

D-318  
Hoopersville M. E. Church  
Hoopersville  
c. 1890

Historically known as the Hoopersville M. E. Church, and now the Hooper's Island Memorial Church, the single-story ell-shaped frame church with its pyramidal roofed entrance and bell tower is one of the most distinctive structures defining this village on the southern tip of Middle Island. Built around 1890, the church, now resting atop a raised foundation, was influenced by the nationally popular Gothic Revival, a style that was universally embraced by the Methodist Church conference. The design of the Hoopersville M. E. Church follows distinct similarities to Church Plan No. 19A as illustrated in the Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages, a publication printed by the Office of Church Extension in Philadelphia. The elevations and plans, descriptions and proposed costs, were assembled by architect Benjamin D. Price (1845-1922). The ell-shaped plan with an entrance and bell tower in the front corner, and the gabled forms embellishing the tapering tower, are closely tied to the patternbook prototype.

The 1889 issue of the church and parsonage catalogue most likely influenced the Hooper's Island congregation on the design of their new church, and in the year following they executed a mortgage with Alonzo L. Miles for a loan of \$500, presumably money put towards the cost of construction. The same day the trustees for the congregation took ownership of the lot of land, "situated on Hooper's Island...commencing at a Hawthorne tree on the west side of the county road leading from Narrows Ferry to Luther Phillips store." The lot contained two thousand and eight square yards.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-318

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

historic Hoopersville Methodist Episcopal Church  
 other Hooper's Island Memorial Church

## 2. Location

street and number Hoopersville Road not for publication  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 Island Memorial Church  
 street and number P. O. Box 10 telephone  
 city, town Hoopers Island state MD zip code 21642

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber CL 13 folio 564  
 city, town Cambridge tax map 107 tax parcel 46 tax ID number 06-095763

## 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	<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	<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:	
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b> _____	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-318

### 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.

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Hooper's Island Memorial Church, originally the Hooper's Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, stands at the south end of the village of Hoopersville on Hooper's Island in Dorchester County, Maryland. The single-story Gothic Revival ell-shaped frame church, built around 1890, is supported on raised brick and concrete block foundation, and the exterior is covered with vinyl siding. The ell-shaped, steeply pitched gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. Rising in the southeast corner of the church is an entrance and bell tower capped by a pyramidal roof.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Hooper's Island Memorial Church, built around 1890 as the Hooper's Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, stands at the south end of the village of Hoopersville on the west side of Hooper's Island Road. Supported on rebuilt brick and concrete block raised foundation, the ell-shaped Gothic Revival inspired frame structure is sheathed with vinyl siding, and the various roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The church faces east.

The east (main) elevation is an asymmetrical façade with the entrance and bell tower located in the corner of the ell-shaped church. The double-door front entrance, fitted with replacement doors, is framed by Colonial Revival trim, and it is topped by a Gothic Revival three-pane, colored glass transom. On the south face of the entrance tower is a narrow four-over-four colored glass window. The mid section of the tower is tapered and the east and south faces are defined by a pair of gables. The tapered mid section, sheathed with vinyl fishscale shingles, rises to the enclosed belfry, which is capped by a pyramidal roof that has a decorative metal finial at its apex. The bottom edge of the pyramidal roof formerly had sawn eave brackets. The adjacent gable-front wall of the sanctuary is defined by a pair of four-over-four colored glass windows and a small pointed arch window pierces the upper gable end.

The south side of the ell-shaped church is an asymmetrical wall elevation with a shed roofed section that extends the structure to the west. There are three four-over-four colored glass windows across the first floor, and a small pointed arch window pierces the upper gable end. The edge of the roof has an extended eave.

The west (rear) wall is defined by a rear shed roofed mechanical room, and a three-sided apse capped with a hip style roof. Small two-over-two windows mark the sides of the apse.

The interior was not open during the initial field visit.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-318

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 checked="" 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

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 Island Memorial Church is one of the most distinctive structures defining this village on tip of the Middle Island. Built around 1890, the ell-shaped church with its pyramidal roofed entrance and bell tower was influenced by the nationally popular Gothic Revival, a style of design that was embraced and promoted fully by the Methodist Church conferences. The Hooper's Memorial M. E. Church, as it was initially known, follows distinct similarities to Church Plan, No. 19A, as illustrated in the Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages, a publication printed by the Office of Church Extension in Philadelphia. The elevations and plans, descriptions and proposed costs, were assembled by architect Benjamin D. Price (1845-1922). The ells-shaped plan with an entrance and bell tower in the front corner, and the gabled forms embellishing tapering tower, are closely tied to the patternbook prototype.

