

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Damascus Camp Meeting Inventory Number: M:10-21

Address: Bethesda Church Road City: Damascus Zip Code: _____

County: Montgomery USGS Topographic Map: Damascus

Owner: RICHARD C. CULBERTSON

Tax Parcel #: P616 Tax parcel Map Number: F411 Tax Account ID Number: 00923581

Project: Elijah Broadcasting Company Radio Towers Agency: Federal Communications Commis

Site visit by MHT staff no yes Name: Anne E. Bruder Date: 09/10/2000

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of District: _____

Is district listed? no yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:
Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Although these are late examples of the Methodist Camp meeting buildings, this property demonstrates the continued importance of the meeting sites to the Methodist religion in the twentieth century. We believe it is eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criterion C, architecture, and A, for its association with the camp meeting movement.

Prepared by: Catherine Grandine, Goodwin Assoc. Date Prepared: 11/03/2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
MHT Comments:	
<u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	<u>January 05, 2001</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u>R. Kuntz</u>	<u>1/8/01</u>
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

11250 BCRd.
DAM

... ..
... ..

... ..

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Damascus Camp Meeting

M-10-21

Damascus, Maryland

1930s

Private

The Damascus Camp Meeting is set in a grove of hardwood trees on a hillside on the south side of Bethesda Church Road in northern Montgomery County. The land is owned by the Chesapeake District of the Wesleyan Church, Inc. and is comprised of several parcels totaling 11.11 acres. The campground has a view of Sugarloaf Mountain to the northwest in the distance. The community is a 1930s camp meeting, laid out in a horseshoe arrangement. The buildings include a tabernacle, anchoring one of the upper ends of the horseshoe, a dining hall anchoring the other, a two-story girls' dormitory and one-story boys' dormitory, and nearly forty cottages that form the "U." There is a horseshoe-shaped, paved drive. The tabernacle and other large buildings are frame, while the cottages have minimal framing, Masonite paneling, and asbestos roof shingles. Many of the cottages have been repaired using vinyl siding and asphalt roof shingles.

The Damascus Camp Meeting meets National Register Criteria A and C and has integrity of location, setting, feeling and association. It is significant in the area of community planning (Criterion A) because the camp meeting was the draw for families and extended friends from all over the area to reunite annually for the fellowship of the camp meeting experience. It also is significant in the area of religion (Criterion A) for being the site of spiritual renewal for the many diverse followers of the Holiness movement within the Christian church. It is significant for architecture (Criterion C) in that it displays the various built vocabulary associated with a camp

meeting; namely a tabernacle, dining hall, dormitories, caretaker's cottage, and visitor cottages. Finally, it is significant in landscape architecture (Criterion C) for exhibiting the horseshoe-shaped arrangement that was one of the hallmarks of the camp meeting form. The property also might meet Criterion Consideration G, since a religious institution owns it, but it has derived its historic significance from its importance as a camp meeting, not a church.

This resource was studied in the context of the Camp Meetings of Montgomery County, Maryland. The boundaries are that of Montgomery County, Maryland; the time period is 1800-1955; and the themes are religion, community planning, architecture, and landscape architecture. The Damascus Camp Meeting was one of four, primary camp meetings held in the county and two that were established during the Depression. It was found to exhibit all of the major attributes of camp meetings with regard to site plan, cottage expression, tabernacle type, and the social and religious qualities of the camp meeting tradition. Like the other Depression-era camp meetings in the county, the property is threatened; in this case, partially because the camp meeting has been dissolved at that site.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Damascus Camp Meeting

other Beall's Grove Camp Meeting

2. Location

street and number 11210 Bethesda Church Road not for publication

city, town Damascus vicinity

county Montgomery

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

name Chesapeake District of Wesleyan Church, Inc.

street and number PO Box 499 telephone

city, town Chester state MD zip code 21619

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 13209 folio 183

city, town Rockville tax map tax parcel tax ID number

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: Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites, M-NCPPC, Montgomery County

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>45*</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>6*</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	structure
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			<u>*Estimated</u>
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u> </u>

7. Description

Inventory No. M:10-21

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.

The Damascus Camp Meeting is set in a grove of hardwood trees on a hillside on the south side of Bethesda Church Road in northern Montgomery County. One is aware of a distinctly different cultural landscape as one travels west on Bethesda Church Road, given the closeness of the cottages, their minimal size, and the clustering of the all-white buildings together in the wooded grove. The land is owned by the Chesapeake District of the Wesleyan Church, Inc. and is comprised of several parcels totaling 11.11 acres. For decades the land was owned by a Holiness camp meeting association that sponsored the annual camp meeting. The campground has a view of Sugarloaf Mountain to the west in the distance. The community is a 1930s camp meeting, laid out in a horseshoe arrangement. The buildings include a tabernacle anchoring one of the upper ends of the horseshoe, a dining hall anchoring the other, a two-story girls' dormitory and one-story boys' dormitory, and nearly forty cottages form the "U." There is a horseshoe-shaped, paved drive. The tabernacle and other large buildings are balloon-frame structures, while the cottages have minimal framing and Masonite paneling. Many of the cottages have been repaired using vinyl siding.

Tabernacle

The 1935 tabernacle is the symbolic and structural heart of the camp meeting and is said, by some, to have been patterned after the Spencerville Camp Meeting tabernacle, which predates it by a few years. Typical of camp meeting tabernacles, the structure is all-frame with exposed members on the interior and vertical wood boarding on the exterior. The roof is a pent style roof that rises to a sharp ridge. The east and west ends feature a triple window of twelve lights per window. The roofing is asphalt shingle. Rafter ends protrude on the east and west ends. Overall, the building has a tent-like, or barn, appearance. The north face is largely open to the elements in the summer, so is covered by a tarp of sorts in the winter. Top-hinged board shutters cover window-like openings that are left open in the summer during services. Park style benches provide seating on the interior. A raised platform is located at the southern end of the meeting space for a pulpit.

Cottages

Cottages are mostly one-room frame structures from both the 1930s and 1940s resting upon cinder-block piers. Many feature their original Masonite siding, although some have been repaired using vinyl. Some feature original asbestos shingle roofing while others have replacement asphalt shingle roofing. The majority of cottages are front-gable structures that, with imagination, could be said to resemble tiny vernacular Greek Revival houses. Early doors are of two types: eight pane of glass with one wood panel beneath or four-pane lights with three recessed wood panels beneath. The gable projects over the front wall plane and is supported by two square posts, thus making for a small front porch with wood flooring. Some porches have built-in benches perpendicular to and flanking the front door to the cottage. Most cottages have a six-over-six, double-hung window on each side wall. A Washington Post newspaper article implied that the buildings may have been air-warden cottages hauled to the site from the

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

Conowingo Dam on the Susquehanna River, although documents could not be found to corroborate this theory.¹

Dining Hall

The Dining Hall has been a fixture of the campground for most of its life. It is a long, one-and-a-half story, rectangular structure that was converted in recent years by the church that owns the site to a sanctuary for year-round services. The renovation resulted in a revised side porch on the east side, new dormers on the roofline, and vinyl siding. The west wall also features vertical T-1-11 on its lower half and the south, or rear wall, features two, non-original, eight-over-eight windows. The building is believed to have been more rustic in its original formation, although no Depression-era photographs could be located.

