

HA-874

Deer Creek Methodist Church
2729 Chestnut Hill Road
Chestnut Hill
Private

1885

The present Deer Creek Methodist Church is the second building on the site. The first building was a log meeting house erected about 1826-1829. After the present church was built, the log church was sold to a neighboring farmer, who used the timbers to build a barn. The church appears on the Martenet map of 1878 as "Deer Creek Chapel".

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Deer Creek Methodist Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2729 Chestnut Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

Chestnut Hill

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Deer Creek Methodist Charge

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Box 264

CITY, TOWN

Forest Hill

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD 21050

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

20 West Courtland Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

7A-574

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Deer Creek Methodist Church is an 1885 "meeting house" plan church with a projecting foyer located on the north side of Chestnut Hill Road about 50 yards east of the Deer Creek Church Road intersection in Chestnut Hill, Harford County, Maryland. The main door faces southwest.

The main section and the foyer both have slate gable roofs. The foyer has five-panel double entrance doors with a stilted arch transom. A dentil molding on the transom bar is the only decorative trim. The transom is stained glass with the lettering "Deer Creek Methodist Church". Above the foyer is a small round stained glass window. Flanking the foyer are lancet stained glass windows with pointed arches and sliding sash. Along the side elevations are three more lancet windows of the same type. At the rear or northeast elevation is a small addition with an interior brick chimney and a composition roof. The foundation of the main section is stone and the original exterior covering, probably weatherboards, is now covered with vinyl siding.

The interior of the church was not observed during this survey, but a church historical pamphlet states the original plan had two side aisles where men and women customarily sat on opposite sides. Coal stoves heated the hall, and oil lamps provided light. In 1942, the present center aisle plan was adopted, the stoves removed, and electricity provided. Some of the stained glass may date from this period of remodeling.

The church cemetery extends around the east, north, and west sides of the church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1885 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The present Deer Creek Methodist Church is the second building on the site. The first building was a log meeting house erected about 1826-29. After the present church was built, the log church was sold to Thomas J. Robinson, a neighboring farmer, who used the timbers to build a barn.

The Deer Creek Methodist Church was part of the Deer Creek Circuit, organized in 1829 by Rev. Eli Henkle. He formed Methodist meetings in Harford County at Log Meeting House, Wesleyan Chapel, Watter's Meeting House, Abingdon, Calvary, and Union Chapel. The "Log Meeting House" may have been the original Deer Creek Church building in Chestnut Hill.

Joseph Ward donated a parcel of land to the Methodist meeting on February 8, 1826 or 1828 (both years are given in different places in the church history pamphlet). The exact sequence of events is unclear, but the first meetings were apparently held in the home of John H. Barrow. The log church was built sometime between 1826 and 1829. It was known for some years as Ward's Chapel of the Christian Society. At times, the Deer Creek Church belonged to the Bel Air Circuit. On March 16, 1869, the church was incorporated as the Deer Creek Methodist Protestant Church. The church appears on the Martenet map of 1878 as "Deer Creek Chapel".

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

NA-874

Deer Creek ~~United~~ Methodist Charge historical pamphlet
(Historic Sites Survey file, Dept. of Planning & Zoning)

