

D-317

Hooper's Island Memorial Church Hall

Hooper's Island

1886

The Hooper's Island Memorial Church hall, built as the Bethel Methodist Church in 1886, is a single-story, gable-front frame chapel or meetinghouse type structure standing on the north end of the community of Hoopersville. The rectangular church is the smallest form of Methodist meetinghouse erected for rural congregations across the Eastern Shore. The former church is accompanied by a small burial ground.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-317

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

historic Bethel Methodist Church  
 other Hooper's Memorial Church Hall

## 2. Location

street and number Hooper's Island Road \_\_ not for publication  
 city, town Hoopersville vicinity  
 county Dorchester

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

name Trustees of Hooper's Memorial Church  
 street and number P. O. Box 10 telephone  
 city, town Hoopersville state MD zip code 21642

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber RSM 47 folio 173  
 city, town Cambridge tax map 107 tax parcel 19 tax ID number 06-095917

## 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
<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"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/> Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>
				_____

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-317

### 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 Hooper's Island Memorial Church Hall, historically the Bethel Methodist Church, is a single-story gable-front frame structure that stands on the east side of the Hooper's Island Road north of the village of Hoopersville, on Middle Hooper's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. Built in 1886, the rectangular frame church is supported by a synthetic brick on block foundation, which replaced its brick pier foundation. The exterior is clad with vinyl siding and the steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Joining the church on the lot is a small graveyard plot with nineteenth and twentieth-century burials, and a decorative cast iron fence frames a few markers.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Hooper's Island Memorial Church Hall was built as the Bethel Methodist Church in 1886. The single-story, gable-front frame structure, originally built on brick piers, is now supported by a synthetic and block foundation, and the original plain weatherboards are covered with vinyl siding. A layer of asphalt shingles covers the steeply pitched gable roof. The church faces west with the roof oriented on an east/west axis.

The west (main) façade is defined by a single double-door opening topped by a three-light transom. Fixed above the transom is a wooden sign inscribed "Hooper's Memorial Church Hall, 1886." The edge of the roof is finished with a slightly extended eave, all trimmed with synthetic vinyl materials.

The south side elevation is three bays across with the two westernmost bays filled with large six-over-six sash windows. The easternmost bay is pierced by a side door opening, which has a modern replacement door, and the door opening is topped by a large six-pane window. The north side is marked by three, large size six-over-six sash windows.

The rear (east) wall features a small, three-sided apse, which has a blind back wall and small two-over-two sash windows on each side.

The interior was not open for inspection on the initial survey visit.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-317

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	<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 1886

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 Hooper's Memorial Church hall, built as the Bethel Methodist Church in 1886, is a single-story gable-front frame chapel or meeting house type structure, which is representative of the smallest form of Methodist church building erected for rural congregations on the lower Eastern Shore. It's current function is a community church hall for the Hooper's Island Memorial Church located at the southern tip of the island in the village of Hoopersville. The former church is one of the few historic structures that defines the northern limits of the village of Hoopersville.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. D-317

Name Hooper's Memorial Church Hall  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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Hooper's Memorial Church Hall  
Hooper's Island Road

Map 107, Parcel 8

RSM 47/173

W. Bradford Tyler and Kate Tyler his wife

to

4.7.1943

Trustees of Hoopersville St. John's Methodist Church

All that lot and parcel of land situate lying and being on the east side of the main road leading from the bridge through Middle Island to Hoopersville...containing  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an acre of land and bounded on the west by the aforesaid public road, on the north by the land of Wilbur Travis, on the east and south by the other lands of the said Grantors...and hereby intended to be conveyed together with the rights privileges, appurtenances, and advantages thereto belonging or appertaining unto and to the proper use and benefit of the said Trustees of Hoopersville Saint John's Methodist Church, its successors and assigns forever in fee simple.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. D-317

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge.

John L Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1/4 acre

Acreage of historical setting 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Wingate, Maryland Quadrangle 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	Private Consultant	date	9.20.2013
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.

