

D-277

George W. Bounds Memorial Church
Robbins
1889

A marble datestone inscribed with the name George W. Bounds and the date 1889 is one of the last nineteenth century structures to define the rural community known as Robbins that developed in and around Shorter's Wharf during the mid to late nineteenth century. Located on the Blackwater River, a tributary of Fishing Bay, Shorter's Wharf was a principal access point for residents of the Lake and Bucktown election districts. Similar to many churches in southern Dorchester, the sanctuary and tower are marked by pointed arch lancet windows representative of the Gothic Revival style. The corner entrance tower, pierced by a pointed arch, double-door entrance, was topped by an open belfry covered with a medium pitched pyramidal roof. Since the mid 1970s the open belfry has been enclosed.

Reverend George W. Bounds, who served this rural congregation during the late nineteenth century, was honored by naming this Gothic Revival church after him when it was erected in 1889. The Lake election district map of 1877 captures the state of development of the community with several members of the Shorter and Robbins families residing here at that time. In 1892, Planner and Mamie Robbins, and Charles C. and Emily Gore transferred title to a one-half acre parcel of land on the south side of the road, land where the church had been recently erected. The property description identified the location as on the south side of the road "leading from Thomas Andrews Store to Robbins (formerly Shorter's) Wharf on Blackwater River."

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic George W. Bounds Memorial Church
 other Bounds Memorial Church

2. Location

street and number Shorter's Wharf Road not for publication
 city, town Robbins vicinity
 county Dorchester

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

name Trustees of Bounds Methodist Church
 street and number _____ telephone _____
 city, town Robbins state MD zip code _____

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber CL 17 folio 534
 city, town Cambridge tax map 87 tax parcel 11 tax ID number 5-076099

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	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion		<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<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

7. Description

Inventory No. D-277

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

The George W. Bounds Memorial Church, or more simply the Bounds Methodist Episcopal Church, is located on the south side of Shorter's Wharf Road in the community of Robbins in the Lakes Election District of Dorchester County, Maryland. Built in 1889, the church is supported on a brick pier foundation, the exterior is clad with a combination of aluminum and vinyl siding. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Rising on the northeast corner is a pyramidal roofed entrance tower, which has been altered during the last thirty years with the enclosure of a formerly open belfry.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The George W. Bounds Memorial Church, also known as the Bounds M. E. Church, is located on the south side of Shorter's Wharf Road in the community of Robbins in Lakes Election District, Dorchester County, Maryland. Built in 1889, the single-story, Gothic Revival frame church is supported by a brick pier foundation and the exterior is clad with a combination of aluminum and vinyl siding. The gable-front main façade includes a side entrance bell tower topped by a pyramidal roof.

The north (main) façade is an asymmetrical elevation with a double door side entrance flanked to the west by a pair of multi-pane colored glass windows. The paneled half-leaf doors have ogee profile panel moldings. The double door opening is topped by a three-light pointed arch transom. Fixed in the upper gable end is a diamond shaped colored glass window. The edge of the gable roof is finished with an extended eave. Fixed in the northwest corner of the foundation is a marble datestone inscribed "Geo. W. Bounds Church, 1889."

The west side elevation is defined by four pointed arch colored glass lancet style windows fitted with colored glass perimeter panes. The base of the gable roof has a boxed cornice, and rising through the side is a single flue concrete block stove chimney. The east side elevation is marked by three pointed arch colored glass windows, and an interior side concrete block stove chimney. A small lancet window filled with colored glass panes pierces the east side of the entrance tower.

