

D-840
Hosier's M. E. Church South
Fishing Creek
Hooper's Island
1901

Hosier's M. E. Church South is a dominant architectural and historical landmark on Upper Hooper's Island within the community of Fishing Creek. Similar to many rural congregations throughout the region, the members of this church financed a Gothic Revival inspired building when they were faced with replacing an 1896 building destroyed in a violent storm in July 1900. Evidently materials from the destroyed church were salvaged and reused in the construction of the 1901 building. The new church was named in honor of Reverend John D. Hosier, who served this congregation as well as other Methodist groups, especially in Virginia, during his lifetime.

The congregation's history claims it was founded around 1875 under the name Zion Methodist Church. Perhaps due to a large number of other churches by the same name in Dorchester, the congregation renamed itself in 1900-01 after the July 1900 storm destroyed the building erected four years before. Reverend John C. Hosier, who worked on the Delmarva peninsula, relocated to mainland Virginia for most of his career.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-840

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Hosier's Memorial M. E. Church South

other

2. Location

street and number Hooper's Island Road __ not for publication

city, town Fishing Creek vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name Trustees of Hosier's Memorial Church & Graveyard Attention: Pastor Doug Ripley

street and number P. O. Box 10 telephone

city, town Fishing Creek state MD zip code 21634

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 5 folio 489

city, town Cambridge tax map 93 tax parcel 115 tax ID number 06-095828

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:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory _____	

7. Description

Inventory No. D-840

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 Hosier's Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South, now know simple as Hosier's Memorial Church, stands on the east side of Hooper's Island Road in the middle of Upper Hooper's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. Built in 1901 on a site of a church erected in 1896 but destroyed in a wind storm in 1900, the single-story, Gothic Revival inspired frame church, is supported on a raised and parged concrete block foundation. The exterior is sheathed with plain weatherboard, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Centered on the west (main) façade is a projecting entrance and bell tower topped with a needle-like fiber-glass and steel steeple added around 1975-76. Inside the church, the sanctuary features a gridwork and cove cornice finish to the ceiling. The altar recess is defined by a pointed arch. Framing the front of the altar is a turned baluster railing. The rectangular, gable-front frame church is flanked by a nineteenth and twentieth century to the east and south, and on the north side there is a single-story concrete block church hall named the Calvert C. Cannon Educational building.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Hosier's Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South, built in 1901, stands on the site of former church buildings erected around 1875 and 1896. The 1896 building was destroyed in a 1900 storm. Supported on a raised concrete block foundation, the rectangular frame church is clad with plain weatherboards, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The church faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical façade with a center entrance and bell tower projecting forward from the gable-front façade. A long hand-capped entrance has been built to access the raised entrance level of the higher foundation. A wide entrance is fitted with replacement double doors. Fixed above the entrance is a pair of pointed arch lancet window under a gable roofed eave projection on the tower. The tower tapers inward above the gable roofed eave. The original 1901 tower ends at a squarish top with louvered vents on each side. Above the squared off top is the fiberglass and steel steeple. The tower is flanked on each side by long colored glass lancet windows dedicated with individual memorials. The edge of the gable roof is finished with a slightly extended eave with returns at the base.

The long sides of the church, north and south, are defined by three colored glass lancet windows with pointed arches.

The rear elevation has a projecting single-story apse with pointed arch windows in the side walls and a round, colored glass window in the rear wall.

The interior of the church retains elements of its Gothic Revival design. The front altar has a pointed arch opening and a pointed arch ceiling. Defining the front of the altar platform is a turned baluster railing.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-840

Name Hosier's M. E. Church South
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The sanctuary ceiling features a decorative wood grid design, and a cove cornice defines the perimeter. There is a colored glass transom above an inner side of front doors. Each of the colored glass Windows User is dedicated with a specific memorial to specific congregants and/or their families.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-840

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" 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	1875 (Founded)	Architect/Builder
Construction dates	1901	

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

Hosier's M. E. Church South is a dominant architectural and historical landmark on Upper Hooper's Island within the sprawling village community of Fishing Creek. Similar to many rural congregations throughout the Eastern Shore, the members of this church financed a Gothic Revival inspired building when faced with replacing an 1896 building destroyed in a violent storm in July 1900. Evidently materials from the destroyed church were salvaged and reused in the construction of the 1901 building. The new church was named in honor of Reverend John D. Hosier, who served this Methodist congregation as well as many others, especially in Virginia, during his lifetime.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

This congregation's history claims it was founded around 1875 under the name of Zion Methodist Church. Perhaps due to the large number of other churches by the same name in Dorchester County, the congregation renamed itself in 1900-01 after the July 1900 storm destroyed the building erected four years before. Reverend John C. Hosier, who worked on this peninsula as well as across mainland Virginia for most of his career, was honored when the congregation renamed itself.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-840

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.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of surveyed property 55,756 square feet

Acreege of historical setting

Quadrangle name Honga, Maryland 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	Private Consultant	date	10.4.2013
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.