Dormitories

There is a two-story, former girls' dormitory immediately adjacent to the Dining Hall that is located on the south side of the horseshoe. It is a simple structure, reminiscent of Shaker buildings in its plainness. It is covered today in artificial siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are of the six-over-six, double hung type. The boys' dormitory is a one-story structure located south of the main horseshoe in the woods and it too is utilitarian. It sits upon concrete piers and features vertical board siding.

The Caretaker's Cottage

The former caretaker's cottage at the west end of the horseshoe is a Tidewater-style Colonial Revival building probably dating from the 1930s. It has received a 'bump-up' to its roof and an addition to the rear. It sits upon a concrete foundation and has a detached non-contributing garage behind it.

Ancillary Structures

There are several utilitarian structures including a fellowship hall (which resembles military campus structures), a book store, and an office (a simple three-bay, single pile, one-story building).

¹ *The Washington Post*, August 13, 1987. Internet searches on air warden cottages and the Conowingo Dam did not produce any information. The air warden cottages mentioned on the Internet are British sites and the Conowingo Dam sites do not contain air warden information.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 1 Page 2



View of Damascus Camp Meeting looking west along Bethesda Church Road (Elizabeth Jo Lampl)

8. Significance

Inventory No. *M:10-21*

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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	1931	Architect/Builder	Howard Watkins, local builder
Construction dates	1935 (tabernacle)		

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.)

Damascus Historical Context

The Damascus Camp Meeting was studied as part of the Historic Context of the Camp Meetings of Montgomery County Project, undertaken in FFY2003 by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Section as a Certified Local Government grant from the Maryland Historical Trust. (See Historic Context Report at the Maryland Historical Trust library for further information on the camp meeting genre and its development in Montgomery County.) The camp meeting was a religious gathering set in nature – a grove, a clearing on a farm, or a seaside spot. The meeting was characterized by large audiences attending religious services and camping at the site of those services for an extended period of time. Over time, camping in tents was dissolved in favoring of staying overnight in cottages.

The Damascus Camp Meeting meets National Register Criteria A. and C and has integrity of location, setting, feeling and association. It is significant in the area of community planning (Criterion A) because the camp meeting was the draw for families and extended friends from all over the area to reunite annually for the fellowship acquired at the camp meeting experience. It also is significant in the area of

(Continued on next page)

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

religion (Criterion A) for being the site of spiritual renewal for the many diverse followers of the Holiness movement within the Christian church. It is significant for architecture (Criterion C) in that it displays the various, vernacular built vocabulary associated with a camp meeting; namely a tabernacle, dining hall, dormitories, caretaker's cottage, and visitor cottages. Finally, it is significant in landscape architecture (Criterion C) for exhibiting the horseshoe-shaped site plan that was one of the hallmarks of the camp meeting landscape. The property also might meet Criterion Consideration G, since a religious institution owns it, but it has derived its historic significance from its importance as a camp meeting, not a church.

As mentioned above, this resource was studied in the context of the Camp Meetings of Montgomery County Project. The boundaries are that of Montgomery County, Maryland; the time period is 1800-1955; and the themes are religion, community planning, architecture, and landscape architecture. The Damascus Camp Meeting is one of four camp meetings overall in the county and two that were established during the Depression. It was found to exhibit all of the major attributes of camp meetings, with regard to site plan, cottage expression, tabernacle type, and the social and religious qualities of the camp meeting tradition. Like the other Depression-era camp meeting in the county, the property is threatened; in this case, partially because the camp meeting tradition has been dissolved at this site.

Damascus in the 18th Century

The area of Damascus had its origins in relation to Frederick County, rather than Montgomery County, for the town of Frederick, Maryland, laid out by 1748, was the only established town of any size in the area that is now upper Montgomery County. Damascus was Frederick's 'back country' and its residents were indeed called 'back inhabitants.' Parr's Ridge, in the heart of Damascus, stretches from Mt. Airy and Ridgeville to Damascus, Laytonsville and Sandy Spring. With the early development of the Damascus area, roads were established along Parr's Ridge and other ridgelines. Farms in the area were oriented toward waterways, most notably along Seneca Creek.

Tobacco was the main cash crop of the 18th century and Maryland produced one quarter of all tobacco in the country. Montgomery County planters, in turn, contributed about one fifth of that total. Prices for land and goods were quoted in pounds of tobacco. In the late 1700s and early 1800s, most dwellings in Damascus were simple one- or two-room structures often built of log.

The crossroads community of Damascus proper was founded at the intersection of two major early ridgeline roads: Ridge Road (Route 27) and Damascus Road (Route 108). Ridge Road was the Susquehanna native trail from the river at Harrisburg to Seneca Creek, which led to the Potomac. The Ridge Road-Damascus Road corridor was one of several principal market roads established in 1774. It

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

was part of a regional route established by the General Assembly for a market road from Frederick to Annapolis. This road was later improved as a post road leading from New Market to Laurel.

The earliest communities in northern Montgomery County, including Hyattstown, Clarksburg and Damascus, were established to serve travelers' needs. Before the community known as Damascus was subdivided, there was something of a settlement on the site. By 1814, James Whiffing had a dwelling, store, blacksmith shop and stables. In 1816, Edward Hughes bought 40 acres from Whiffing and platted Damascus into 14 lots.

Damascus in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Beyond the center, however, Damascus was mostly farms. Tobacco continued to be farmed in Damascus well beyond the time when other areas of Montgomery County had switched to grain. In 1879, Damascus had one of 10 agricultural granges in the county and Damascus was still considered the heart of an extensive tobacco region. Some farmers, including the Hiltons and Browns, farmed tobacco into the 20th century. Damascus was typical in that it was a small village with a general store, church, and school. The buildings were typically folk, or vernacular, in type. Through the mid-1800s, the most common building type for community structures was a one-story, gable-front form.

Damascus incorporated in 1890, mostly because of the desire for street improvements. Residents paid taxes to fund road crew to fill in potholes. In the early 20th century, these improvements brought new growth to the Damascus area. In 1914, the State had a program to connect counties with the port city of Baltimore, but the program could not pave roads in incorporated towns. Ironically, the incorporation of Damascus had to be dissolved to make way for progress, in this case, the paving of Route 27. That road, which provided access to the National Road leading to Baltimore, became the first paved road connecting Washington and Frederick. In the mid-1920s the road from Damascus to Laytonsville, or Route 108/Damascus Road, was paved as a two-lane concrete road. Local landowners planted sycamore trees along a four-mile stretch of the road between Jarl Drive and Griffith Road as part of a statewide beautification project. Woodfield Road (Route 124) was paved about 1932.

