

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

Property/District Name: Zoar Methodist Church Survey Number: D -589

Project: Dorchester County Power Plant Agency: Delmarva

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)

The Zoar Methodist Church is an African-American church built in a vernacular mode in the early 20th century and located near Vienna in Dorchester County, Maryland. The early history of the building is not clear, but it seems that the original Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church was erected in 1876; in 1918, the building was apparently moved and incorporated into the present church structure. Architectural evidence indicates that this church building is entirely a product of the 1918 building campaign. Because the present Zoar Methodist Church building is not the original church structure, and because the building lacks architectural distinction and has suffered significant alterations, it is not considered to be eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Although the building is not eligible for the National Register, the church survives as a tangible reminder of Dorchester County's African-American history and religious culture. During the early 19th century, Dorchester County was home to an important free black population; for instance between 1793 and 1819, deedbooks record the manumission of over 600 slaves. Initially, the Methodist Episcopal Church worshipped in mixed congregations; following the Civil War, however, black congregations began to assume control and establish their own churches with African American trustees replacing white trustees. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Zoar Methodist church, along with other African American churches in the county thrived. Since the mid-to late 20th century, the African-American church in Dorchester County has been losing members due primarily to the out-migration of local residents.

The building itself is an unadorned basilica-plan frame church. It has a front gable form with an enclosed gable-fronted entry vestibule. The side elevation extends three bays deep and includes three windows with mitre-arch hoods giving the building a country Gothic-Revival flavor. A rear wing has enlarged the original structure, while a handicapped access ramp has been added to the front, new siding has been added, obscuring the original wood siding, and new front doors have replaced the original ones. The church is similar in form and detail to other churches found in African-American communities in the vicinity and is in no way unique to Dorchester County.

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

Prepared by: MAAR Associates

Beth Hannold and Kim Williams 1/25/96
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable
Orlando Padout v. Feb. 13, 1996
Reviewer, NR program Date

[Handwritten signature]

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

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

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

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

Known Design Source: _____

Dorchester - 589
Zoar ME Church
Maiden Forest Rd.
Reid's Grove, MD

1876, 1947

Access: Public

Zoar ME Church stands 20' from the south side of Maiden Forest Rd. at Reid's Grove. The structure faces north. The original church was 20' X 20' (weatherboard) structure that stood on the extreme east of the property. This building was moved to the present location in 1918 and is incorporated into the present structure. This congregation dates from 1876 and numbers now about 40 members. There is a black elementary school on the property that was active until the 1950's.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No.
Magi No. D-589 (UPDATE)
DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Maiden Forest Rd, approx .5 mi.W of Reids Grove not for publication

city, town Reids Grove vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Dorchester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Trustees, Zoar M.E. Church, c/o Rev. Roland W. Dennis

street & number 715 Bradley Ave. telephone no.:(410) 228-2031

city, town Cambridge state and zip code MD 21613

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Courthouse liber WHM 2

street & number High Street folio 9

city, town Cambridge state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No.

D-589 UPDATE

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move 1918

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

8. Significance

Survey No.

D-589 UPDATE

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No.

D-589 UPDATE

MHT Form by James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor, Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture, Annapolis, MD (301)269-2893
Wright, James M., The Free Negro in Maryland 1634-1860, Octagon Books 1971
Newark

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 1.96 acres

Quadrangle name Rhodesdale

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax Map 45, Parcel 122

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lauren Archibald and Betty C. Zebooker

organization MAAR Associates, Inc. date March 1994

street & number P.O. Box 655 telephone (302) 368-5777

city or town Newark state DE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

DHCP/DHCL
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

7. Description

Survey No.

D-589 UPDATE

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move 1918

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

This late nineteenth century church has a simple front-gable form with a gabled, enclosed entryway. It is a frame building and the miter-arch window hoods give it a country Gothic Revival flavor. A new handicapped-access ramp has been added to the front and a wing has been added to the rear to enlarge the church. While the church is well maintained, its wood siding has been recovered with modern siding and roof material which may obscure some of the original features. New front doors and a handicapped access ramp with railing have been added since the 1981 survey by James T. Clark. There is a small wooden shed and a springhouse in rear.

The adjacent frame structure was probably constructed at the turn of the century, and it features vertical wood siding and three 6/6 windows on the gable side. The roof is covered with tar paper. The building rests on cement blocks and is in fair condition.