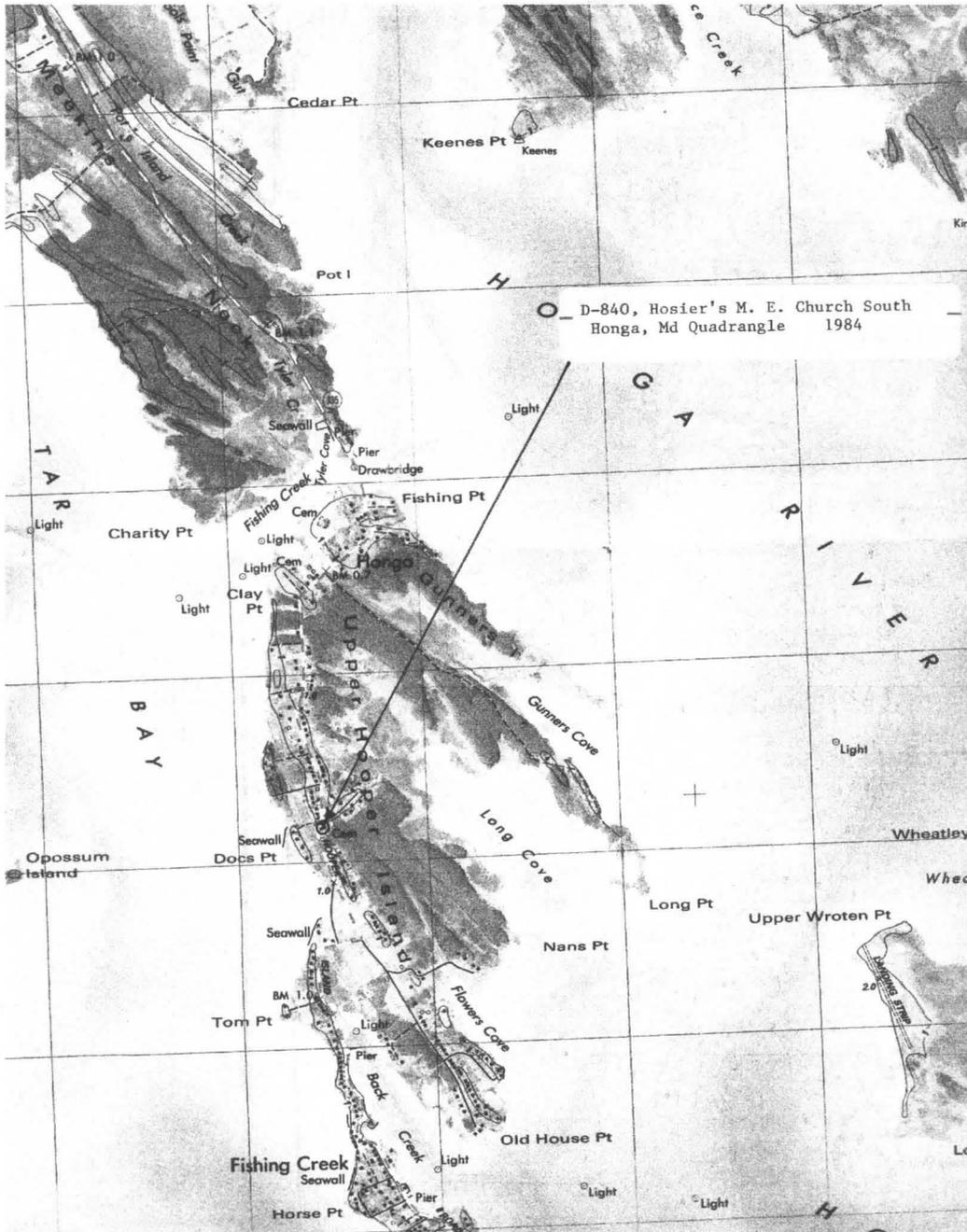
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-840

Name Hosier's M. E. Church South
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