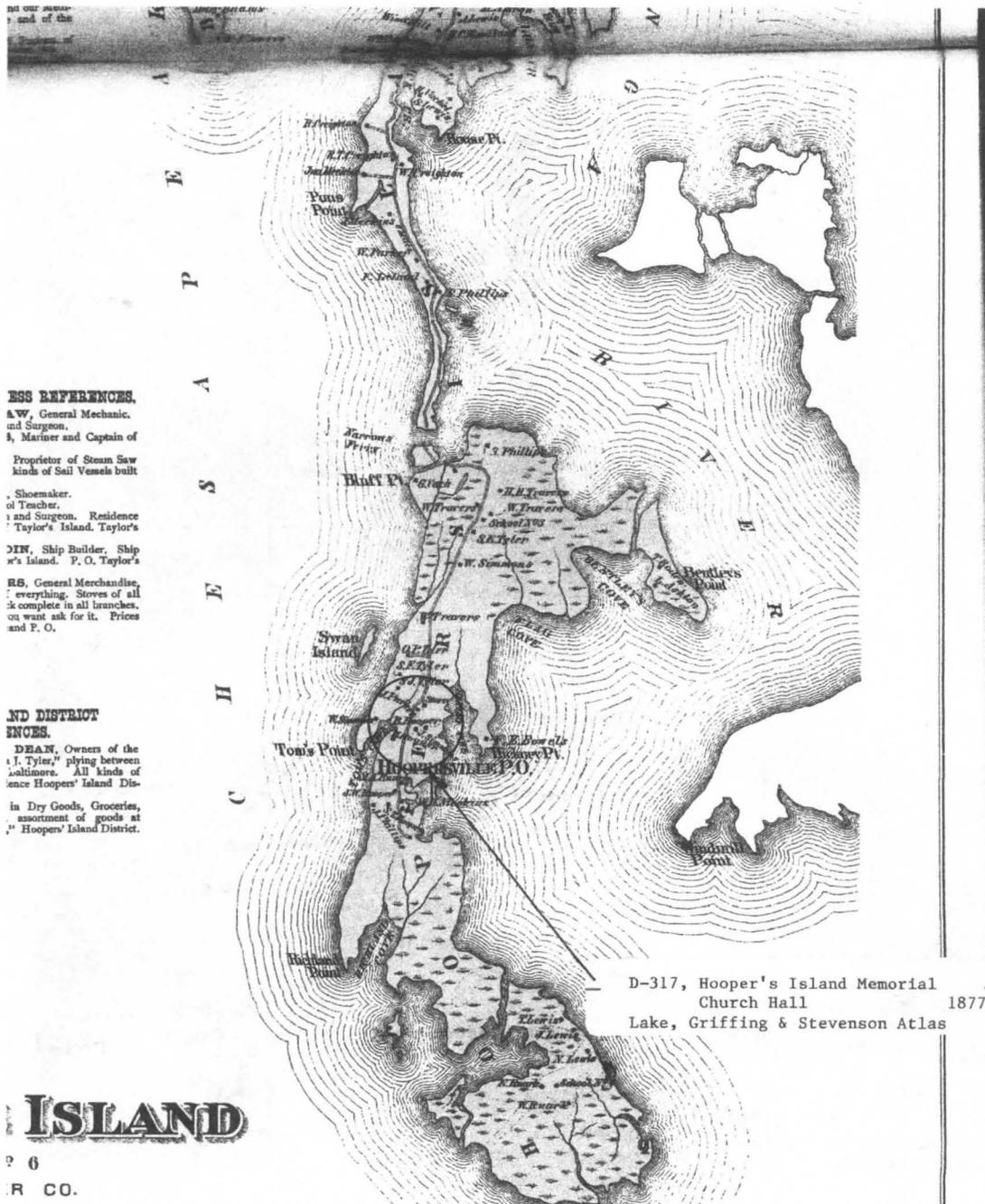
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Hooper's Island Memorial Church Hall  
Continuation Sheet

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**ESS REFERENCES.**

A.W., General Mechanic, and Surgeon,  
Mariner and Captain of Proprietor of Steam Saw kinds of Sail Vessels built

Shoemaker,  
Teacher,  
and Surgeon. Residence Taylor's Island. Taylor's

JIN, Ship Builder. Ship Taylor's Island. P. O. Taylor's

ES, General Merchandise, everything. Stores of all complete in all branches, on want ask for it. Prices and P. O.

**ND DISTRICT  
ENCES.**

DEAN, Owners of the J. Tyler, plying between Baltimore. All kinds of since Hoopers' Island District in Dry Goods, Groceries, assortment of goods at Hoopers' Island District.