Following the early road improvements, the community of Damascus thrived. The post office, which had been closed since 1908, re-opened in 1923. The Damascus Community Fair was organized in 1927, in order to educate farmers and home economists and to promote community spirit. Other examples of the vitality of Damascus during this era include the opening of the Bank of Damascus (1921) and the accreditation of Damascus High School (1924). The Damascus Camp Meeting opened in 1931.

The period after World War II was marked by continued growth and expansion. To service the growing population, the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1944. The Damascus

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

Recreation Center, established in the 1940s, provided bowling alleys, pool tables and a restaurant. Boyer and Cramer opened their hardware store in 1947, reviving a general store that first opened in the 1890s, but had closed during the Depression. The Damascus High School opened in 1950. Many Damascus residents continued to attend the increasingly popular Damascus Camp Meeting.

The Damascus Camp Meeting

The Damascus Camp Meeting was founded during a time of national despair (the Great Depression) but a relatively stable farm economy within Damascus itself. The Damascus Camp Meeting was part of the Holiness camp meeting circuit. The Holiness Revival began when Methodists sought to infuse the Wesleyan church with the urgency of God's holiness, or separateness, and the sense that salvation was a continually necessary process due to the ability of believers to "back slide." The Holiness movement was one of the largest reasons behind a renewed interest in camp meetings following the Civil War and for the toning down of bodily exercises associated with it. The Holiness camp meeting movement commenced in Vineland, New Jersey in 1867, with participants gathering from various Christian denominations. (See Figure) Due to its wide draw, that camp at Vineland was known as the "National Camp Meeting." By 1868, the second Holiness camp meeting in Manheim Pennsylvania drew at least 600 tenters, 25,000 people, and 300 ministers, again from a variety of denominations. By 1883, Holiness camp meetings had been held in 16 states.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4



The first National Holiness Camp Meeting at Vineland, New Jersey. (Holiness Digest)

Camp meetings, in general, with their rustic pulpits and open-air benches, had been established in Montgomery County by the early 1800s. Informal camp meetings were said to exist at Emory Grove near Gaithersburg even before the Civil War. The 1873 opening of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad brought huge numbers of Washington, D.C. Methodists to Washington Grove in Montgomery County to escape the city. By 1924, rail travel had been supplanted by that of the automobile and Washington Grove had become a year-round, sectarian community. Yet there was still a local demand for camp meeting services, which was met by a small, new generation of camp meetings. In 1931, camp

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

meetings were established in northern and eastern Montgomery County; specifically, in Damascus and Spencerville.

When the Damascus Camp Meeting began, in 1931, it was known as Beall's Grove Camp Meeting. William Beall, a farmer, provided a tent and allowed the camp to be set within a grove of his oak trees. Local laymen led the service, which was attended by 75-100 people. Most of the participants were residents of Montgomery and Frederick Counties. The group that started the camp meeting organized themselves and incorporated two years later as the Montgomery County Interdenominational Holiness Association, with its principle place of business at "Damascus Camp Meeting Ground." The aim of the non-profit association was "to spread scriptural holiness throughout the land, principally through an annual camp meeting on its camp ground preferably in August."² In 1934, William and his wife, Cassandra Burdette Beall, donated 1 ½ acres of land to the camp meeting, specifying in the deed that the property should be used for a camp meeting for two weeks each August.³

In 1935, organizers replaced the original meeting tent with a wood frame tabernacle. One of the early, most influential participants at Damascus was Dr. Clayton S. Luce, who taught at Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, but helped establish the Damascus Camp Meeting. He helped finance and build the tabernacle and other structures. A local man, Howard Watkins, is credited with actually building the tabernacle as well as many of the cottages.⁴ The one-room cabins, built throughout the 1930s and 1940s, were furnished with a double bed, and a small dresser and table. Occupants ate their meals in a rustic dining hall, which was later converted completely into an enclosed structure for year-round church services.

Because of its Holiness bent, people of various Christian denominations - including Methodists, Wesleyans, Nazarenes, United, Reformed, Evangelical, Mormons, and Catholics - attended the Damascus camp meeting. It was the only camp meeting in Montgomery County that was truly interdenominational and not tied to one or a handful of churches. As one campgoer noted, "Jesus was the big umbrella."

The typical schedule of events during camp meeting included three main services a day: a morning service at 11:00, an afternoon service at 2:00, and an evening service at 7:30. The day's activities began with a tabernacle prayer meeting, followed by breakfast. Following that, there was a cottage chapel prayer meeting and a youth service that took place simultaneously with the morning preaching service and the children's meeting. The "dinner" was at 12:30 and was the main meal of the day. Following

²Bylaws of the Montgomery County Interdenominational Holiness Association of Maryland, Collection of Bernadine Gladhill Beall of Clarksburg Road.

³Montgomery County Land Records, Deed: Liber 564/Folio 401 (1934).

⁴Interview with Bernadine Gladhill Beall by Elizabeth Jo Lampl, 5-21-2004.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:10-21

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6

“clean up and inspection,” the youth would enjoy three hours of recreation while the adults participated in an afternoon bible service. “Supper,” the lighter meal, was served at 5:00 p.m., followed by a youth meeting, “ring service,” and evening service. The campground curfew was at 10:30 with mandatory lights out by 11:30 p.m.

The evening services had the greatest attendance, drawing people from Damascus and the surrounding area. Attendees would sit on lawn chairs and blankets outside the filled tabernacle.⁵ In the 1970s, hundreds of people attended the 11-day encampment.⁶ The evangelists and the song evangelists, along with their families, were allowed to attend the camp meeting for free.

The Holiness Association sold the property in recent years to the Damascus Wesleyan Church, a “like organization with Wesleyan Holiness emphasis,” which, in turn, conveyed the property to the Chesapeake District of the Wesleyan Church, based in Chester, Maryland.⁷ The Damascus Wesleyan Church continued the camp meeting tradition for a little while, but within the past two years, it ceased the camp meeting, holding a youth camp instead in late July.

While the buildings of the Damascus Camp Meeting still remain, they are threatened by a lack of funds and the fact that the buildings are only used on a regular basis once or twice a week during the summer season. The preservation of this important cultural landscape with its vernacular building stock should be a priority for the county and the state, given the alarming rarity of the camp-meeting form.

⁵ Interview with Olga Fairfax by Elizabeth Jo Lampl, May 2004.

⁶ *Montgomery County Courier*, August 9, 1978.