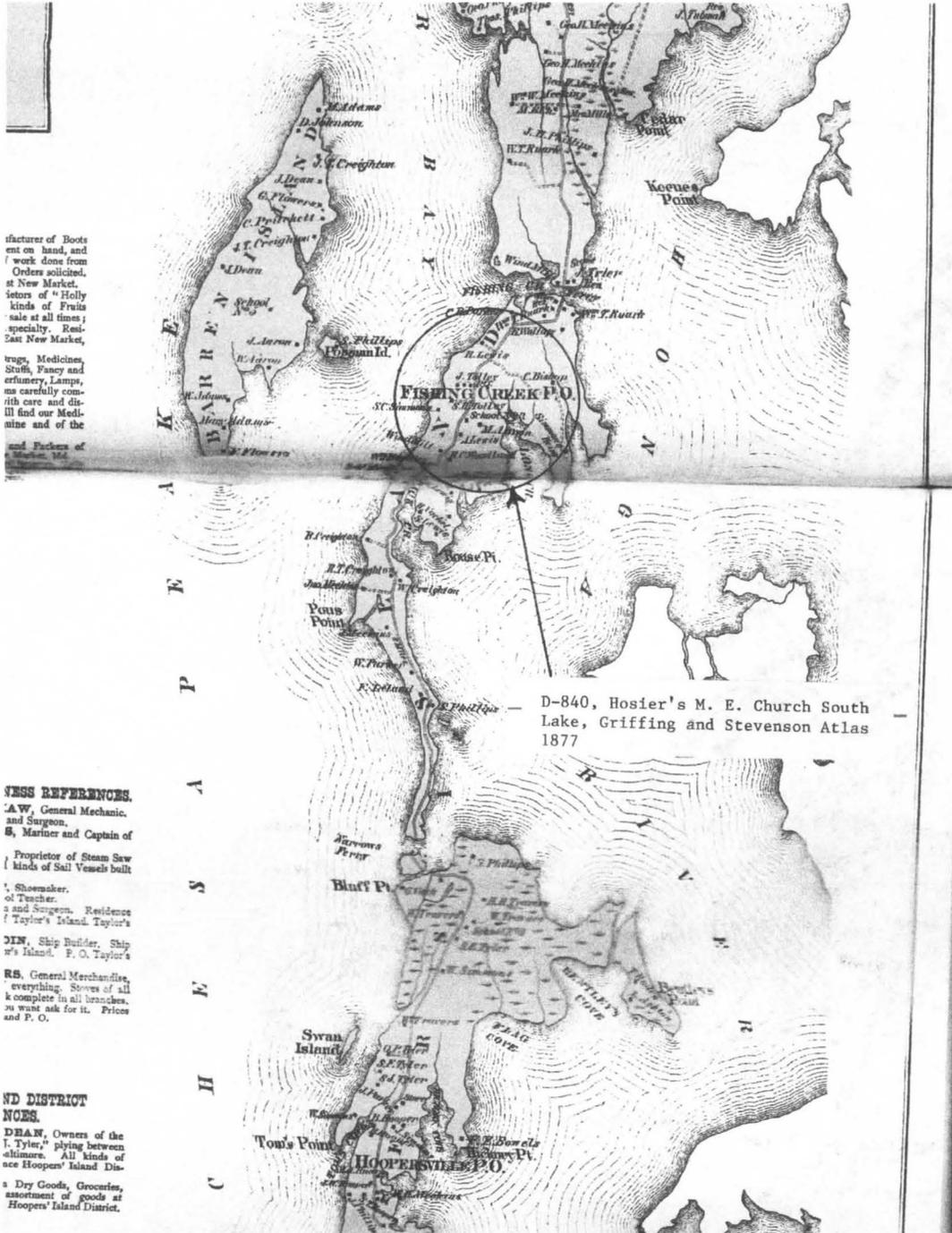


Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-840

Name Hosier's M. E. Church South
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2



Manufacturer of Boots
cut on hand, and
work done from
Orders solicited,
at New Market.
Sellers of "Holly
kinds of Fruits
sale at all times;
specially. Resi-
East New Market,
Trugs, Medicines,
Stuffs, Fancy and
cruisery, Lamps,
as carefully com-
rich care and dis-
ill find our Medic-
and of the

and Packers of
s Market, Md.

LESS REFERENCES.

A.W., General Mechanic,
and Surgeon,
B., Mariner and Captain of

Proprietor of Steam Saw
kinds of Sail Vessels built

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

DIN, Ship Builder, Ship
w's Island. P. O. Taylor's

R.S. General Merchandise,
everything. Stores of all
k complete in all branches.
to visit ask for it. Prices
and P. O.

ND DISTRICT NOES.