The 1889 issue of the church and parsonage catalogue most likely influenced the Hooper's Island congregation on the design of their new church, and in the year following they executed a mortgage with Alonzo L. Miles for a loan of \$500, presumably put towards the cost of construction. The same day the trustees for the congregation took ownership of a lot of land, "situated on Hooper's Island...commencing at a Hawthorne tree on the west side of the county road leading from Narrows Ferry to Luther Phillips store." The lot contained two thousand and eight square yards.

<sup>1</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, CL 13/564-65, 19 March 1890, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-318

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

Number 8 Page 1

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Hooper's Island Memorial Church  
Hoopersville

Map 107, Parcel 46

CL 13/564

John H. Hooper, Walter S. Hooper, and Zipporah Hooper

to

3.19.1890

Trustees of Hoopersville Methodist Episcopal Church

All that Lot or parcel of land situated on Hoopers Island in the county Aforesaid and described as follows: commencing at a Hawthorne tree on the West side of the county road leading from Narrows Ferry to Luther Phillips Store, and following a straight line westward to another Hawthorne tree fifty two yards from the place of starting, thence Southward forty yards to a corner, thence Eastward fifty two yards more or less, to said county road, and from thence northward forty yards by and with the said county road to the place of beginning, forming a rectangular piece of land containing two thousand and eight square yards more or less, Together with the improvements thereto attached and belonging...

Mortgage  
CL 13/565

Alonzo L. Miles

from

3.14.1890

Hooper Memorial M. E. Church

\$ 500 payable twelve months after date with interest from date now, therefore this mortgage Witnesseth that in consideration of the premises and the sum of five dollars, the said Trustees of Hooper's Memorial Methodist Episcopal church do hereby grant and convey unto the said Alonzo L. Miles his heirs and forever, all that lot or parcel of Land lying and situated on Hoopers Island...whereon Hooper's Memorial M. E. Church is now located...