8. Significance

Survey

D-589 UPDATE

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The previous Maryland Historical Trust survey form indicates that the original church was built in 1876, and that it was moved and incorporated into the present structure in 1918. Historical documentation has shed no light on the origins of the Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church and the local tradition that the building(s) may have been moved from another site. In 1880, William C. Marsters sold 100 square perches of land to "the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Colored Church." This tract of land was located near Vienna ". . . on the northeast side of the new road leading from Vienna to Big Mills and the southeast side of a private road. The church lot fronted 6 1/4 rods on the new road." This deed does not appear to describe the present church lot unless serious errors were made in the identification of the bounds and the size of the property. For example, the church is located on the opposite side of the road from Vienna to Little Brick Mills; it is bounded on the west (not the southeast) by a private road or farm lane, and it contains nearly two acres of ground, not 100 square perches. On the other hand, these bounds do not appear to describe the location of any known black church in the Vienna area.

By 1820, Dorchester County had the nucleus of a free, black population. For example, between 1793 and 1819, Deedbooks in the H.R. and E.R. series record the manumission of more than 600 slaves. Initially, the Methodist Episcopal Church worshipped in mixed congregations extending full participation to their black membership. However, there was a general reluctance to ordain black ministers and place members in positions of authority. During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, increasing discontent developed between white and black members in most of the integrated churches. Generally speaking, the weaker faction in the congregation seceded and eventually established a separate congregation (Wright 1971: 211-212). However, "separate" was not necessarily "equal." Few black ministers were ordained and the affairs of the black churches were generally handled by whites who "filled the positions of greatest responsibility, transacted the important business, and administered the discipline" in black congregations (Wright 1971:214). After the Civil War, black congregations began to assume control over their own affairs. This is evident in Dorchester County by deed transactions conveying the property of established congregations from white trustees to black trustees. While the Zoar Church and other rural, predominantly African-American churches finally began to thrive in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, rural churches such as Zoar have been losing members in the later twentieth century. Reverend Roland Dennis, the current pastor at the Zoar Church, commented that the Zoar Church congregation has become smaller over time due to the general out-migration from the area. Each year,

D-589 - Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church; "United Methodist Church Zion Reids Grove", Dorchester County, Maryland

8. Significance continued

the Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church holds homecoming gatherings, where former members of the congregation reunite.

No historical evidence was found to confirm that a school had been established in association with the Zoar Church. However, it is likely that a Sunday school was held in conjunction with the religious activities of the congregation. As Wright has pointed out, the only school attended by a majority of black students was Sunday school, where the rudiments of reading and writing might be taught in conjunction with religious education (Wright 1971:202). Reverend Roland Dennis believes that at one time, school sessions were held in the rear section of the church.

The front gable form and the use of miter-arch window hoods is similar to other African-American community churches in the county, such as the Bazzel Methodist Church (Bucktown Methodist Church) (D-274). It is also found, for example, on the original section of the Zorah M.E. Church (D-332); that survey form also indicated that such the same type chapel was being constructed at the turn of the century by the African-American community as the white community. A number of African-American churches surveyed by James C. Clark showed that there were several basic church forms. Other similar churches to the Zoar Methodist Episcopal include the Wesley Union Methodist Episcopal Church (D-586) in Andrews and Thompson Chapel (D-601) in Thompsontown. While Thompson Chapel featured a small open belfry, most churches of this type lacked them. On the Zoar Church, the main gable block has a projecting front gable, which is also found on nearby Reids Grove Church (D-702), Wesley Union Methodist Episcopal Church (D-586), Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church (D-588), Mount Zion Methodist Episcopal Church (D-599), and Thompson Chapel (D-601).

The smaller structure on the property is architecturally similar to both chapels and churches in the Dorchester County. Indeed, such structures frequently served both functions in the late nineteenth century. The gable-roof, one-room form is similar to Henry's Crossroads School (D-325) and the slightly smaller Kirwan Neck School (D-268). Reverend Dennis believes that the smaller structure was moved to its present location from the town of Cambridge (interview in September 1994).

Architecturally, the Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church parallels others in the vicinity (as discussed above), and the church has witnessed a loss of integrity due to alterations. Therefore, it is unlikely that the church would be eligible on its own under Criteria A, B or C. Further research would be required to evaluate its significance under Criterion D.