DEAN, Owners of the
"I. Tyler," plying between
altimore. All kinds of
see Hoopers' Island Dis-

a Dry Goods, Groceries,
assortment of goods at
Hoopers' Island District.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-840

Name Hosier's M. E. Church South
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 3



D-840, Hosier's M. E. Church South, northwest elevation, Fishing Creek,
Paul Baker Touart, 10.2013

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

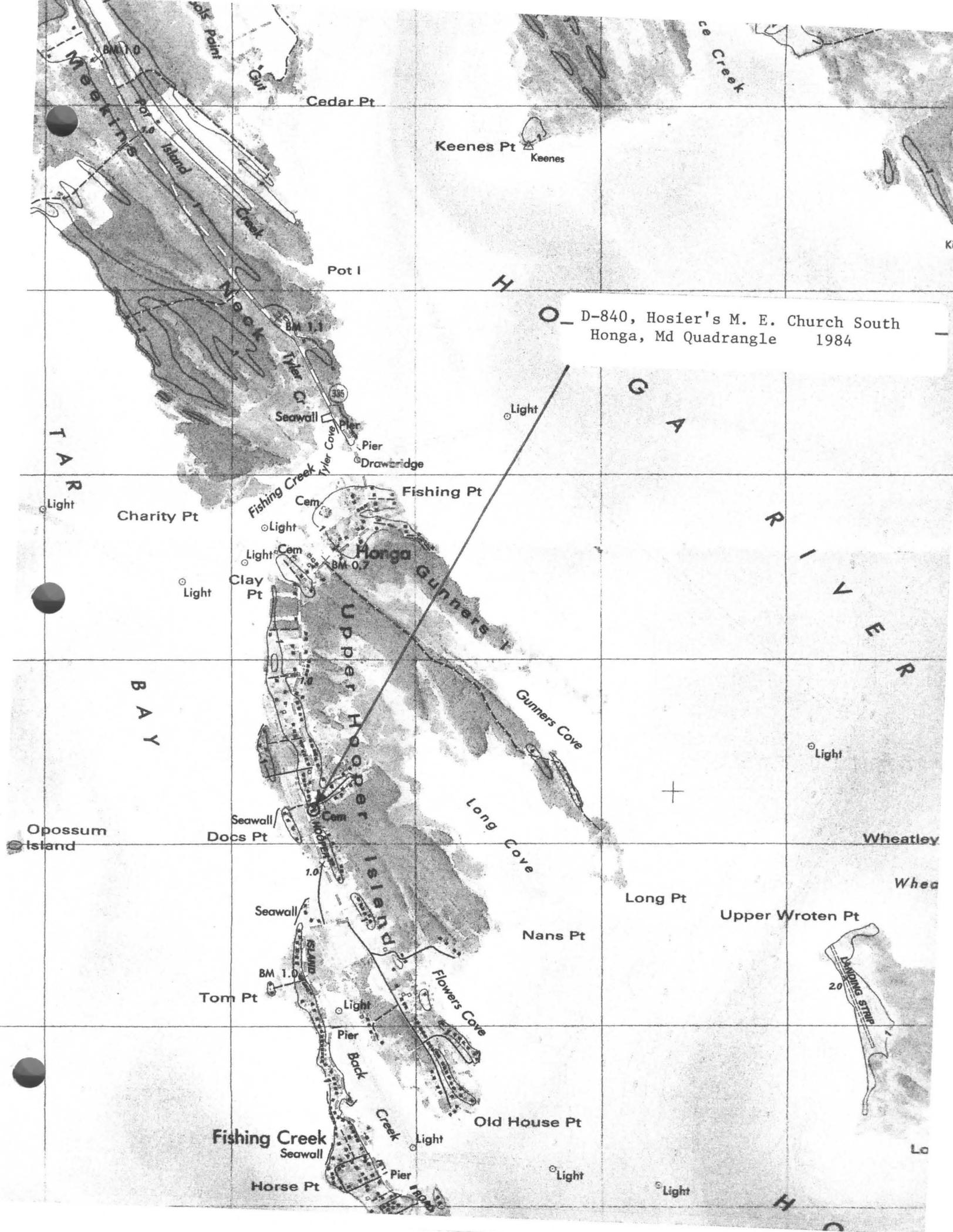
Inventory No. D-840

Name Hosier's M. E. Church South
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 4



D-840, Hosier's M. E. Church South, southeast elevation, Fishing Creek, Paul Baker Touart, 10.2013