The rear wall of the church is extended by a three sided apse covered by a low pitched roof. The two angled sides of the apse are pierced by pointed arch colored glass windows. Attached to the rear southeast corner is a small enclosed rear entry covered by a shed roof. The edge of the roof has an extended eave.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-277

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input 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 history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1889

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

A marble datestone inscribed with the name George W. Bounds and the date 1889 is one of the last nineteenth structures to define the rural community that developed in and around Shorter's Wharf during the mid to late nineteenth century. Located on the Blackwater River, a tributary of Fishing Bay, Shorter's Wharf was a principal access point for residents in the Lake and Bucktown election districts. The Methodist Episcopal congregation was formed during the last decades of the nineteenth century. Similar to many churches in southern Dorchester, the sanctuary and tower are marked by pointed arch lancet windows reflective of the Gothic Revival style. The corner entrance tower, pierced by a pointed arch, double door entrance, was topped by an open belfry covered with a short pyramidal spire. Since the mid 1970s, the belfry has been enclosed.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Reverend George W. Bounds, who served this rural congregation during the late nineteenth century, was honored by naming this Gothic Revival church after him when it was erected in 1889. The church served the small community of Robbins, which developed around Shorter's Wharf and the road leading to it. The Lake election district map printed in 1877 captures the state of development of the community, where several members of the Shorter and Robbins family resided at that time. In 1892, Planner and Mamie Robbins, and Charles C. and Emily Gore transferred title to one-half acre of land on the south side road, land where the church had been recently erected. The property description identified the location as on the south side of the road "leading from Thomas Andrews Store to Robbins (formerly Shorter's) Wharf on Blackwater River."¹

