

F-8-124
Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

Ca. 1875

Mt. Pleasant, Maryland vicinity

Frederick County, Maryland

Private

The Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church is a one-story frame hall-type church with vinyl siding and a simple rectangular plan located on the south side of Old Liberty Road. Built about 1875, it is near a mid-19th century cemetery and the Wayman A.M.E. Church (F-8-123), an 1868 building. Both churches are good examples of small rural African-American churches of the third and fourth quarter of the 19th century in their functional plan and simple materials with no decorations.

Survey No. F-8-124
Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Mt. Pleasant, Maryland vicinity
Frederick County, Maryland

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery Counties,
and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Religion

Resource Type:
Category: Buildings

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:
Religion/religious structure/church

Known Design Source: None

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

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 10200 blk. Old Liberty Road ___ not for publication

city, town Mt. Pleasant vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

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 checked="" 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 Mt. Pleasant Silver Hill U.M. Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Frederick state and zip code MD 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber TG4

street & number 100 W. Patrick St. folio 17

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-8-124

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

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

Contributing Resource Count: 1

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

Survey No. F-8-124

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 type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input 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 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 Ca. 1875 **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.

(Typed on separate sheet)

7.1 Description

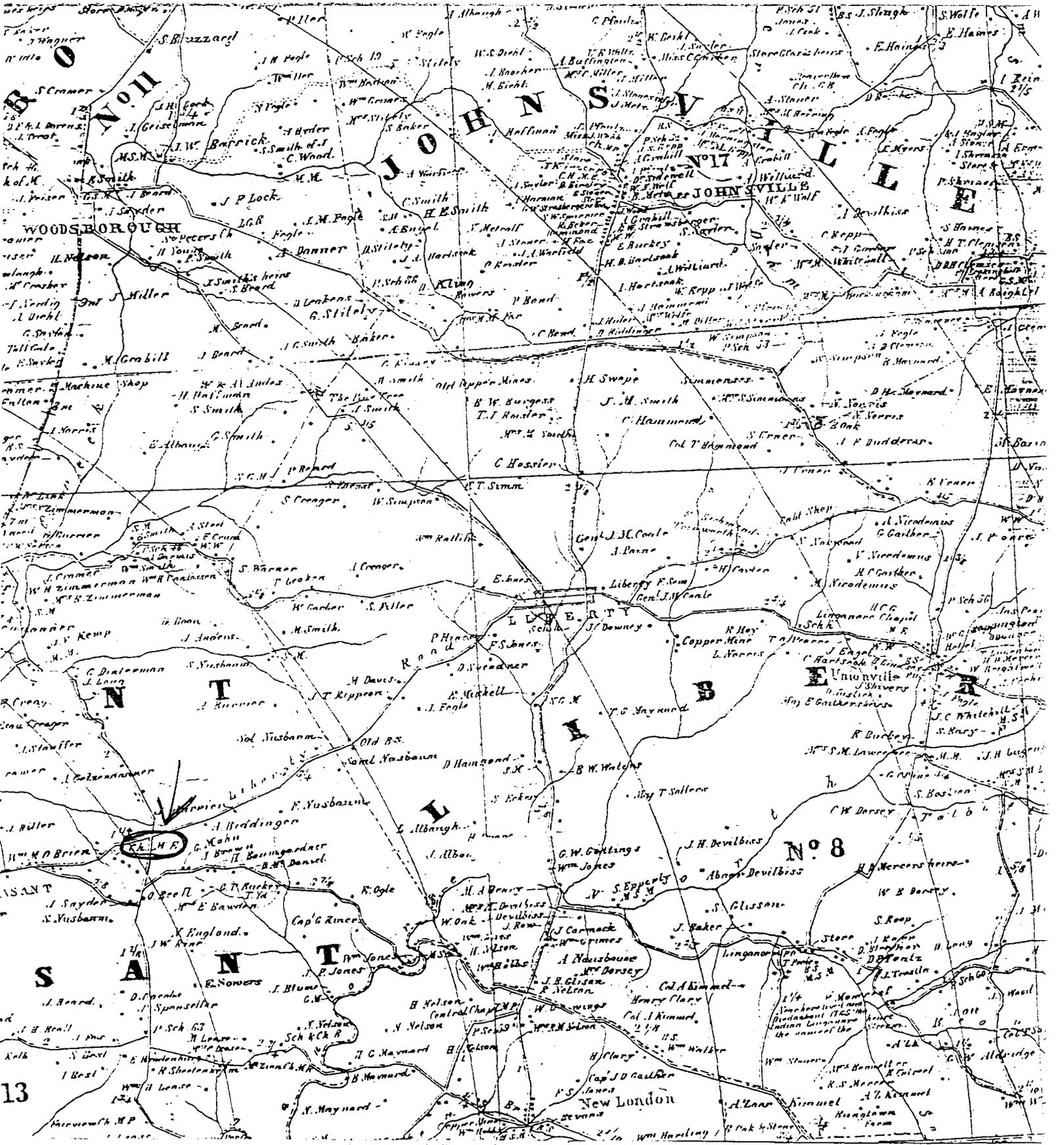
The Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church is a one-story frame church with a rectangular plan and gable roof built about 1875 on the south side of Old Liberty Road near Mt. Pleasant, Maryland. The principal elevation faces east. The church is covered with vinyl siding. A stone foundation is exposed by the sloping site on the north and west elevations. The east elevation has a single bay with a four-panel door and a narrow transom. Above the door is a single light bulb fixture. The north and south elevations have three window bays with 1/1 wood sash. The windows are clear glazed. The standing seam metal roof is pierced by a single concrete block flue in the south slope near the center of the south elevation. An additional stovepipe or furnace vent extends from the south wall near the southeast corner. A cellar entrance with a single wood door is located on the north elevation.

