

## Church Lane School

## Chestertown

Standing at the corner of Church Lane and Quaker Neck Road, Church Lane School house is a simple gable roofed structure clad in weatherboarding, with entries in both gabled ends, evenly spaced windows, and a chimney for a stove flue in the center of the rear gable. Now a residence with a rear porch addition, this school served area black children for about 50 years. Along with Emmanuel United Methodist Church, which stands with its cemetery at the end of Church Lane, the school served as a community focal point and social center.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic (May have been Pomona Colored School)

and/or common School at Church Lane, Pomona

## 2. Location

Southwest corner Quaker Neck Rd. (Rt. 289) & Church Lane, 3/8 mi. east of Pomona  
street & number RD #3 - Quaker Neck Rd & Church Lane  not for publication

city, town Chestertown  vicinity of congressional district FIRST

state Maryland county Kent

## 3. Classification

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

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

name Thomas W. Brown, et al.

street & number RD #2, Box 98 telephone no.:

city, town Rock Hall state and zip code Maryland 21661

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber WHG 58

street & number folio 554

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. K-457

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

Now a residence with a rear porch addition, this school building was a simple gable roofed structure clad in weatherboarding, with entries in both gable ends, the windows of the long facades evenly spaced, and a chimney for a stove flue in the center of the rear gable end. The north gable end faces Quaker Neck Road.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. K-457

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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) rural sociology
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**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.

Standing at the entry to the black community of about 10 houses down Church Lane and for a short distance in both directions on the south side of Quaker Neck Road, this one-room school house served area black children for about 50 years. Following its closing, children were transported to the black school in Chestertown. Along with Emmanuel United Methodist Church, which with its cemetery stands at the end of Church Lane, the school served as community focus and social center. The original frame church was built in 1873, with a later frame church built in 1921 and the original building next to it used as a church hall. In 1973 both frame structures were torn down and replaced by a brick church. Most of the community residences appear to be late 19th century structures though some are early to mid-20th century, some of these said to be replacements for earlier homes. Community residents give their address as Church Lane, Pomona.



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 1 story, 3 bays evenly spaced, 3 bays deep. (3 north gable end; 2 at rear) size - 36' 4" x 20' 4".
2. Plan type - One large rectangular room, though perhaps divided on the interior into classroom and closet and/or cloakroom.
3. Roof type - Gable - quite steep.
4. Chimneys - Location: Center of and within south gable wall, probably original and used for stove to heat school. Second chimney is outside east wall, between 1st & 2nd bays (from Quaker Neck Road end) - probably added for oil heater/furnace for residential use (oil tank nearby).

Materials: Brick - 1st has wide, untooled joints, possibly repair work.

Decorative elements: Cap on first.

5. Material/Walls - Main Section: Frame - lapped horizontal weatherboarding with 5" exposure with single 1½" x 4" corner board at each corner.
6. Material/Roofs - Main Section: Asphalt shingles over wood shingles.
7. Material/Foundation - Low brick piers - siding is almost at ground level.
8. Age - Soon after property sold to County School Commissioners in 1891.
9. Style - Late 19th-early 20th century Kent County rural one-room school house with steep gable roof.

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main Entry: Rear gable wall at SW corner, probably the main student entry ( a goose-neck light with shade remains but above the roof of the added semi-enclosed entry porch). 2/2 door lights (more than top ½ of door) over 2 panels - perhaps original door; white porcelain knob.

Secondary entries: Center of North gable end - large 2/2 lights with 2 panels below; door appears quite new/unweathered; plain board frame; aluminum storm

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

door. No platform or steps. Since the building is set quite low to the ground, there may have been no step at all or a large stone may have served as a step.

2. Windows - Type: double-hung  
 Lights: 4/4 except for 6/6 later window in rear gable end apparently replacing smaller window.  
 Details: Plain unmolded board frames except for 6/6 rear window, which has fillet and  $\frac{1}{2}$ " inside bead frame. Sills are plain and project slightly. Frames are flush with the lower edge of the weatherboarding.  
 Shutters: removed - hinge mortises remain. Shutters were paired.
3. Roof Details - At the eaves shaped rafter ends overhang the wall 6-8" and are faced with a fascia board; there is board infill between the rafters at the wall. At the gable ends the overhang is about 10-12", supported by shaped look-outs about 4-0" o.c. and finished with plain verge boards.
4. Porch - At rear gable, SW corner entry door - later addition. Shed roof; concrete block & brick piers; concrete and concrete block step. Screened above, vertical beaded board below; wood floor. Measures about 5' x 8' or 9'. There is no evidence of an earlier entry porch; a stone step may have sufficed.
5. Color - Current: Siding - white; Trim - dark green  
 Historic: Siding - not known; Trim - once white

Interior Description

The interior was not surveyed. The building has been converted to residential use, with probable substantial changes to the interior. There is no exterior evidence that the building was divided for school use into main area and closet and/or cloakroom, but this may have been the case.

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Outbuildings - Sole outbuilding is a recently-built small shed.
2. Site Description - The corner lot on which the school stands is flat and grassy with trees at the perimeter which appear to date to the founding of the school. A flagpole in the front yard near Quaker Neck Road remains as a reminder of the building's original use.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

3. Views to/from site - The north gable end faces open cultivated fields across Quaker Neck Road. To the east and west along the south side of Quaker Neck Road are several community residences, and to the rear of the school residences and their yards line both sides of Church Lane.