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 17/534, 24 September 1892, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Robbins, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 87, Parcel 38

CL 17/534

Planner Robbins and Mamie Robbins and
Charles C. Gore and Emily Gore

to

9.24.1892

Planner P. Robbins, Joseph Robbins, Charles C. Gore, R. H. Tyler
and William Robins, Trustees

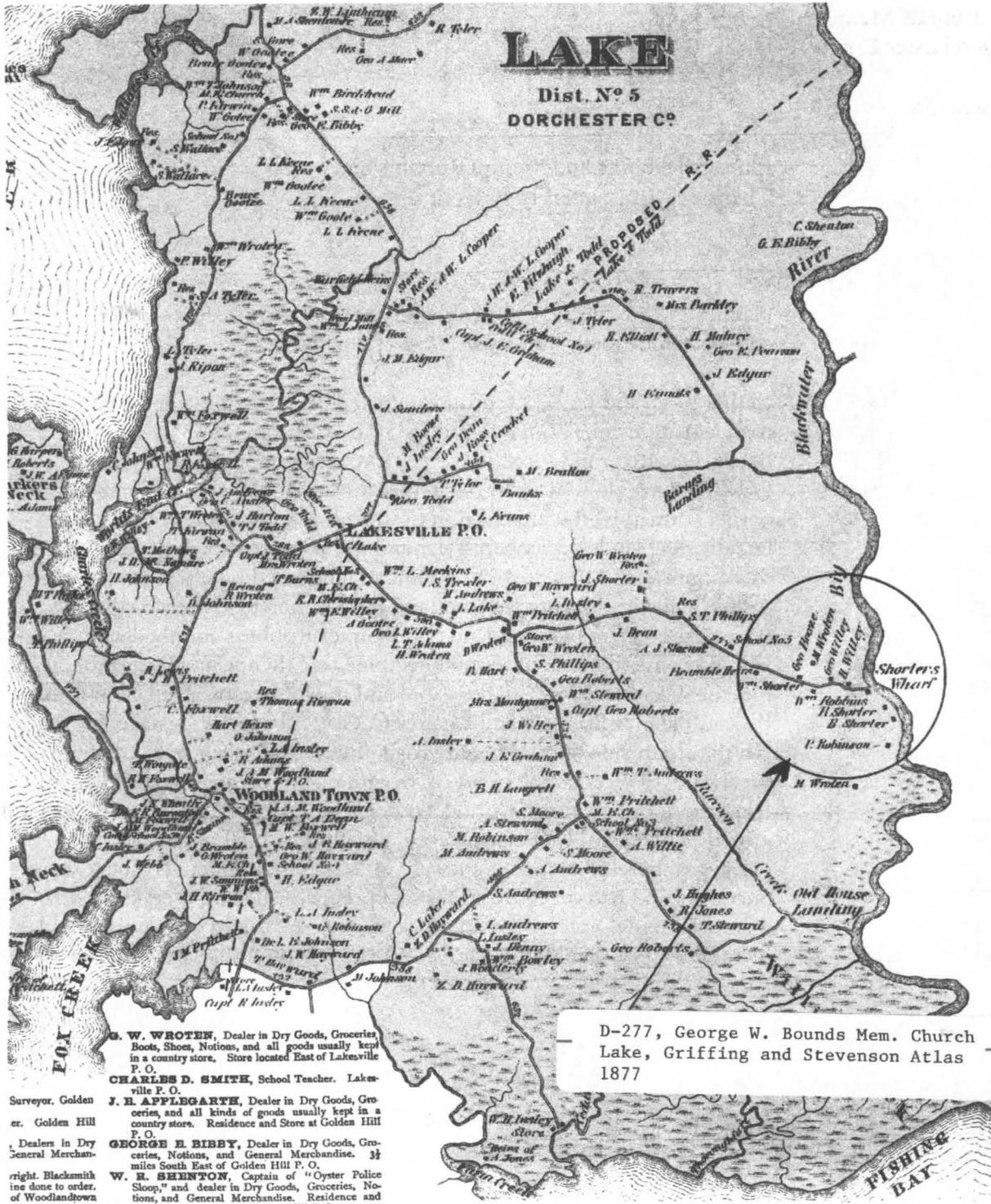
all that piece and parcel of ground situated on the south side of the road leading from Thomas Andrews Store to Robbins Wharf on the Blackwater River in Gootee's Neck, Dorchester county, and which is Described as follows to wit: Beginning for the outlines for the same at a corner formed by the intersection of the aforesaid county road with a line dividing lands of Robert Tyler and the property hereby conveyed, then southward 210 feet with said line to a notched pine tree for a corner of the lands of Planner Robbins and the Lot hereby conveyed thence Eastward 105 feet between lands of Planner Robbins and the lands Hereby conveyed to another notched pine tree thence northward following Line between lands of Charles Gore and the lot hereby jointly conveyed By said Planner Robbins and Charles C. Gore 210 feet to a stake driven On the south side of said county road, thence following said county road Westward 105 feet to the point of beginning containing one half acre of Land more or less. To have and To hold the said piece or parcel of ground aforescribed and hereby conveyed, together with all rights and privileges thereto belonging unto the aforesaid mentioned Trustees, their Survivors and forever in trust that said premises shall be used kept and maintained as a place of Divine Worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