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

Janet Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning

DATE

March 1984

STREET & NUMBER

45 So. Main St.

TELEPHONE

(301) 838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

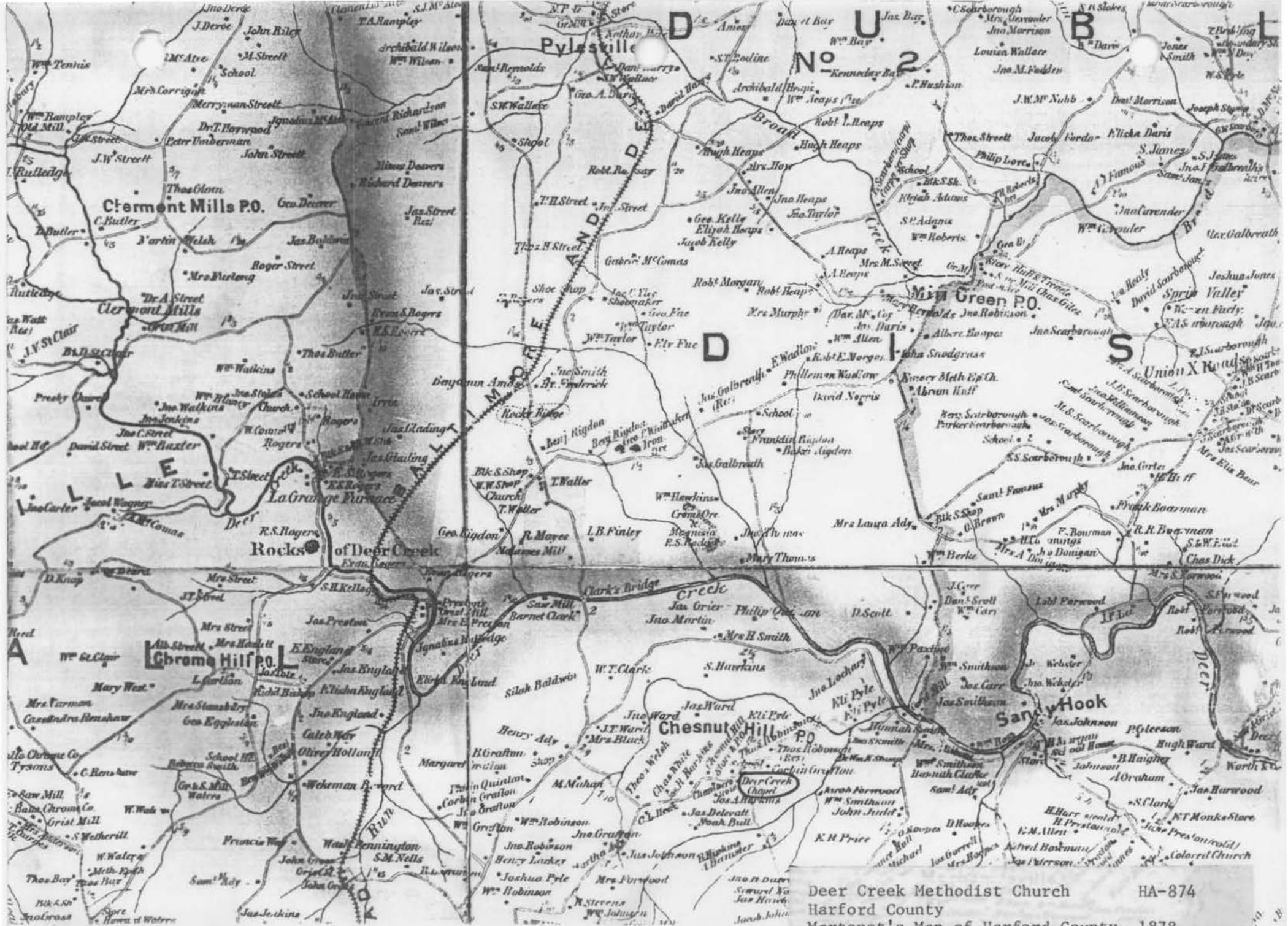
STATE

MD 21014

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



Deer Creek Methodist Church HA-874
Harford County
Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

22'30"