Use of Building

1. Current - Residence
2. Historic - One-room rural school for black children.

History of Building/Past Ownership

On July 20, 1891, the Kent County School Commissioners purchased the property from James H. Baker and his wife (SB 14/507). Construction of the building probably followed soon thereafter. According to a member of Emmanuel Methodist Church, before this time school classes for black children had been held at the church (1873 building).

On August 24, 1944, the "property no longer needed for educational purposes", the Board of Education of Kent County sold it for \$400.00 to David, Susie, Thomas W., and Rebecca Brown. Ownership in 1981 is still in the Brown family. (From land records, Kent County Courthouse.)

Following the closing of this school, area children were transported to the black school in Chestertown.

The community's brick church, Emmanuel Methodist Church, was built in 1973 following the demolition of the original frame church built in 1873 and the demolition of a replacement church, larger and also frame, built in 1921. The original church served as a church hall after the 1921 building was erected. It is said that the 1873 church served as a school until the building by the county of the school building. Most of the community's residences appear to be late 19th century though a few are early to mid-20th century, some said to be replacements for earlier homes.



K-457

Piney Grove

251

250

244

477

444

Pomona

457

Bond Chapel

459

3280

458

460

Old Town

476

283

BM 11

Philip Creek

092

303

300

463

Johnsontown

245

Jarrett Cr

461

Quaker Neck Landing

Shell Pt

Starkley

Bookers Wharf

CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE

QUEEN-ANNES CO  
KENT CO

Millers I

CHEST

Bookers Wharf

x 30

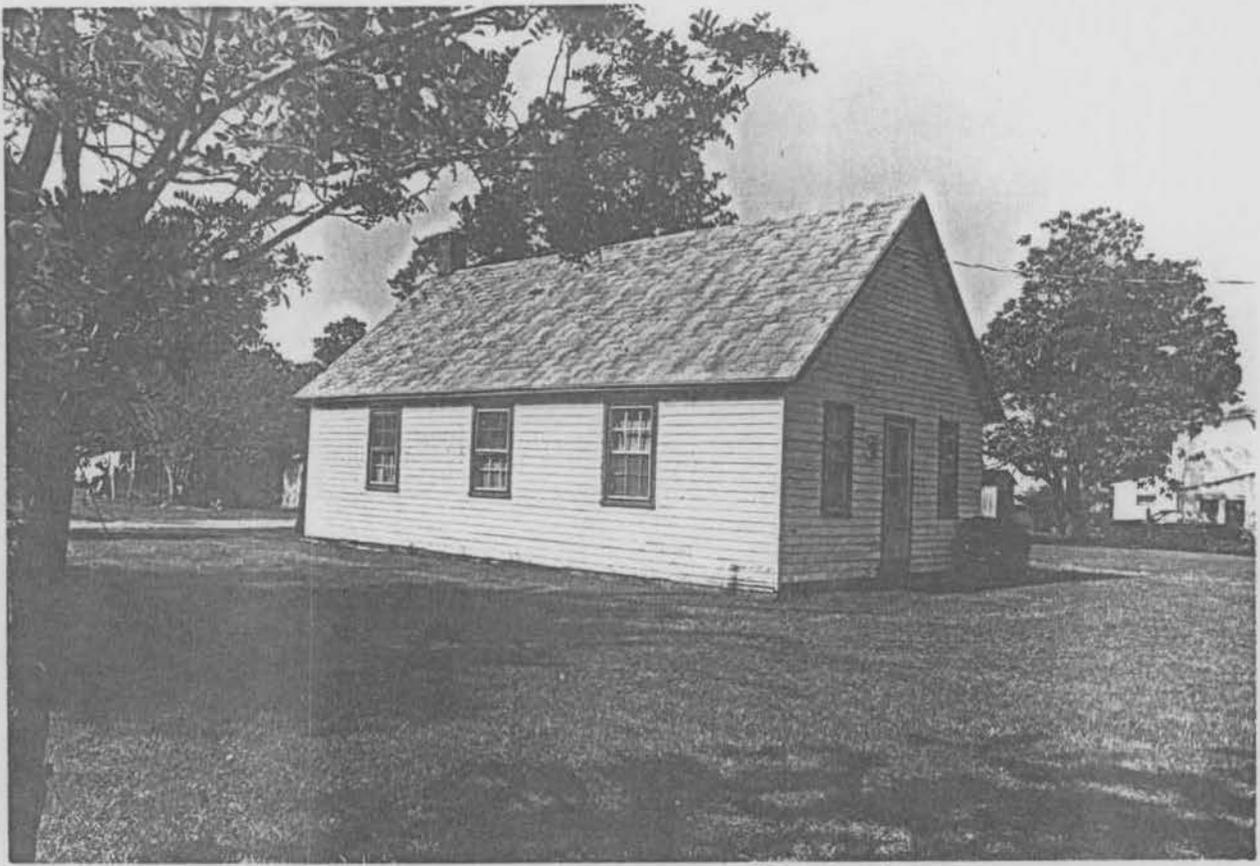


View to Southwest

SCHOOL AT CHURCH LANE (K-457)

Quaker Neck, Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M.Q. Fallaw, May 1981



K-457



K-457

School at Church Lane, Pomona

Rt. 289, Quaker Neck, nr. Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 8/31/86

View to southeast

K 457-10



K-457

School at Church Lane, Pomona

Rt. 289, Quaker Neck, nr. Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 8/31/86

View to northwest

K457-8