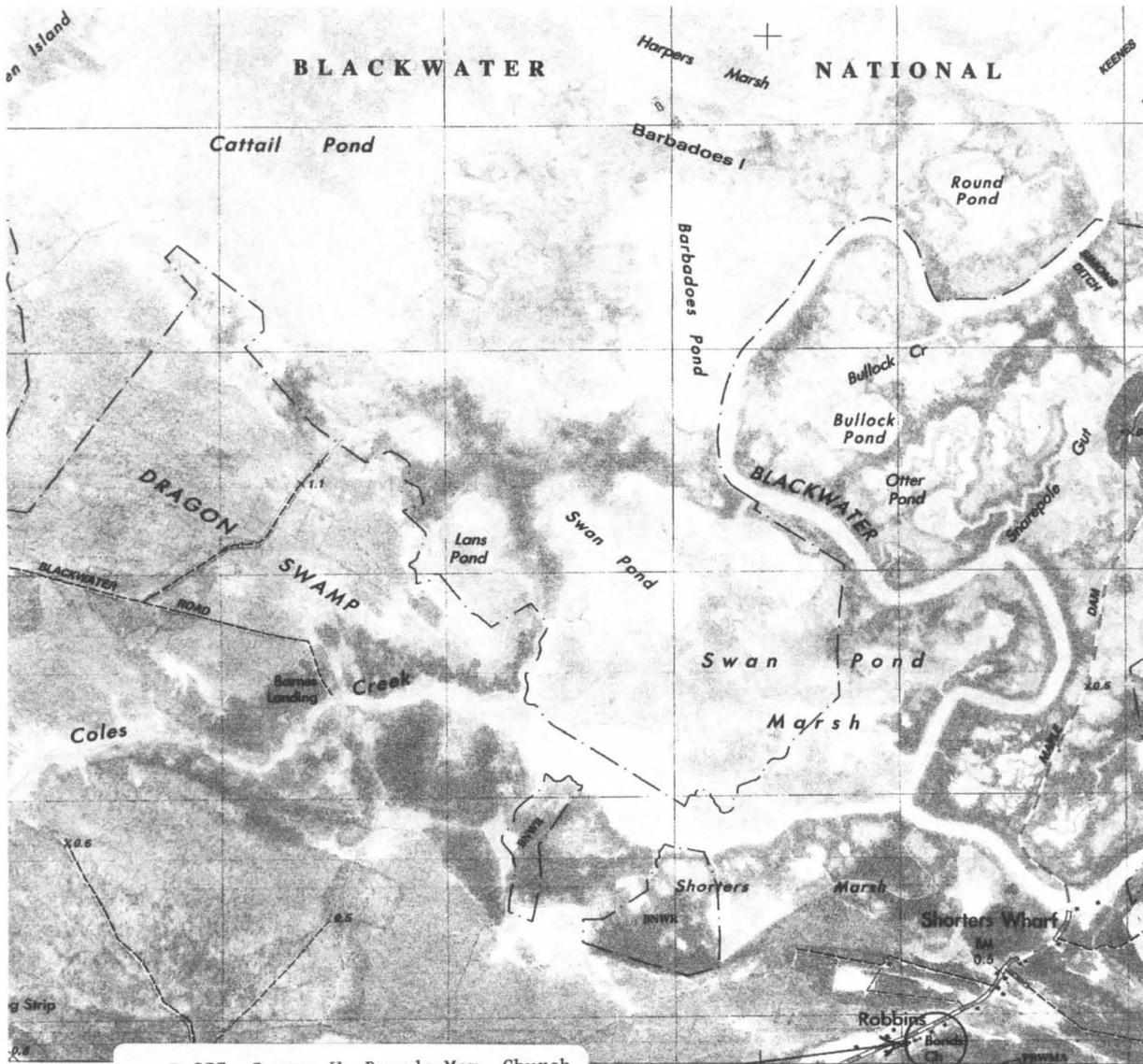


Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

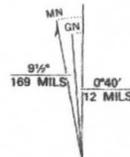
Number 8 Page 3



D-277, George W. Bounds Mem. Church
Blackwater River, Md Quadrangle
1982

Map by the Unit
USGS and NO.

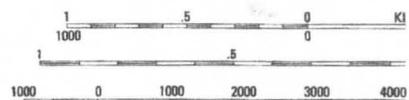
Map prepared from aerial photograph taken
1977. Topography by planetable surveys 1978
and 1979. Map edited 1982
Army Map Service topographic map dated 1942
compiled from NOS chart 12261 (1980)
information is not intended for navigational purposes
and 1000-meter grid, zone 18: Universal
Mercator
grid ticks based on Maryland coordinate system
American Datum
the predicted North American Datum 1983
projection lines 8 meters south and
west as shown by dashed corner ticks
be private inholdings within the boundaries of
al or State reservations shown on this map



UTM GRID AND 1982 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



SCALE



CONTOUR IN
NATIONAL GEODETIC
CONTROL AND OTHER ELEVATION
SOUNDINGS IN METERS—
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NA1
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGIC
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MA

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4



D-277, George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church, north elevation, Robbins, Paul Baker Touart, 8.2013

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5



D-277, George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church, southwest elevation, Robbins, Paul Baker Touart, 8.2013.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-277

Name George W. Bounds Memorial M. E. Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6



9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-277

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland
E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism*, Peninsula Annual Conference, 1946.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre _____
Acreage of historical setting $\frac{1}{2}$ acre _____
Quadrangle name Blackwater River, MD Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	8.10.2013
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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.