⁷ Montgomery County Land Records. Deeds 12784:500 (1994); 13209:183 (1995); 13209:183. The tax records show that this sale occurred in 1995, but Mrs. Bernadine Gladhill Beall, a former trustee of the camp meeting, said this occurred in the year 2000.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M: 10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 7



Praying at the Damascus Camp Meeting
The Montgomery Journal, August 11, 1995

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. M:10-21

- Clare Kelly Cavicchi, Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation: Damascus and Goshen Area Resourced, M-NCPPC, May 2004.
Donald Leavitt, Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form, Damascus Camp Meeting, 1979.
Bylaws of the Montgomery County Interdenominational Holiness Association of Maryland, Collection of Bernadine Gladhill Beall of Clarksburg Road.
Deeds 564:401 (1934); 12784:500 (1994); 13209:183 (1995); 13209:183.
Interviews with Olga Fairfax and Bernadine Gladhill Beall, May 2004.
Flyers from the Damascus Camp Meeting from the personal collection of Bernadine Gladhill Beall.
-

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>11.11 acres</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>11.11 acres</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Damascus, MD</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>7.5</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries are those historically associated with the campground and the camp meeting. They include parcels P672, 727, 626, 669, 680, 775, and 577 recorded in the land records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Clare Kelly Cavicchi and Elizabeth Jo Lampl		
organization	M-NCPPC	date	July 2004
street & number	8787 Georgia Avenue	telephone	301-563-3400
city or town	Silver Spring	state	MD

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.

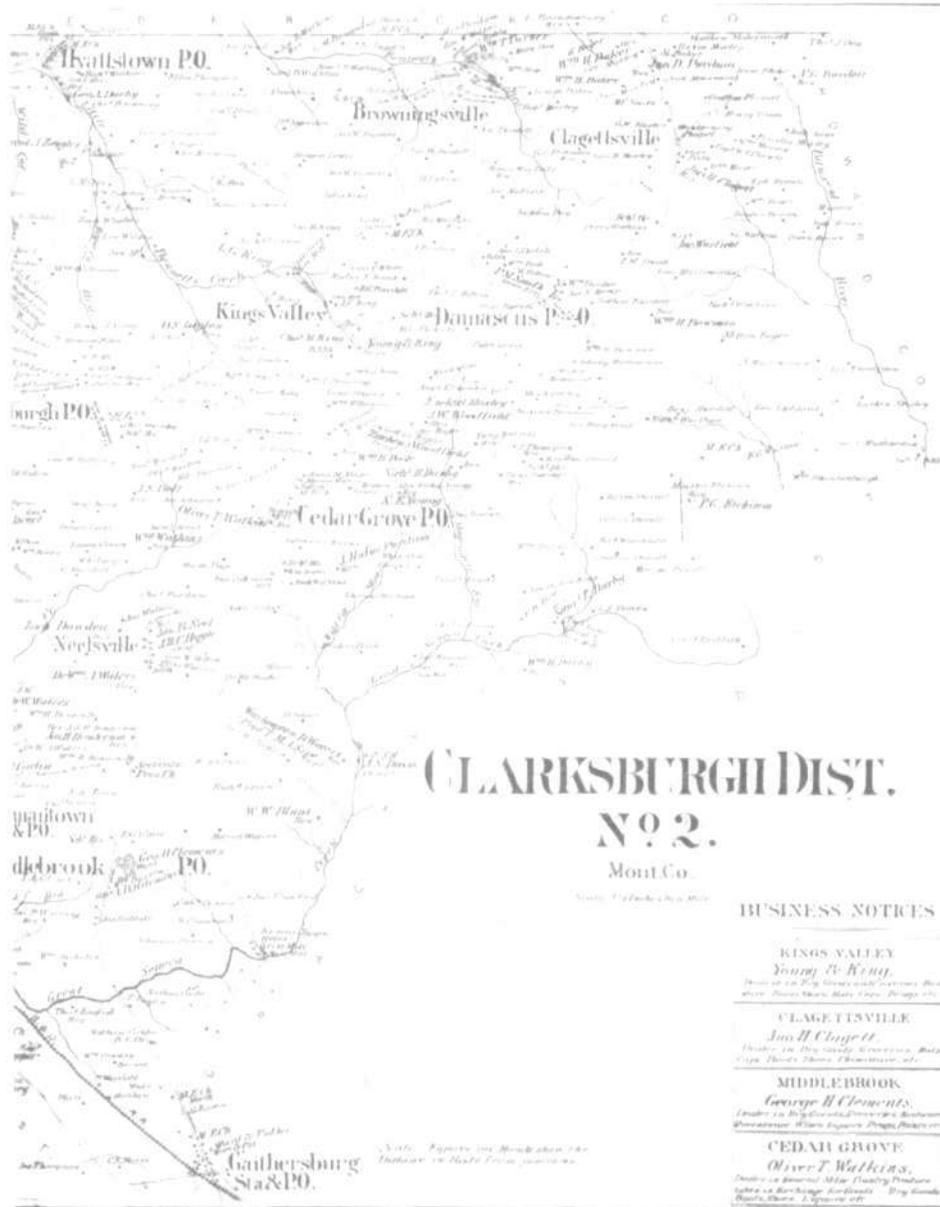
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M: 10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 10 Page 1



Atlas of Montgomery County, Maryland, 1879

Clarksburgh District

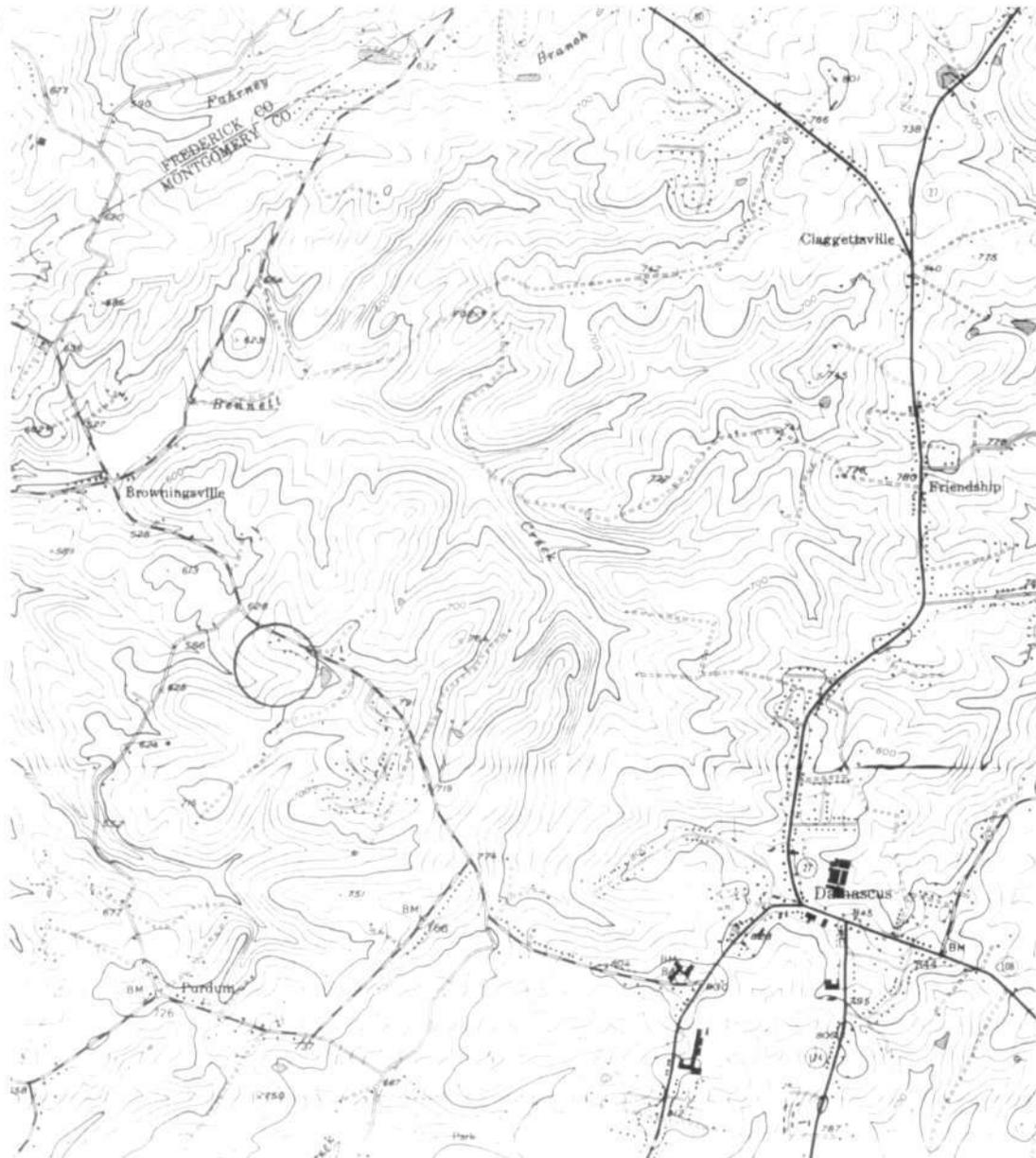
Site that would become the Damascus Camp Meeting is located west of the road linking Damascus to Brownsville to the north