D-317, Hooper's Island Memorial Church Hall 1877  
Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Atlas

**ISLAND**

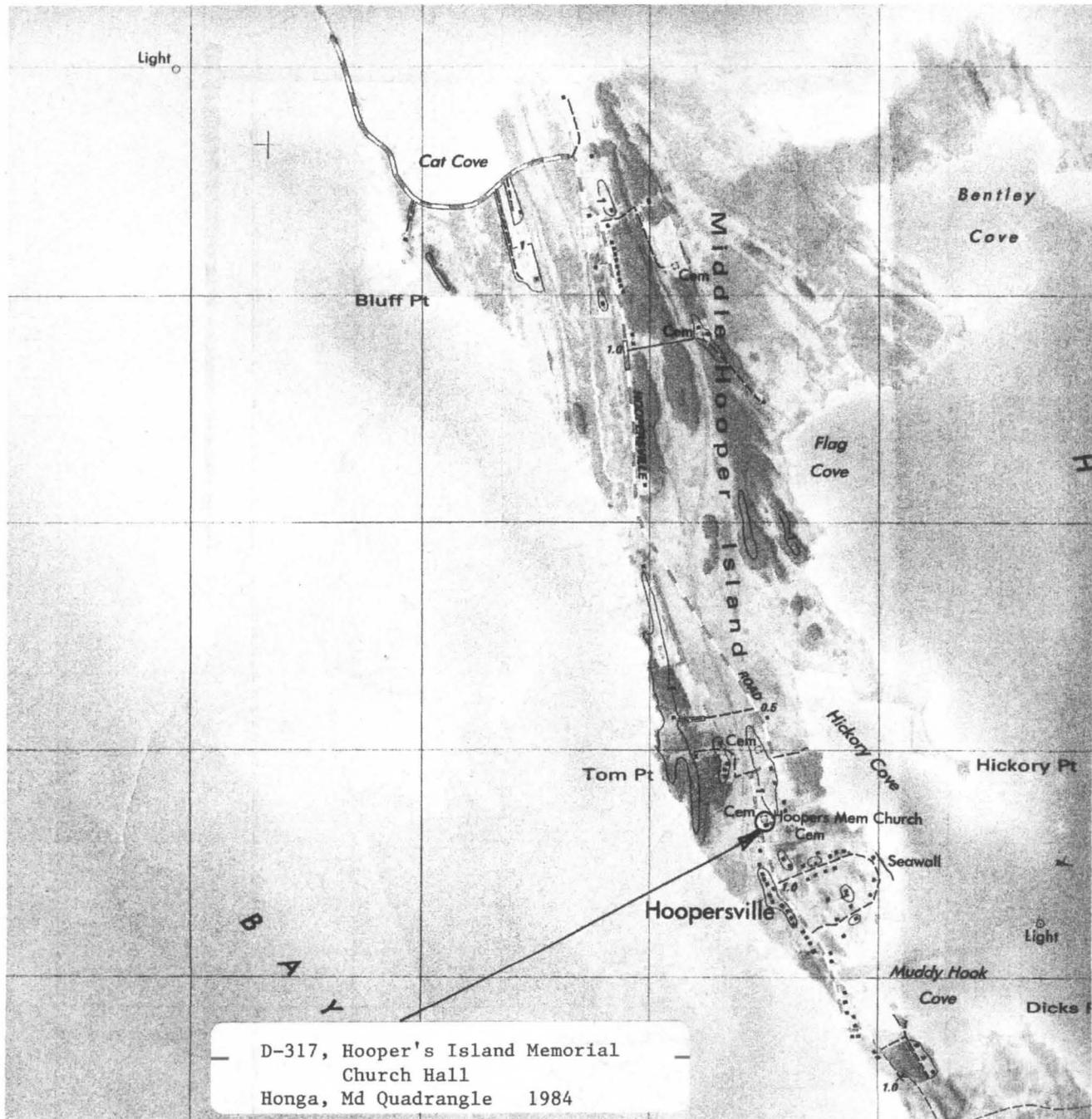
6  
R CO.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Continuation Sheet

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**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
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D-317, Hooper's Memorial Church Hall, southwest elevation, Hoopersville, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