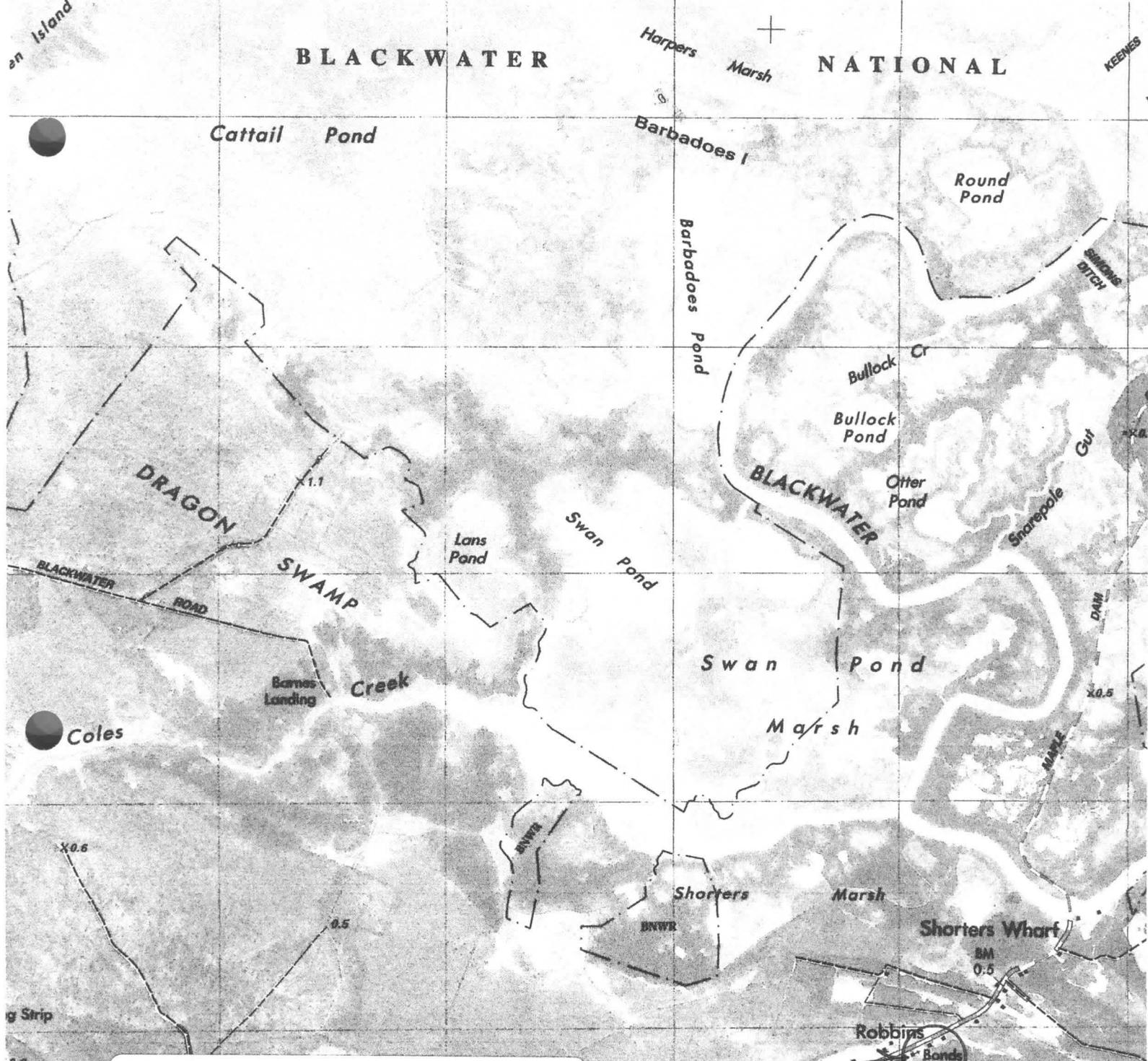
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 DHCD/DHCP
 100 Community Place
 Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
 410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M

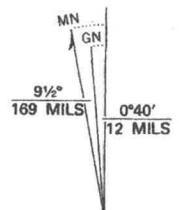
Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