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M-10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 10 Page 2



DAMASCUS CAMP MEETING
M-10-21
DAMASCUS, MD
USGS Map "Damascus, Md"

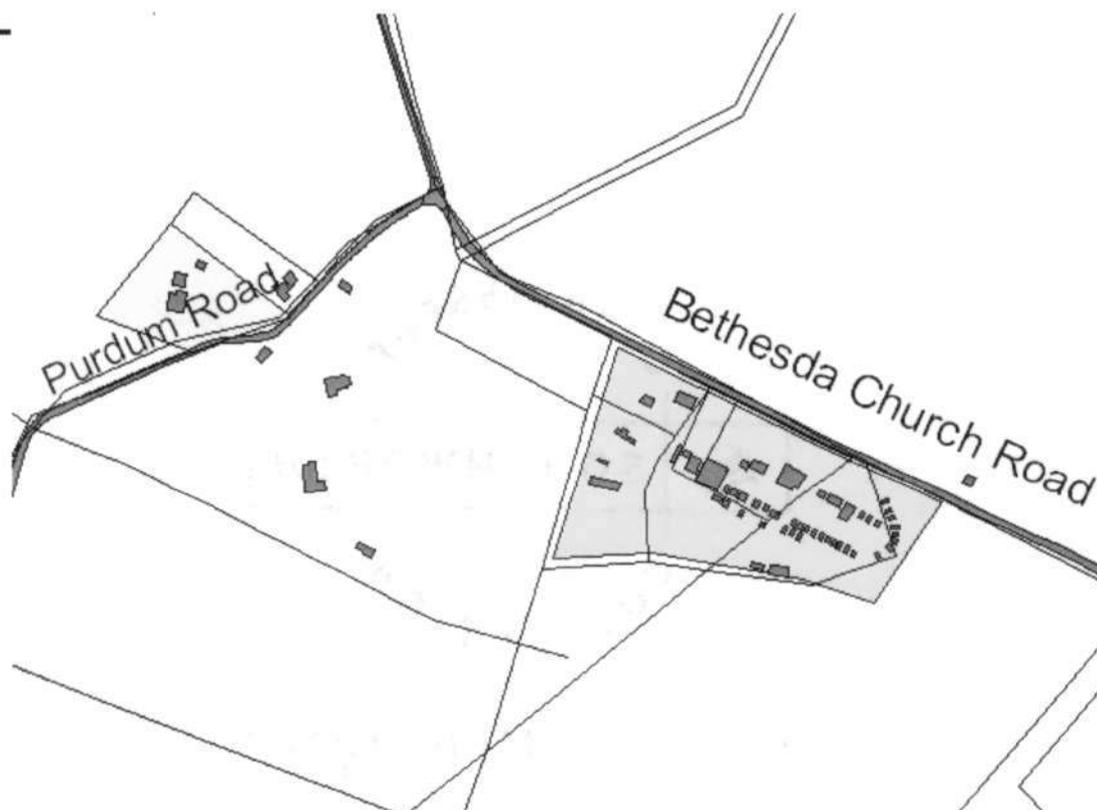
Note: All buildings
at camp meeting are not shown.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M: 10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 10 Page 3



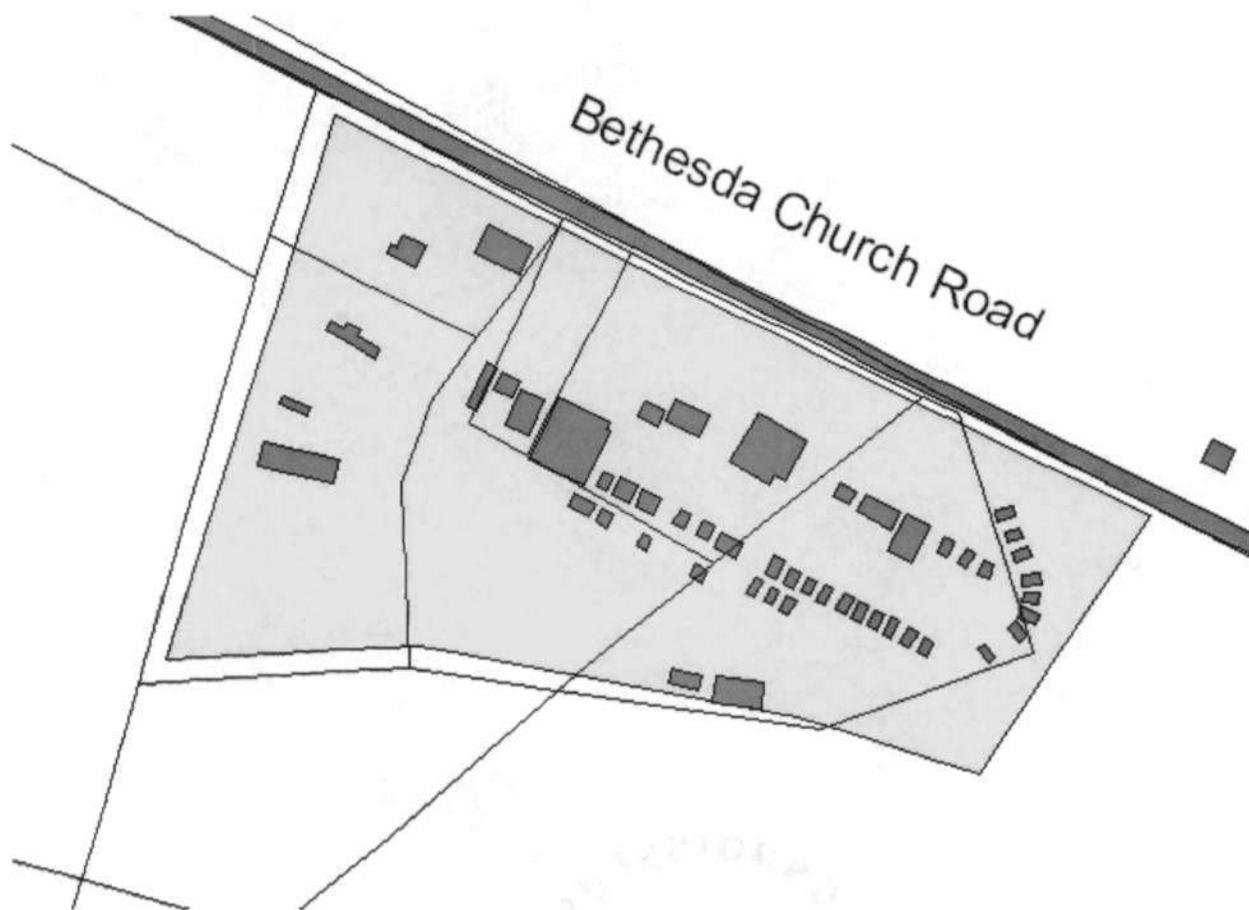
Vicinity Map showing the Damascus Camp Meeting, with the “environmental setting” of the property located on the Montgomery County *Locational Atlas*. This setting conforms to boundaries of the historic site. (Montgomery County Historic Preservation Section)

