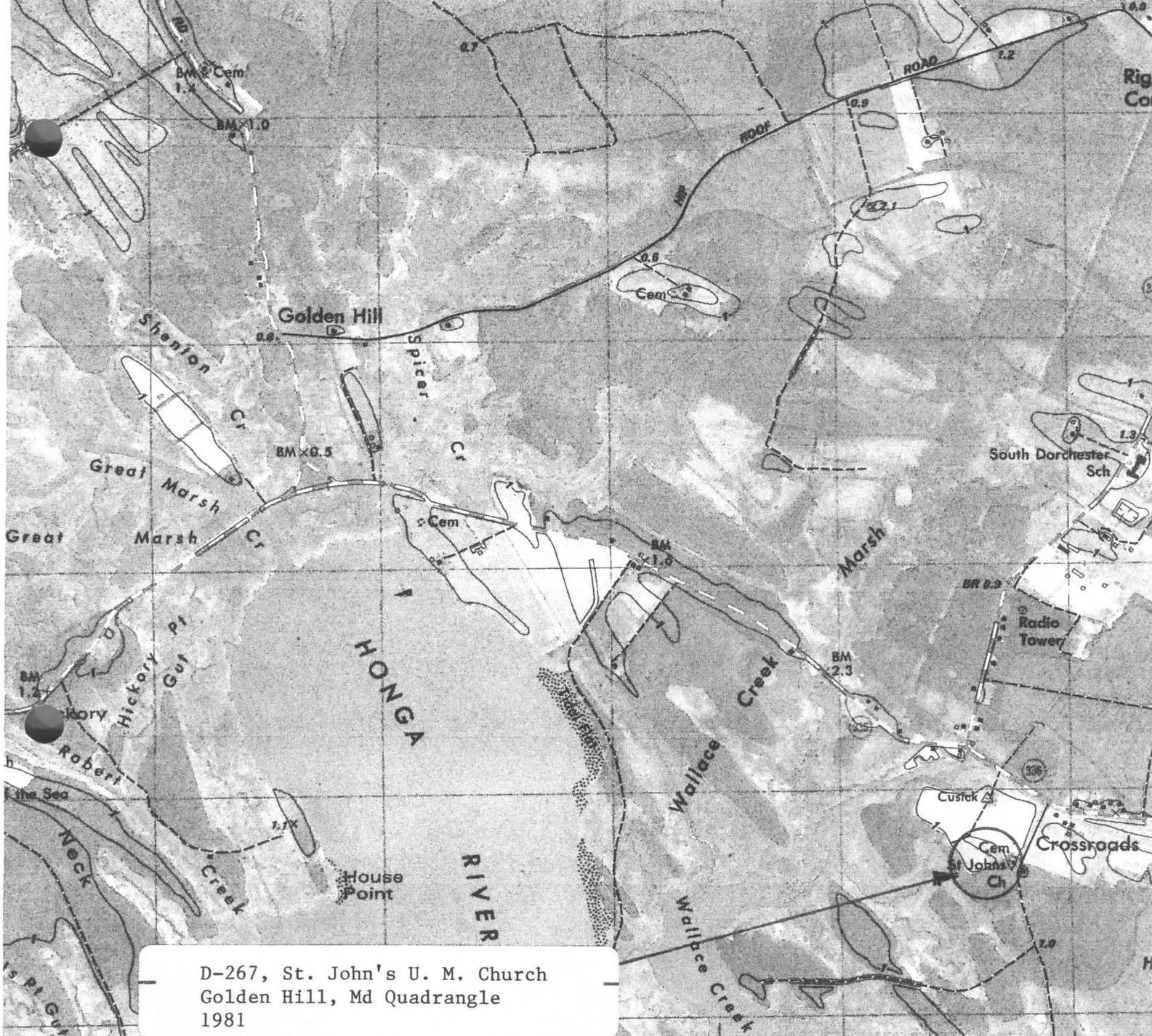
Inventory No. D-267

Name St. John's United Methodist Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 5



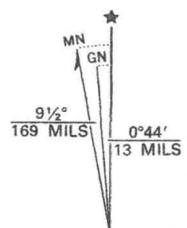
D-267, St. John's United Methodist Church, southwest elevation, Golden Hill vicinity, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013



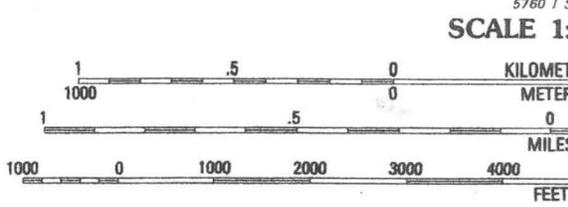
D-267, St. John's U. M. Church  
 Golden Hill, Md Quadrangle  
 1981

**the United States Geological Survey**

IS and NOS/NOAA  
 prepared from aerial photograph taken  
 Topography by planetable surveys  
 checked 1980. Map edited 1981  
 by Map Service topographic map dated 1942  
 graphic data compiled from NOS chart 12264 (1980)  
 is not intended for navigational purposes  
 1000-meter grid, zone 18: Universal  
 sator  
 l tick based on Maryland coordinate system  
 er Datum  
 predicted North American Datum 1983  
 tion lines 8 meters south and  
 as shown by dashed corner ticks  
 rivate inholdings within the boundaries of  
 State reservations shown on this map



UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



**SCALE 1:**

CONTOUR INTERVAL  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERT  
 CONTROL AND OTHER ELEVATIONS SH  
 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN ME  
 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE  
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THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONA  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SI  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS A



D-267

St. John's U.M. Church

Golden Hill vic., Dorchester Co., Md.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

9. 2013, Paul B. Toward, PHOTO.

NTH./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

#1 OF 3



D-267

St. John's d. d. Church

Golden Hill vic, Dorchester Co. Md.

EAST ELEVATION

9.2013, Paul B. Towser, PITTS,

WEG / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

# 2 of 3



D-267

St. John's U. M. Church

Golden Rule UIC, Donnetten Co. Md.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

9.2013, Paul B. Touant, PHOTO.

NE. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

#3 of 3

D-267  
1002674608

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
St. John's Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Kirwan Neck Road

CITY OR TOWN:  
Church Creek

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
St. John's Church

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Kirwan Neck Road

CITY OR TOWN: Church Creek STATE: Maryland 21622

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge STATE: Maryland 21613

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>St. John's Church is a small rectangular chapel built upon a brick foundation. It has a central entrance on its east gable with a 20th century segmentally arched architrave and double doors. In the gable is a round window divided into six pie-shape panes. The overhanging eave returns at the cornice. Between the two lancet arched windows on the south side is a brick chimney.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Like several chapels in Dorchester County, St. John's dates from the latter part of the nineteenth century and has served the religious needs of the community since it was constructed. It is an interesting vernacular ecclesiastical building and bears a resemblance to Antioch Church, eventhough the latter possesses miter arched windows, and more of them.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Blank area for Acreage Justification.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: May, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

21401

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

15X1 57

50% D-267



D-267

M. Bourne May 1975