

D-816
Harrisville School
Harrisville
c. 1896
Private

Associated with the St. Paul's M. E. Church since 1940 and used as a church hall, the single-story gable roofed frame structure located in the center of this three-part building is the former Harrisville School, where the community's children were educated. The 1896 deed of conveyance for the ¼-acre lot to the School Commissioners of Dorchester County references the corner of the Union Mission Meeting House next door. The Union Mission was the original congregation that used the site now occupied by the St Paul's M. E. Church. The single-story gable-front one-room plan school was erected about that time, and the surviving brick pier foundation and wide, whitewashed weatherboards exposed on the north side point to its nineteenth century construction date. With the consolidation and later integration of the Dorchester County public schools, surplus property was sold when no longer needed by the school system. In June 1940, the Board of Education sold the ¼-acre lot and school to George Macer, David R. Kane, Nathaniel Chester, Kemp Harris, and Elmer Kane as trustees of the St. Paul's M. E. Church at the time. Afterwards the schoolhouse was converted into a church hall.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-816

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Harrisville Colored School

other Harrisville School

2. Location

street and number Harrisville Road not for publication

city, town Cambridge vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name Trustees of St. Paul's M. E. Church of Harrisville

street and number C/O Tammy Washington 1126 Maces Lane telephone

city, town Cambridge state MD zip code 21613

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 41 folio 525

city, town Cambridge tax map 50 tax parcel 167 tax ID number 16-004383

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	_____
		<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-816

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 former Harrisville Colored School, which has served as a church hall since the land was conveyed to the trustees of St. Paul's M. E. Church from the Dorchester County Board of Education in August 1940. The single-story, gable-front frame structure is supported on brick piers and covered with artificial siding. The school, like the church faces east with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Standing immediately north of the St. Paul's M. E. Church is the former Harrisville School, a single-story, three-part frame structure dating from the late nineteenth century. The center frame section is a single-story gable-front frame school building that dates to the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. Supported on a brick pier foundation, the exterior is clad for the most part with vinyl siding. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The east (main) elevation is a two-bay façade with a center entrance and flanking window opening to the south. The door and window sash are replacements. The gable end is finished with an extended eave.

The north side has not been covered with vinyl, and wide weatherboards remain exposed. The former window openings have been reduced in size. Attached to the north side of the former school is a small shed roofed section used for church dinners.

A single flue block stove flue rises against the rear gable.

Extending to the south is a single story gable roofed frame wing covered by a low pitched asphalt shingle roof. The gable roofed wing, dating to the mid twentieth century, is defined by single-pane sash windows.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

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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

Associated with the St. Paul's M. E. Church since 1940 as a church hall, the single-story gable roofed frame structure in the center of this three part building is the former Harrisville School, where the community's black children were educated, beginning around 1896. The deed of conveyance for the ¼-acre lot to the School Commissioners of Dorchester County references the corner of the Union Mission Meeting House, the original congregation that occupied the site.¹ The single-story gable-front frame school building was erected around the same time, and the surviving brick pier foundation and wide, whitewashed weatherboards exposed on the north side point to its nineteenth century date of construction. With the consolidation and later integration of public schools, surplus property was sold when no longer needed by the school system. In June 1940, the Board of Education for Dorchester County sold the ¼ acre lot and school to George Macer, David R. Kane, Nathaniel Chester, Kemp Harris, and Elmer Kane as trustees of the St. Paul's M. E. Church.² Afterwards, the schoolhouse was converted into a church hall.

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 20/697, 27 November 1896, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

² Dorchester County Land Record, 41/525, 29 June 1940, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

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

Inventory No. D-816

Name Harrisville School

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Harrisville School
Harrisville Road
Dorchester County, Maryland

Chain-of-title Map 50, Parcel 167

41/525 Board of Education of Dorchester County, Maryland

to

6.29.1940 George Macer, David R. Kane, Nathaniel Chester, Kemp Harris, Elmer Kane
as trustees of Saint Paul's M. E. Church at Harrisville...and adjoining property
known as the Union Mission Meeting House as of 11.27.1896 on the White
Marsh Road ¼ acre

CL 20/697 Joseph J. Mills (Sarah E. Brannock, Mary E. Brannock, Hiram T.
Mills, Joseph J. Mills, Jr.

to

11.27.1896 School Commissioners of Dorchester County

\$15.00 a piece of land adjoining Union Mission Meeting House on the White
Marsh Road in Madison District

¼ acre

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Continuation Sheet

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Dorchester County
Will Book
EWL 1/222

Last Will and Testament of Hiram Woolford

To, daughter

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-816

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

Personal Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Stanley

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 22,215 square feet

Acreage of historical setting 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Golden Hill, MD Quadrangle 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	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	9.11.2012
street & number	Cedar Hill, 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.