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

Inventory No. M: 10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 10 Page 4



Resource Sketch Map
Damascus Camp Meeting
M-10-21
Damascus, Maryland

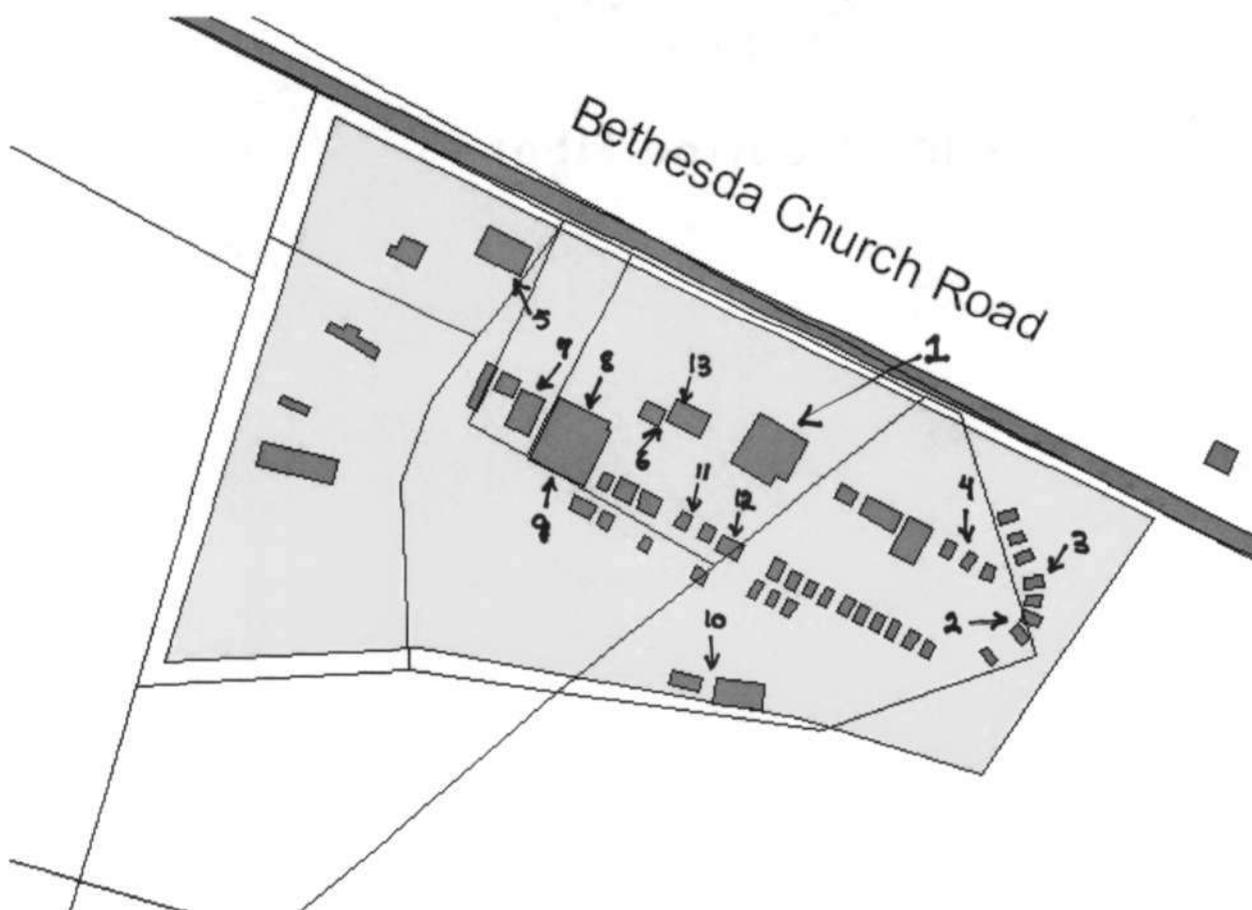
Contributing/Non-contributing buildings estimated on MIHP form, but not shown on map. (Note: current owners are not amenable to resource evaluation)