**D-589 - Chain of Title
(Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church)**

6 November 1880
CL-3-201
William C. Marsters
to
Trustees Methodist Episcopal Colored Church

Lot near Vienna beginning at a stone on the NE side of the new road leading from Vienna to Big Mills and the side of a private road, 100 square rods.

NOTE: This is the only conveyance for a black Methodist Episcopal Church which can be identified at or near the Zoar Church site.

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

D-589 - Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme: Religion/Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Religion/Religious Facility and School

Known Design Source: None



D-589 (UPDATE)
Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church
Vicinity of Reids Grove
Dorchester County
Rhodesdale quad

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D - 589

MAGI#1005894808

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Zoar M.E. Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Maiden Forest Rd. & Rhodesdale Vienna Rd (MD 371)

JUL 12 1997

CITY, TOWN

Reid's Grove

VICINITY OF Vienna

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Trustees, Zoar M.E. Church
C/O Rev. Roland W. Dennis

Telephone #: 228-2031

STREET & NUMBER

715 Bradley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD, 21613

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dorchester Co. Court House

Liber #: WHM 2

Folio #: 9

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

D-589

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE 1876-1947

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Zoar M.E. Church stands 20' from the south side of Maiden Forest Rd. at Reid's Grove. The structure faces north. The original church was a 20'X 20' weatherboard structure that stood on the extreme east end of the property. This building was moved to the present location in 1918 and is incorporated into the present structure. The building as it is now measures forty ft. across the front facade and fifty-six feet in depth. The building is constructed of weatherboard and gabled (North-South). There are two concrete steps up to the double wooden doors (8paneled) painted red. There are 3(4') lancet windows (clear-glass 2-over-2) in the east side and 3 more identical windows in the west side. The church has a composite shingle roof. It rests on brick piers. There is an old school building on the west side of the building (black elementary school) that is presently being used as the church hall.

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Trustees, Zoar M.E. Church
C/O Rev. Roland W. Dennis

STREET NUMBER

712 Bradley Ave.

CITY/TOWN

Dumfries

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COUNTY: Dorchester Co.
 REGISTER OF DEEDS: Dorchester Co. Court House

STREET NUMBER

CITY/TOWN

Dumfries

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

N/A

DATE

DEPARTMENT FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY/TOWN

D-589

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1876-1947

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Zoar M.E. Church is located in a black community on the west side of Reid's Grove in rural Dorchester County. This congregation dates from 1876 and numbers now about 40 members. There is a black elementary school on the property that was active until the 1950's. This school was opened before the turn of this century but I have not been able to determine an exact date.

FORM PREPARED BY

DATE: _____

LOCATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 EA, 1974 Supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE _____	COUNTY _____
STATE _____	COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION Maryland Commission on Afro-American History & Culture

DATE _____

STREET & NUMBER 20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE 269-2893

CITY OR TOWN Annapolis

STATE Maryland

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



589

47%

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church D-589
Reid's Grove, Dorchester County, MD
Michael Hosford

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





Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church D-589
Reid's Grove, Dorchester County, MD
Michael Hosford

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



Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church D-589
Reid's Grove, Dorchester County, MD
Michael Hosford

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



7000 Methodist Episcopal Church
DORCHESTER, MD
to A. H. H. - D

APRIL 1953

MARYLAND SHPO

VIEW OF MAIN (NORTH) ELEVATION looking
S

note



D-589

6-1

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

Dorchester, Md

L. Archibald

APRIL 1993

MARYLAND STATE

VIEW OF SMALL SNOWDRIFT ADJACENT (W)
OF CHURCH LOOKING S

2 of 6



D-589

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church¹⁷

Dorchester, Md

K. Archibald

Sept 1994

Maryland SHPO

VIEW OF rear (S) + side (E) elevations

lookup NW

3 of 6



D-589

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

Roll
20-11-

N

Dorchester, Md

L. Archibald

Sept 1994

MARYLAND SHPO

View of rear (S) elevations of Church
& adjacent structure

4 of 6

looking N



D-589

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

Dorchester, Md

L. Archibald

Sept 1994

Maryland SHPO

VIEW OF ADJACENT STRUCTURE LOOKING

S

5 of 6



D-589

Zoar Methodist Episcopal Church

Dorchester, Md

M. Reibold

Feb 1994

Maryland SHPO

view looking toward power plant
looking SE

6 of 67