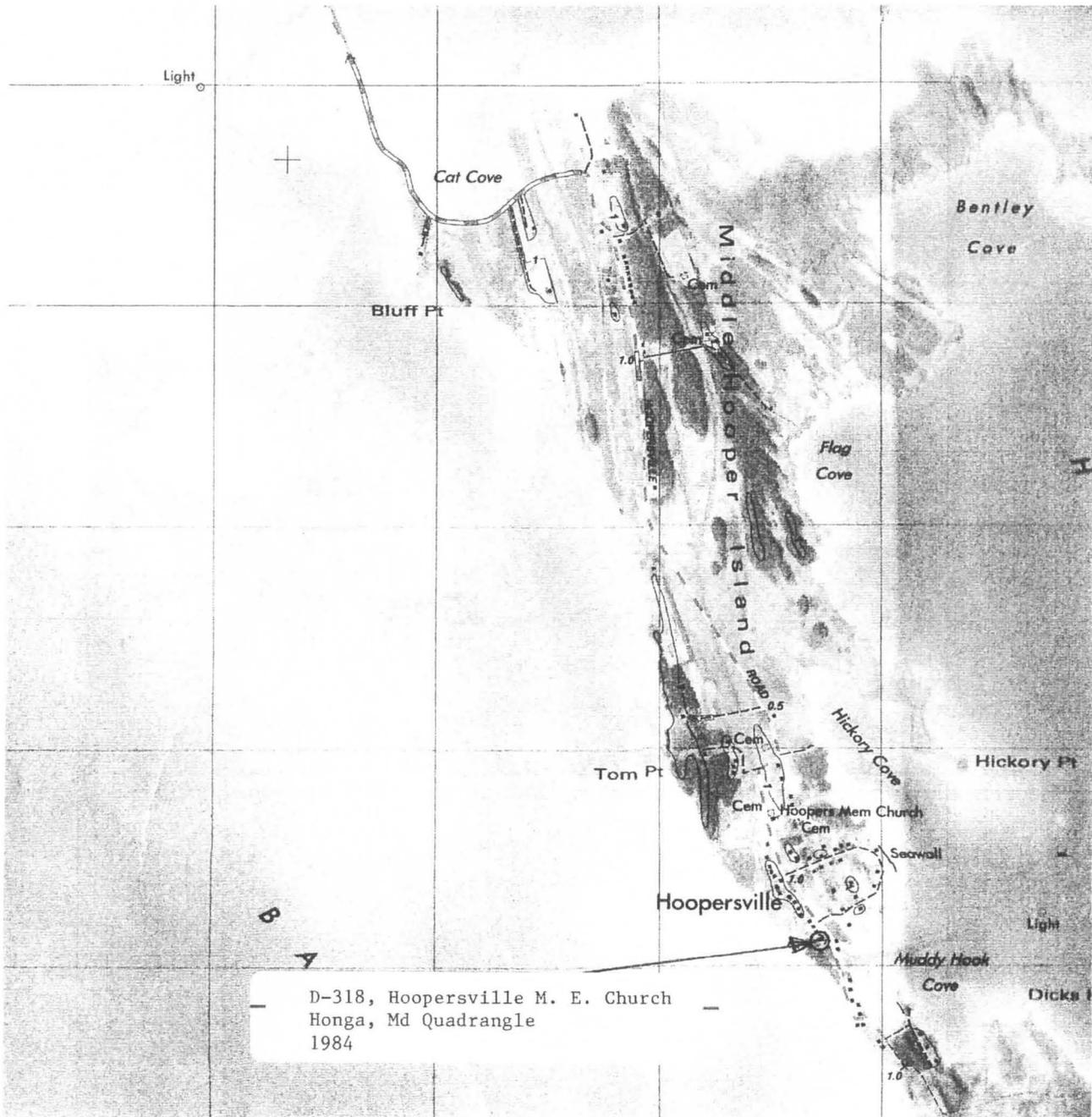


# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-318

Name Hooper's Island Memorial Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3



Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Inventory of  
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-318

Name Hooper's Island Memorial Church  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4



D-318, Hoopersville M. E. Church, southeast elevation, Hoopersville, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

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

Inventory No. D-318

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

Number 8 Page 5

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D-30, Hoopersville M. E. Church, southwest elevation, Hoopersville, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

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

Maryland Historical Trust  
Inventory No. D-318  
Historic Properties Form

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

Number 8 Page 6

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D-318, Hoopersville M. E. Church, steeple-southeast elevation, Paul Baker Touart, photographer, 9.2013

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-318

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 acre

Acreage of historical setting Two thousand eighty square yards

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**

Inventory No. M

Name  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 1

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Light



Cat Cove

Bentley  
Cove

Bluff Pt

Middle Hooper Island road

Flag  
Cove

Tom Pt

Hickory Cove

Hickory Pt

B  
A

Hoopersville

Hoopers Mem Church  
Cem

Seawall

Light

Muddy Hook  
Cove

Dicks I

D-318, Hoopersville M. E. Church  
Honga, Md Quadrangle  
1984

1.0



D-319

Hoppersville M. E. Church

Hoppersville, DOUGLASSVILLE CO., MD  
SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

9.2013, PAUL B. TOUANT, PHOTO.

NET. / M.D. HISTORICAL TRUST

#1 of 3



D-318

HOOPERSVILLE M. E. CHURCH

HOOPERSVILLE, DORCHESTER CO. MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

9. 2013, PAUL B. TOWART, PHOTO.

NEE/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

# 2 OF 3



D-318

HOOPERSVILLE N. E. Church  
HOOPERSVILLE, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

STEEPLE - SOUTHEAST ELEV.

9.2013, PAUL B. TOWAST, PHOTO.

NEA./MD HISTORICAL TRUST

# 3 of 3

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Hoopers Island Memorial Church Survey Number: D-318

Project: Hoopersville Parking Area Expansion Agency: DNR

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on available information, the Hoopers Island Memorial Church is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. This simple frame church is typical of churches constructed after the patterns established by the Methodist Church during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It reflects the development of Methodism in Maryland and Dorchester County. This church serves as a focal point of the community and is characteristic of churches found in the rural towns of the Eastern Shore.

We request the concurrence of U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFW) in this determination of National Register eligibility for the church.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Review and Compliance File

Prepared by: Carla Fleming/Michael Bourne

Jo Ellen Freese June 26, 1997  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable  
Peter R. Kuntz 7/16/97  
Reviewer, NR program Date

*[Handwritten signature]*

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- XX Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- XX Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (        prehistoric        historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- XX Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- XX Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Religion/Church

Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Hoopers Island Memorial Church AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Hoopers Island, on Hoopersville Road (MD 335) CITY OR TOWN: Hoopersville STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One): Building, Structure, Object OWNERSHIP: Private PUBLIC ACQUISITION: In Process, Being Considered STATUS: Occupied ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Restricted PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate): Religious

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Hoopers Island 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: 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
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>At Hoopersville is a frame church now covered entirely with aluminum siding and standing on a concrete block foundation. It is an 'L' plan structure with a tower entrance in the angle of the 'L'. The east facade has a gable with one small miter arch window above and two windows below with gently arched trim reminiscent of Greek Revival work. There is a wide overhanging eave with decorative work. Adjacent the gable end is the tower to the south and set back of the tower is a portion of the other branch of the 'L'. The latter portion has three windows on its south end and an assymetrical roof. The tower entrance has double doors with lancet arch transom above. Proportionally, it resembles Street Church at Lakesville. There are steeply pitched gables on the two exposed sides of the tower roof, which makes about one-third the height of the tower. The second one-third is composed of an enclosed bellfry with louvers on opposite sides of the enclosure. A pyramidal roof with bracketed cornice and tall finial caps the tower.</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)