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

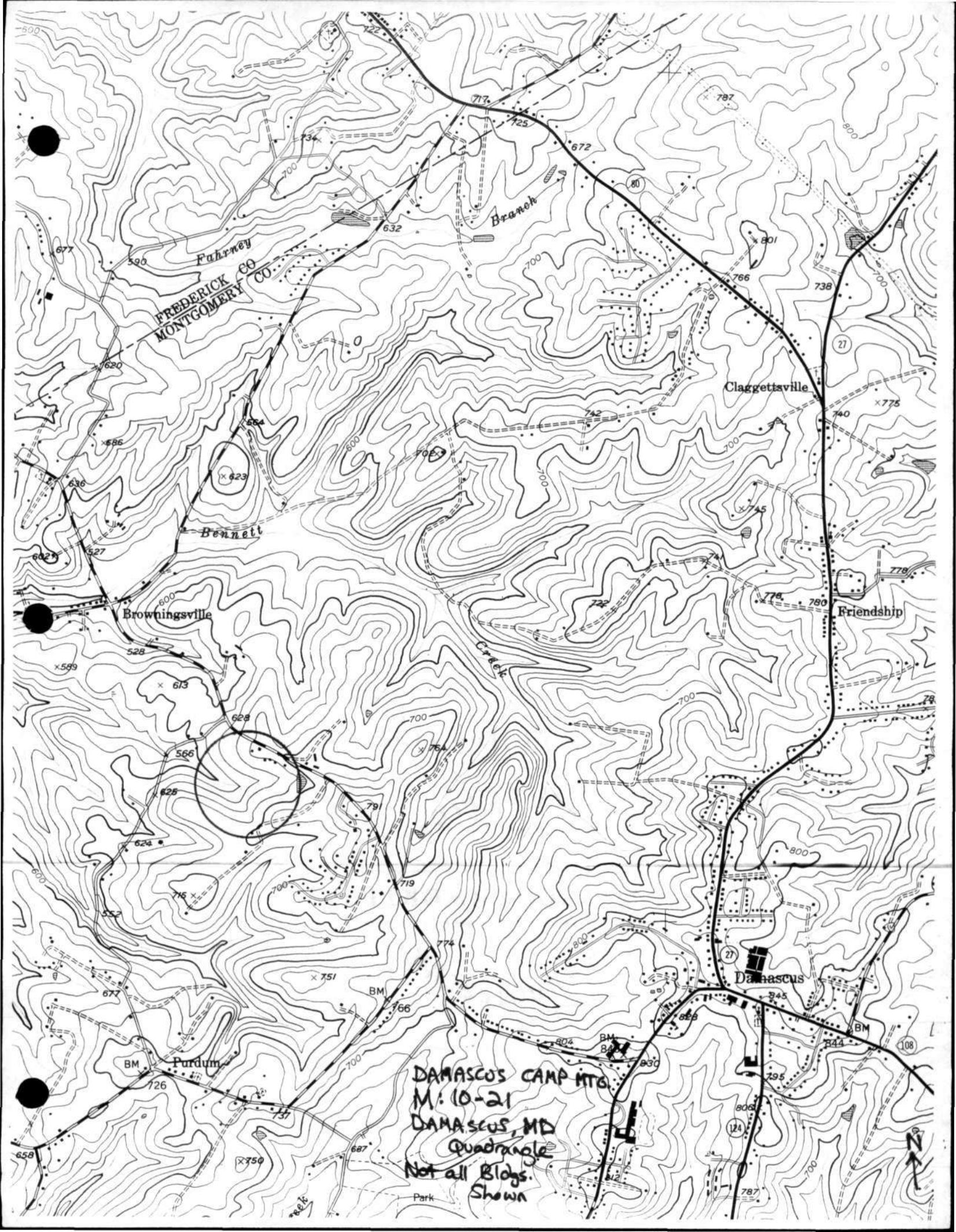
Inventory No. M: 10-21

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 10 Page 5



Photographic Key for Black and White Photographs (Photos indicated on paper copy only)
Damascus Camp Meeting
M-10-21
Damascus, Maryland



FREDBRICK CO
MONTGOMERY CO

Browningsville

Claggettsville

Friendship

Damascus

Purdum

DAMASCUS CAMP MTS.
M: 10-21
DAMASCUS, MD
Quadrangle
Not all Bldgs.
Shown





M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Tavernacle, north facade

1 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Cottages, east end of horseshoe

2 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Mtg.

Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Detail of Cottage showing peeling paint on Masonite
and asbestos roof shingles

3 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Mtg.
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Cottages repaired using newer siding.

4 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

former caretakers' cottage at west, open end of horseshoe

5 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Open-air pavilion of recent construction. Center of horseshoe
at west end.

6 of 13



M: 10-21

Danascus Camp Meeting

Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Dormitory, on south side of horseshoe. Originally for girls.

7 of 13



11210

M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Former Dining Hall. Now the sanctuary of the Damascus
Wesleyan Church North facade.

8 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting

Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampi

MD SHPO

Former Dining Hall. Now the Sanctuary of the Damascus
Wesleyan Church. South facade and west wall.

9 of 13



M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Former Boys' Dormitory. North facade.

10 of 13



M: 10-21

Damasus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Cottage turned into First Aid Station

11 of 13



BOOK STORE

M:10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampi

MD SHPO

The bookstore

12 of 13



VICTORY
FELLOWSHIP
HALL

M: 10-21

Damascus Camp Meeting
Montgomery County, MD

January 2004

Elizabeth Jo Lampl

MD SHPO

Victory Fellowship Hall

13 of 13

1. Name: Damascus Camp Meeting
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 10/21
11210
3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 2
Coordinate H-14
4. Address: ~~11250~~ Bethesda Church Rd.
Damascus, Md.
5. Classification Summary
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Category <u>site</u> | Previous Survey Recording <u>MNCPPC</u> |
| Ownership <u>private</u> | Title and Date: <u>Historic Sites Inventory</u> |
| Public Acquisition <u>N/A</u> | |
| Status <u>occupied</u> | |
| Accessible <u>yes: restricted</u> | Federal <u> </u> State <u>x</u> County <u>x</u> Local <u> </u> |
| Present use <u>religious</u> | |
6. Date: 1935
7. Original Owner: Methodist Camp Meeting
8. Apparent Condition
- a. excellent b. altered c. original site
9. Description: There are fifty single and double cottages arranged in three concentric east-west tiers; all face north and have white plywood exterior walls. The north (front) porch has gabled roofs supported by square corner posts. There are six-over-six double-hung windows. Each cottage has a gable roof covered by asbestos shingles.
10. Significance: The Damascus Camp Meeting is a descendant of the old Methodist camp meetings, once very popular in Montgomery County.
- In order to stir up religious fervor among their parishioners, Methodist ministers in the 19th century would hold larger meetings during the summertime. The outdoors replaced a stuffy church, and provided churchgoers a religious service similar to a Sunday outing.
- In 1931 the Bethesda Methodist Church sponsored a camp meeting on Bethesda Church Road in the upper county. It was called "Beall's Grove Camp Meeting" after Willie Beall, the owner of the land, and about 75-100 people camped out that year.
- In 1934 Willie Beall deeded 1½ acres of his grove to the camp meeting, the only stipulation being that worldly amusements such as dancing, card playing, gambling, chance games, and the like are forever prohibited on the...land."
- In 1935 a permanent tabernacle was built, and, as more land was acquired, meeting and dining halls, indoor bathrooms, and small cabins added.
- In recent years the camp meeting has opened the first Thursday after the first Sunday in August, and attracts crowds of over 500 for the evening tabernacle meetings.
11. Researcher and date researched: Candy Reed - Arch. Description
Donald M. Leavitt - July 1979
12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian
13. Date Compiled: Sept. 1979
14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: approx. 11 acres

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Damascus Camp Meeting

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

11210 11250 Bethesda Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Damascus

STATE

Maryland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

6

COUNTY

Montgomery 20734

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Montgomery County Interdominational Holiness Association

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Association

c/o Lansdale Burdette Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Germantown

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20767

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 564

Folio #: 401

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland 20855

7 DESCRIPTION

M:10-21

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 Damascus Camp Meeting is set on the south side of Route 122 on a hillside amidst a grove of oak trees.