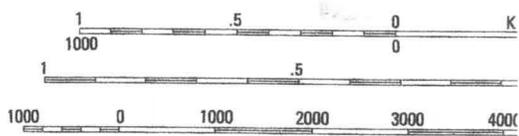


D-277, George W. Bounds Mem. Church
 Blackwater River, Md Quadrangle
 1982

Map by the Unit
 USGS and NO...
 Map prepared from aerial photograph taken
 1977. Topography by planetable surveys 1978
 and 1979. Map edited 1982
 Army Map Service topographic map dated 1942
 compiled from NOS chart 12261 (1980)
 Information is not intended for navigational purposes
 and 1000-meter grid, zone 18: Universal
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 Grid ticks based on Maryland coordinate system
 and American Datum
 and the predicted North American Datum 1983
 projection lines 8 meters south and
 west as shown by dashed corner ticks
 may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
 National or State reservations shown on this map



UTM GRID AND 1982 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



CONTOUR INTERVAL
 NATIONAL GEODETIC
 CONTROL AND OTHER ELEVATION
 SOUNDINGS IN METERS—
 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
 THE MEAN RANGE OF TIL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NA
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGIC
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC M/



D-277

GEORGE W. BOUNDS MEM. M. E. CHURCH
ROBBINS

NOVEMBER ELEVATION

8.2073, PAUL B. TOWNSEND, PITTSV.
NEW JER. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 2



D-277
George W. Bounds Mem. M.E. Church
Robbins
Southwest elevation
8.2013, Paul B. Toumey, photo.
Wes. Ind. Historical Trust

#2 of 2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Bounds M.E. Church AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Shorters Wharf Road CITY OR TOWN: Robbins STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One): Building, Structure, Object OWNERSHIP: Private, Both STATUS: Occupied, Unoccupied, Preservation work in progress ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Restricted, Unrestricted, No PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate): Religious, Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Bounds M.E. Church STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: Robbins STATE: Maryland

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 Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): CL 17/534

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: DATE OF SURVEY: DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site </div> </div>
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Bounds M. E. Church is located in the settlement of Robbins and is the most significant structure in the area. The building is a rectangular frame structure, two bays wide and four deep. Beside the two windows, which are centered on the west gable, there is a door on the north corner at the base of what would be visually the tower. Since there are no breaks in the surface of the wall, it is difficult to see this vertical member which begins above the roof, where there is an open platform with pyramidal roof. There is a balustrade around the platform and brackets at the corner posts.</p> <p>Plain weatherboard covers the walls of the structure, but there is decorative shingle work in the gable. There is also a diamond window with one central pane surrounded by 16 smaller panes of glass. The same motif is used in the miter arch windows below.</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	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

Bounds M. E. Church is the most significant building within the settlement and represents the religious beliefs of the early inhabitants of the community. Most of the corner stone is submerged in the ground, which has been filled since the chapel was constructed.

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		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

District 5, Map 87, p. 38
0.50 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: Nov, 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401