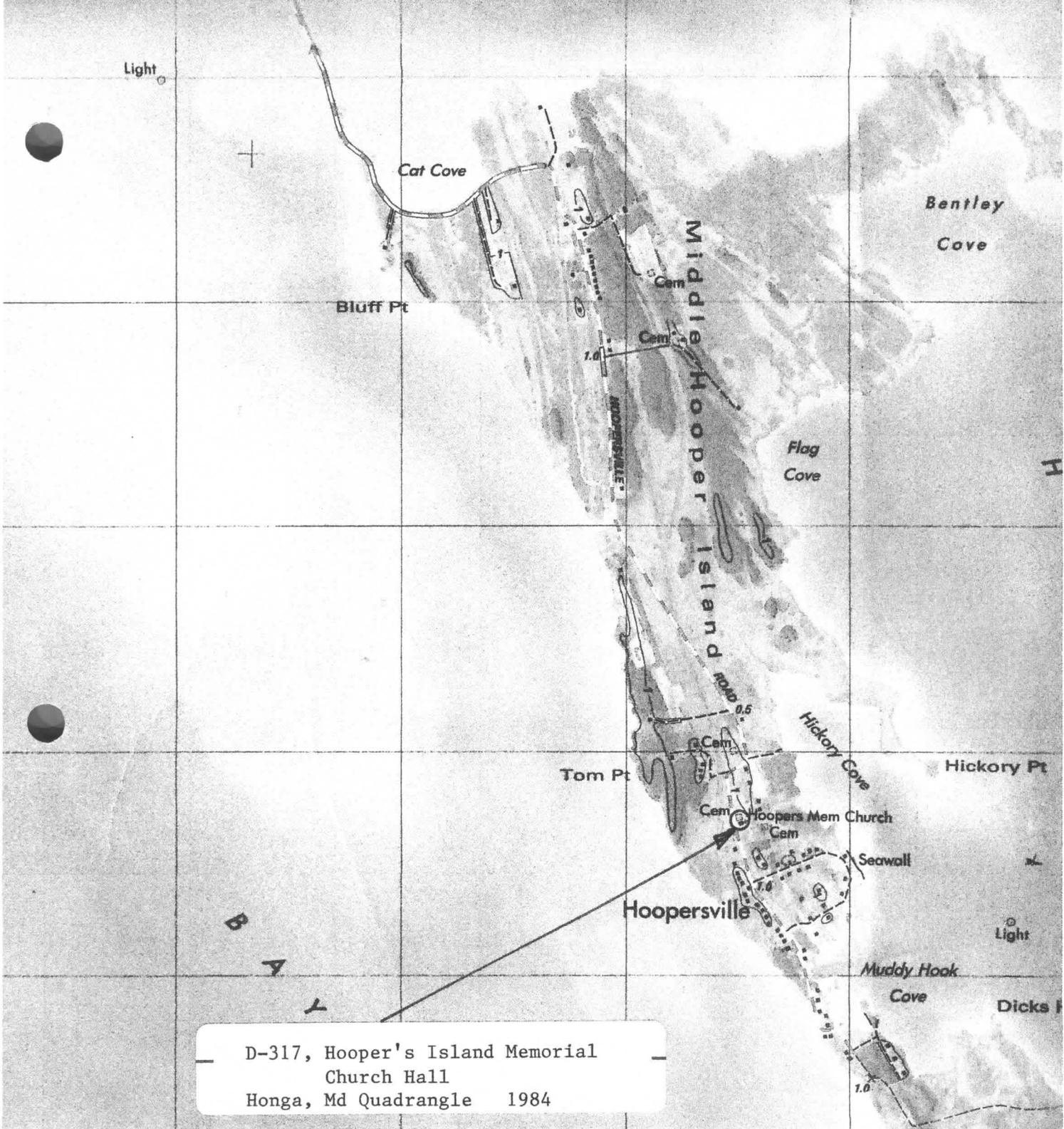
Inventory No. D-317

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**Continuation Sheet**

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D-317, Hooper's Memorial Church Hall, southeast elevation, Hoopersville, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013



D-317, Hooper's Island Memorial  
Church Hall  
Honga, Md Quadrangle 1984



D-317

HOOPER'S ISLAND Memorial Church & Hall  
HOOPERVILLE, DORCHESTER Co. MD.  
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

9. 2013, Paul B. Touart, PHOTO  
WEST / AND. HISTORICAL TREASURY

#1 OF 2



D-317 ISLAND  
Hooper's n Memorial Church (the  
Hoopersville, Dorchester Co MD  
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION  
9. 2013, Pam B. Toward, PHOTO.  
NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUSS

# 2 OF 2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Hoopersville Community Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Hoopersville Road (MD 335)**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Hoopersville**

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"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Community Hall, Hoopersville Memorial Church**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Hoopersville** STATE: **Maryland** **21642**

**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. #): **003/700**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>At the north end of the settlement stands a frame chapel, constructed upon brick piers, with the entrance door on the west gable end. Its walls are covered with weatherboard and each side has three large windows with 6/6 sash. The facia and barge board is scalloped in a delicate pattern.</p> <p>Adjacent the building, which is now used as a community hall, are some gravestones.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. 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) 1885

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 type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is a good late nineteenth century meeting house. Its purpose is still for meeting but not religious. It is an interesting adaptation which has caused little change to the original structure.

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:  
  
District 6, Map 107, p. 8

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**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**      ZIP: **21401**

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

Significance of this property is:  
 National       State       Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

19X1-07

50%

D-317



Hoopersville Community Hall

D-317

M. Bourne Nov 1975