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/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

Few large buildings exist in Hooperville, but this church is a focal point for the community. Its architecture, details and proportion are comparable to Street Church and Zion Church in Dorchester

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

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreege Justification:  
  
District 6, Map 107, p. 46

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**

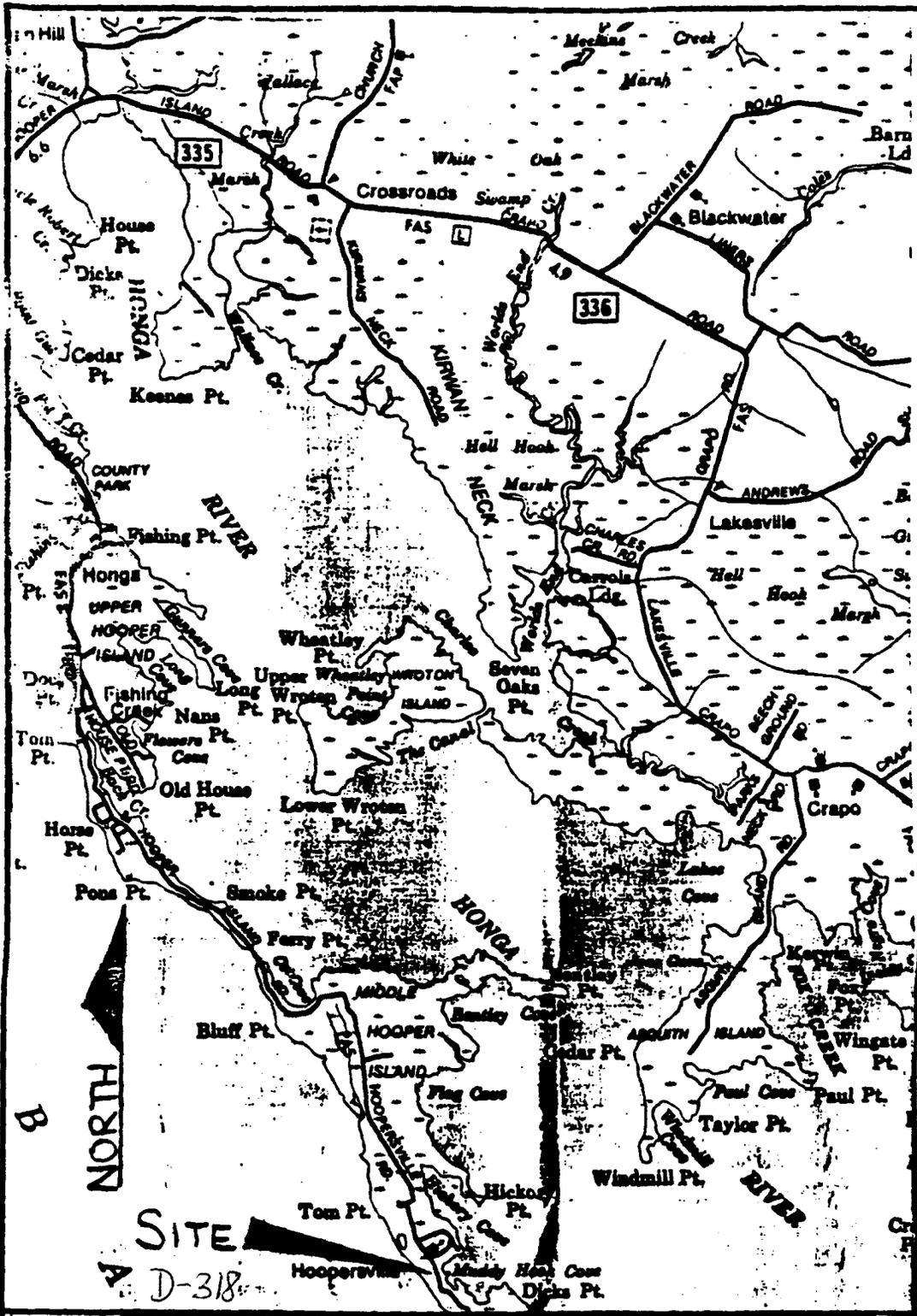
CITY OR TOWN: **Annapolis** STATE: **Maryland** ZIP: **21401**

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

Significance of this property is:  
 National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



VICINITY MAP

SCALE: 1 IN. = 1.6 MILES

12x.96

50%

D-318



D-510

M. Bourne Nov 1975