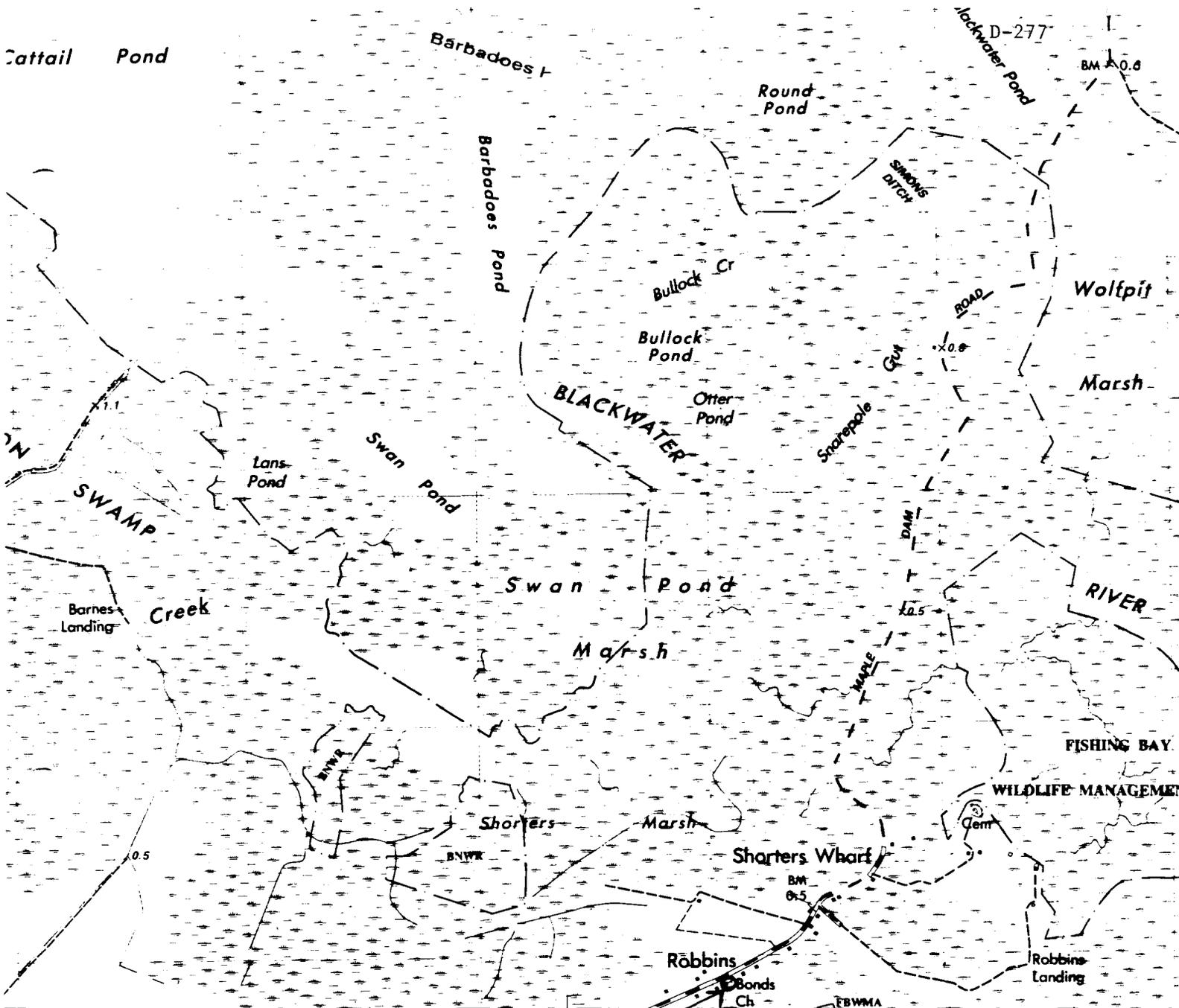
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
National State Local

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Cattail Pond



103 104 1060 000 FEET 5' 107 (WINGATE) 5760 1 SE 108

Geological Survey

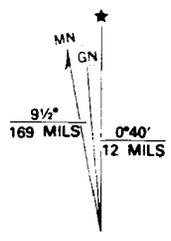
Photograph taken
table surveys 1978

Airphoto map dated 1942
2261 (1980)
for navigational purposes
Scale: Universal

UTM coordinate system

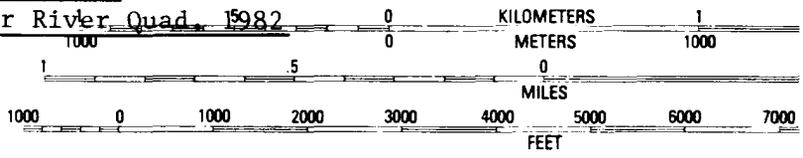
Vertical Datum 1983
Horizontal Datum
and
Vertical ticks
the boundaries of
shown on this map

UTM GRID AND 1982 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



D-277
Bonds M.E. Church
Blackwater River Quad. 1982

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 1 METER
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL AND OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
SOUNDINGS IN METERS—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 0.8 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE

2321 35

50%

D-277



Bowling M.E. Chicago

D-277

Milwaukee Nov 1975