West and south of the Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church is a cemetery with burials dating from about the 1860's. A second church, Wayman A.M.E. Church (F-8-123) is located about 30 yards south of the Silver Hill Church on a separate parcel.

8.1 Significance

The Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church is a good example of a rural African-American church of the last quarter of the 19th century. The congregations of such churches tended to be small, consisting of freed slaves from the large plantations of the southern part of Frederick County. Most, like Silver Hill, were served by circuit pastors and were grouped into charges. The Silver Hill Church is located near the Wayman A.M.E. Church to the south of the adjoining cemetery. Wayman was built about 1868 and according to Wayman member Mrs. Gladys Cooper, the Silver Hill Church has traditionally been considered the older of the two churches; however, this is not supported by the available deed references.

Very little recorded history of the African-American rural churches in Frederick County is available, although some may have individual histories compiled for centennials in the 1960's and 1970's. More research on the Silver Hill and Wayman churches is needed to relate to the two buildings and the cemetery and to form an architectural context. The 1858 Bond Map shows a Methodist Episcopal Church at approximately the location of the two churches. It is unknown at this time whether this was the existing Silver Hill Church or a predecessor structure for which a formal deed was not recorded until 1875 after the construction of the Wayman Church when property lines needed to be drawn. The Titus Map of 1873 shows a "colored church" on a rectangular lot at the site, but it is unclear which church is indicated.