D-840, Hosier's M. E. Church South
Honga, Md Quadrangle 1984

T
A
R

B
A
Y

G
A

R
I
V
E
R

H
O
G
A

Fishing Creek
Seawall
Horse Pt

Seawall
Tom Pt
BM 1.0

Flowers Cove
Pier
Back
Creek

Long Cove

Gunners Cove

Fishing Pt

Seawall
Tyler Cove
Pier
Drawbridge

Charity Pt

BM 1.1

Pot I

Cedar Pt

Keenes Pt
Keenes

Long Pt

Nans Pt

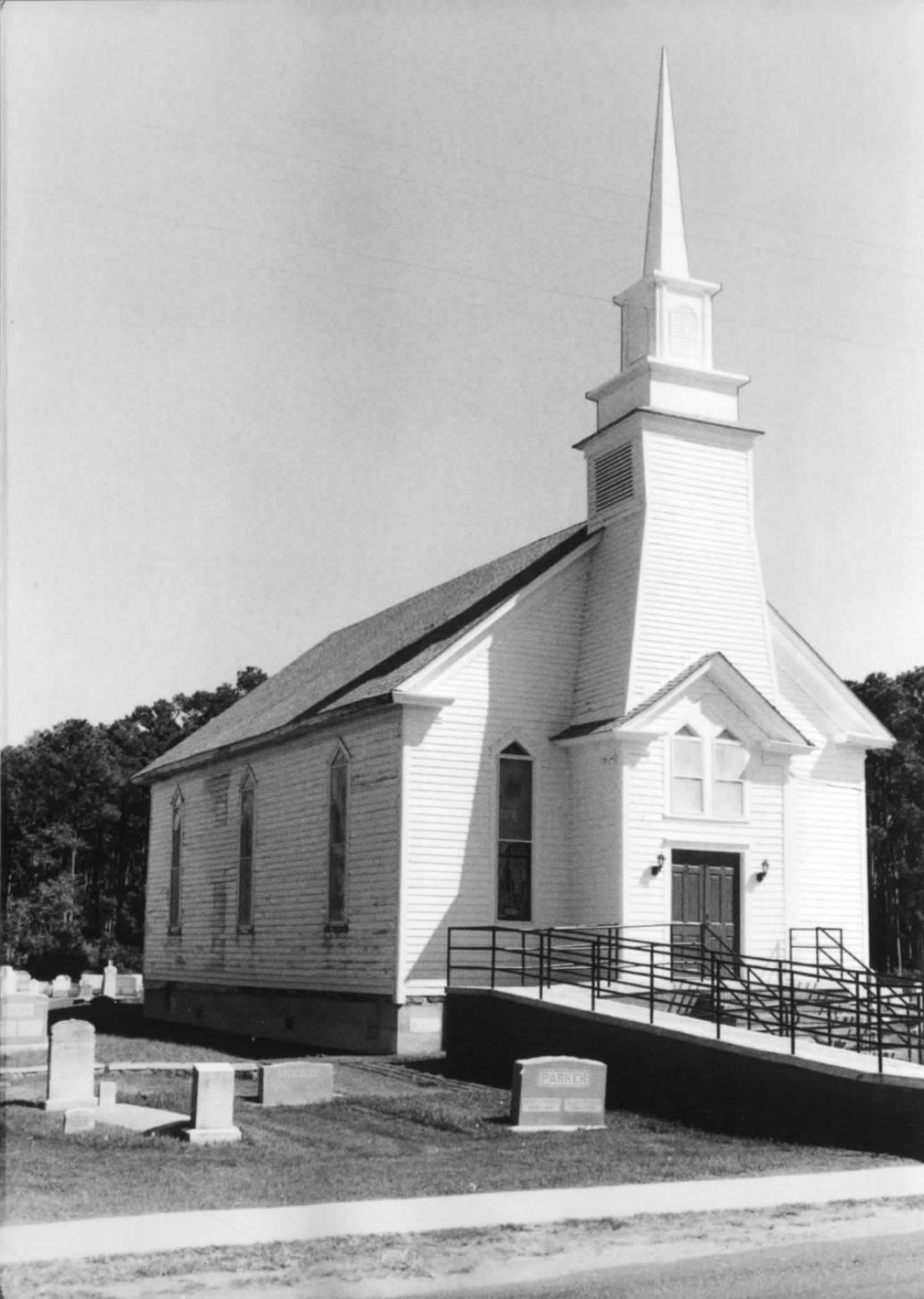
Upper Wroten Pt

Wheatley

Whea

Old House Pt

Light



D-940

Hussey's M. E. Cramer Sound
Fishing Creek, Dorchester
Co., MD

Northwest Elevation
10.2013, Paul B. Toumey,
Pitts TV.
NEZ. Land. Hist. Trust

#1 of 2



D-840

Hosien's M. E. Church South
Fishing Creek, Hooper's Island,
Dorchester Co., MD.

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

10.2013, Paul B. Toussaint, Pittsboro,
NC/MD. Historical Trust

2 OF 2