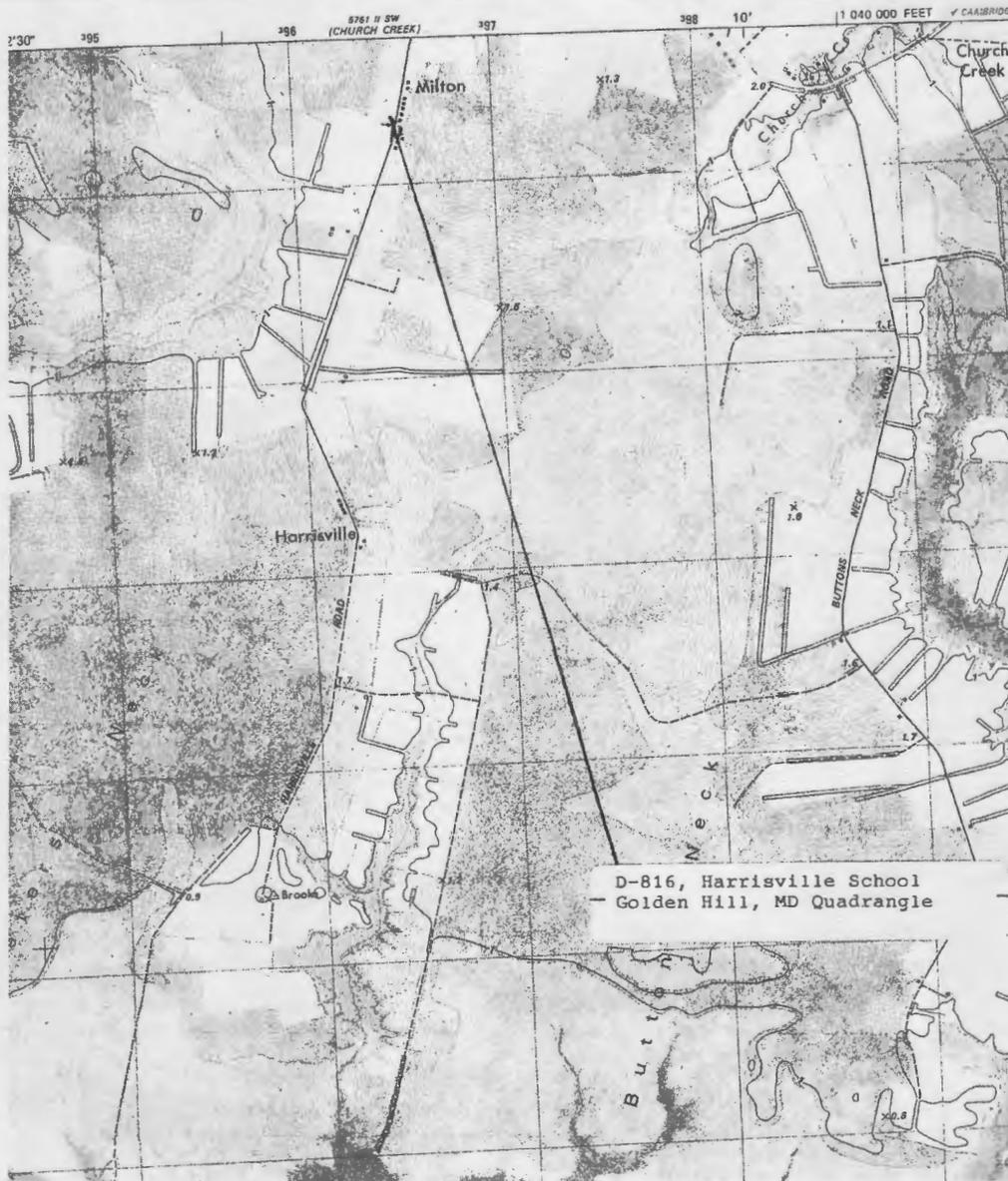
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Name Harrisville School
Continuation Sheet

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D-816

HARRISVILLE SCHOOL

HARRISVILLE, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

9/2012, PAUL B. TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD. HISTORIC TRUST

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