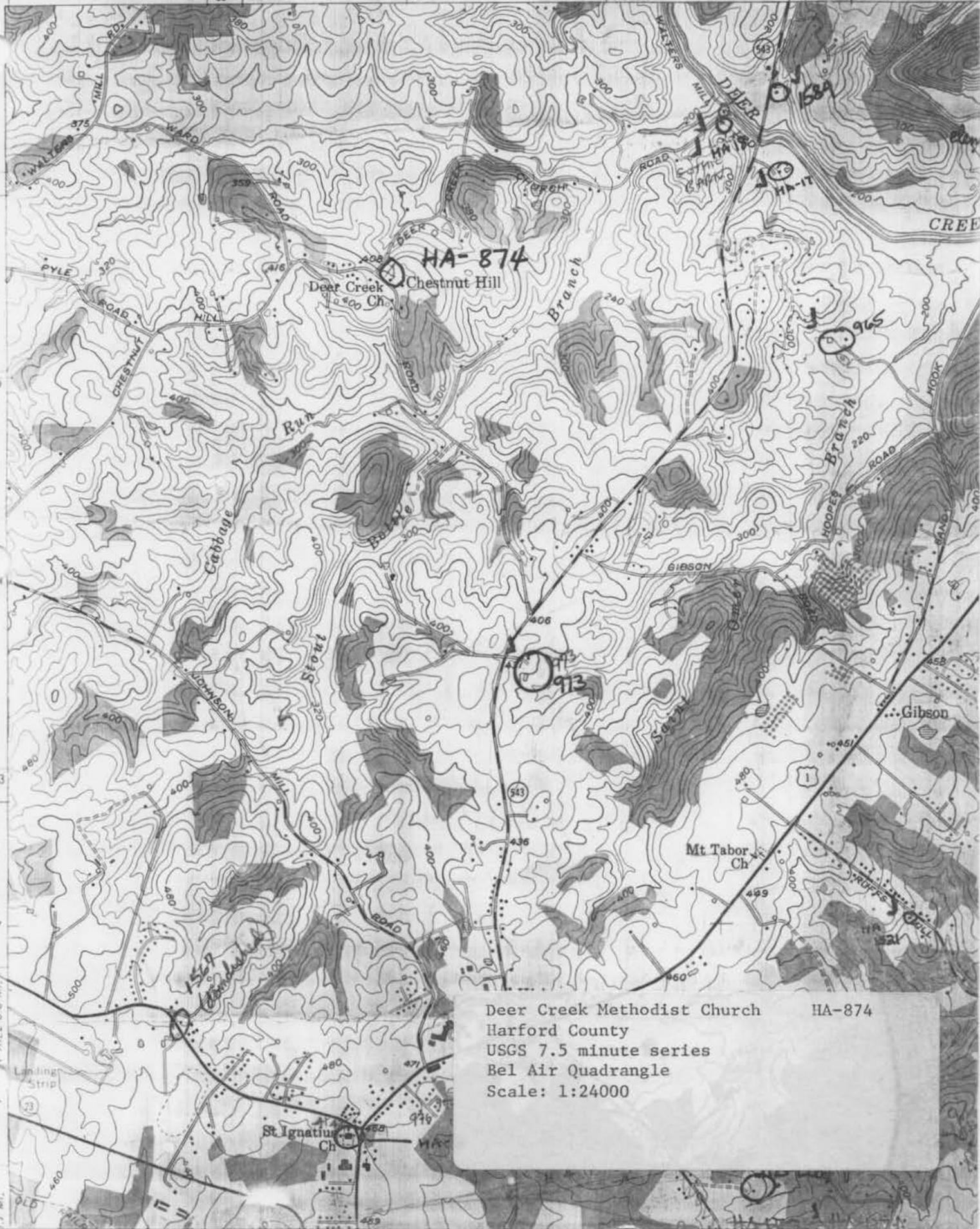
383

384 000m E

385

20'

WHITEFORD 7.4 MI.
ADY 1 MI.



Deer Creek Methodist Church HA-874
Harford County
USGS 7.5 minute series
Bel Air Quadrangle
Scale: 1:24000



Deer Creek Methodist Church

HA-874

Harford County

Photographer: Janet Davis

March 1984

Neg. loc: Maryland Historical Trust

South elevation

1/1