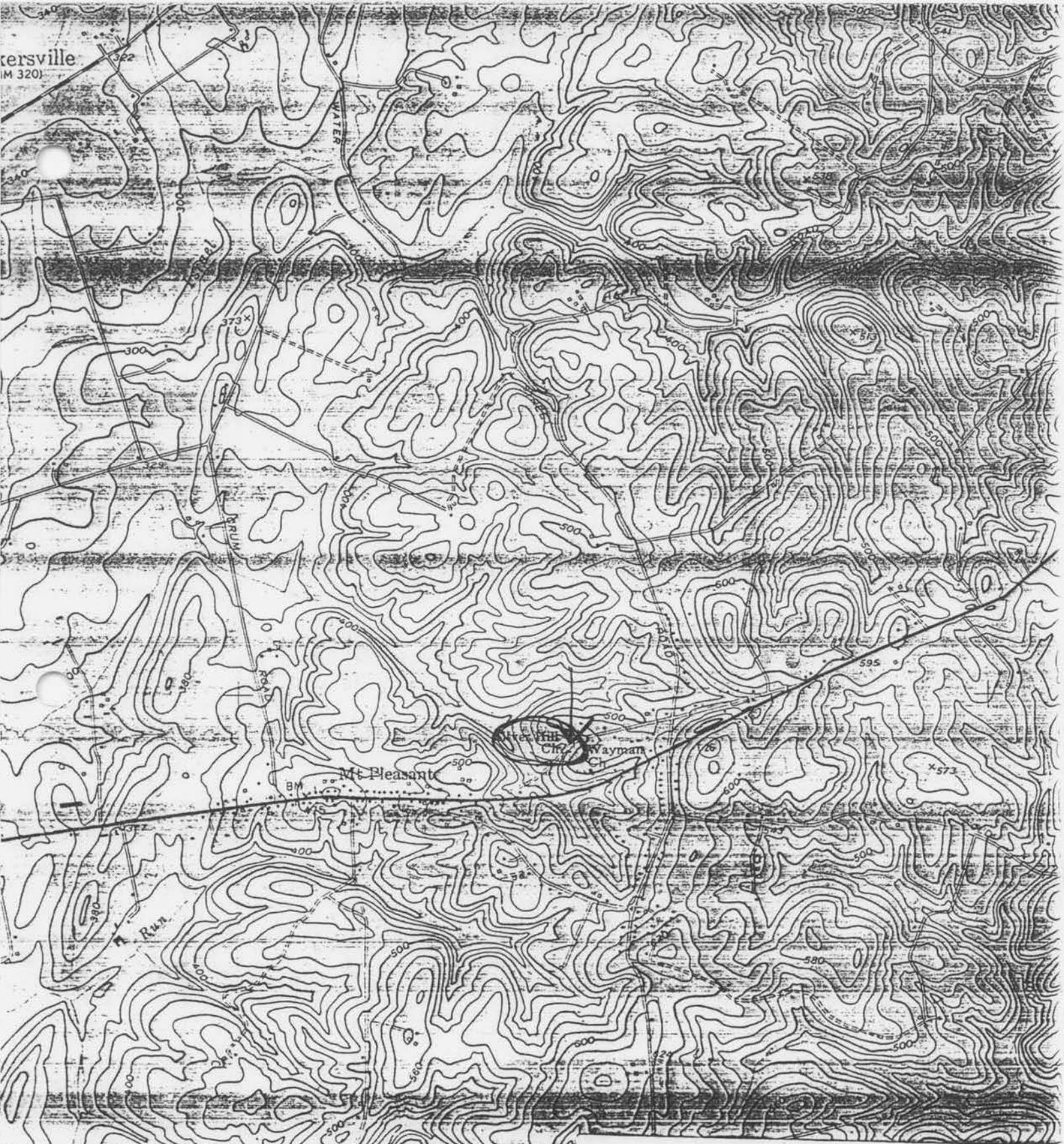
F-8-124
 Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
 Frederick County
 Isaac Bond, Map of Frederick County, 1858

Selma Hill M.F. Church

LIBER/FOL. J	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
TG 4/17 23 Sept 1875 (recording late)	Francis Jones, Richard Pidgeley Ezra Waters, Beale Costley, James Hobbs, Albert Smith, Jacob	Elizabeth Derr, widow of John Derr; Mary L. Derr Alice N. Derr, Eugene L. Derr William R. Derr, Charles M. Derr	Part of Lot #2, being part of "Resurvey on "Maskely's Luck"	#5	
Dates in text not given other than year 1875	Johnson, Trustees of the Coloured People's Methodist Episcopal Church of Mount Pleasant		2 roads, 12 perches		
(no previous deed reference mentioned)					

F-8-124

Walkersville
(M 320)



F-8-124
Silver Hill Methodist Episcopal Church
Frederick County
USGS Walkersville, Maryland
1:24000



F-8-124

Silver Hill United Methodist Church

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

May 1991

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

South elevation and partial view of cemetery