TABERNACLE

The one and a half story Tabernacle Building is the focal point of the Camp Meeting. Built on poured concrete foundations, this large wooden frame structure has white painted plywood exterior walls. The Tabernacle is entirely open on the north elevation. There is a door on the west elevation, at the southwest corner. This is wooden paneled. There are simple board-and-batten shutters covering the three window openings on the east and four window openings on the west elevation. The Tabernacle has a gable roof which is covered by asbestos shingles. There are three six-over-six double-hung windows at the east and west gable ends. A skirt roof extends around the building, this too is covered by asbestos shingles.

The interior of the Tabernacle is one large room. Three aisles divide the room into four seating sections. Eleven rows of park benches provide seating. A low stage is located at the south end of the building. The interior is unfinished and the wall studs and king post truss roof system and rafters are exposed.

COTTAGES

There are approximately fifty single and double cottages arranged in three concentric east-west tiers facing north. Built on cinderblock posts of frame construction, the exterior walls are covered by white painted plywood. Cottage 47 is an exception to this and has novelty siding. These cottages have north (front) porches with wooden flooring and two square corner posts which support the gable roof of the cottage as it extends out over the porch. The north door to the individual cottages has four lights above wooden panels. Most of these doors are covered by screened doors. On the west and south elevations there are six-over-six double-hung windows. The gable roof is covered by asbestos shingles.

The cottages have one or two rooms inside, depending on whether it is a single or a double cottage. The interiors are refinished and the wall studs and roof joists and rafters are clearly visible. The floors are narrow wooden boards.

GIRLS' DORMITORY BUILDING

The two story, four bay by two bay girls' dormitory is built on cinderblock posts and has a cinderblock basement at the south end. It has wooden framing and novelty siding. The north (front) and east (side) doors are both four lights over two wooden panels. The north door is reached by one wooden step. The east door may be reached by ascending, north to south, ten wooden steps. There is a fire escape to the second story at the northeast corner of east elevation. This door is wooden paneled. There are six-over-six double-hung windows throughout the dormitory. The building has a gable roof covered by green asbestos shingles.

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES 1935 (Tabernacle) BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Damascus Camp Meeting is a descendant of the old Methodist camp meetings, once very popular in Montgomery County.

In order to stir up religious fervor among their parishioners, Methodist ministers in the 19th century would hold larger meetings during the summertime. The outdoors replaced a stuffy church, and provided churchgoers a religious service similar to a Sunday outing.

The earliest Montgomery County camp meeting grounds, such as Hopewell Chapel near Damascus and Federal Chapel at Colesville, were no more than "brush arbor pulpits and mourner's benches" ¹ under a canopy of trees. In 1873 a Methodist meeting ground was formed at Washington Grove on the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad. This new facility was quite different from its predecessors. Permanent meeting and dining halls replaced cleared spaces in a grove of trees, and cabins, many of them quite elaborate, sprung up around the grounds. When the camp was in session people would ride out in horse-drawn buggies or on the train from the city to enjoy a day in the countryside, social interaction, and a good dosing of religion. Other sites similar to Washington Grove included Emory Grove for blacks, and the elaborate Chatauqua grounds at Glen Echo for those not so inclined to hell-and-brimstone preaching.

Camp meetings lost their popularity in this area soon after the turn of the century, and Washington Grove closed in 1924.

In 1931 the Bethesda Methodist Church sponsored a camp meeting on Bethesda Church Road in the upper county. It was called "Beall's Grove Camp Meeting" after Willie Beall, the owner of the land, and about 75-100 people camped out that year.

In 1934 Willie Beall deeded 1½ acres of his grove to the camp meeting, the only stipulation being that worldly amusements such as dancing, card playing, gambling, chance games, and the like are forever prohibited on the....land." ²

In 1935 a permanent tabernacle was built, and, as more land was acquired, meeting and dining halls, indoor bathrooms, and small cabins added.

In recent years the camp meeting has opened the first Thursday after the first Sunday in August, and attracts crowds of over 500 for the evening tabernacle meetings.

FOOTNOTES:

1 MacMaster and Hiebert, A Grateful Remembrance, p.212.

2 Montgomery County Land Records, Deed 564/401 (3/16/1934).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.
MacMaster, Richard K. and Ray Eldon Hiebert. A Grateful Remembrance.
Rockville, Md: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County
Historical Society, 1976.
Scharf, Thomas J., History of Western Maryland, vol. 1, Philadelphia:
Lewis H. Everts, 1882.
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 11 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located on the SW side of Bethesda Church Road approx. 2 miles NW of
Route 27.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	
<u>Donald M. Leavitt</u>	<u>Candy Reed, Architectural Description</u>
ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>Sugarloaf Regional Trails</u>	<u>July 1979</u>
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
<u>Box 87</u>	<u>926-4510</u>
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
<u>Dickerson</u>	<u>Maryland 20753</u>

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~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
Box 87, Stronghold
Dickerson, Md. 20753
(301) 926-4510

DINING ROOM/GIRLS' DORMITORY

The two and a half story, six bay by five bay dining room and girls' dormitory building is built on cinderblock and poured concrete foundations into the hillside. It is a wooden frame structure covered on its exterior walls by white painted plywood. There is a poured concrete slab uncovered porch on the north (front) elevation. At the northeast corner of the north elevation there is a pair of fifteen-light French doors. At the northwest corner of the north elevation there is a door composed of four lights above wooden panels below.

The dining room building has a gable roof covered by asbestos shingles. The roof rafters are exposed at the eaves. There are three shed-roofed dormer windows on the east and west elevations. The modern windows are two horizontal lights over two horizontal lights and are double hung. On the east, west, and north elevations of the first floor there are four window openings which are covered by plywood shutters.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Damascus Camp Meeting

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 122

CITY, TOWN

Browningsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

(Damascus)

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Damascus Camp Meeting (Baptist Church?) Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 122

CITY, TOWN

Damascus

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:10-21

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

CONDITION

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a series of small, frame cabins clustered together in a scenic, wooded grove. There is no real architectural value, but it is similar in styling to religious camps of the 19th Century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:10-21

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Interesting, primarily because of the scenic mountain view setting and the fact that it is the only camp of this type still active in the area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M.10-21

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

EDUCATION CO 88 88

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

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

1/22/74

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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



M: #10-21

NAME DAMASCUS CAMP MEETING

LOCATION Rt. 122 DAMASCUS, Md

FACADE LOOKING W

PHOTO TAKEN 1/23/74 M. DWYER



NAME DAMASCUS CAMP MEETING + BENNETT CREEK VALLEY ^{m: #10-21}

LOCATION RTE. 122, W. OF DAMASCUS, MD.

FACADE LOOKING NW

PHOTO TAKEN 1/22/74
m. RUYER



NAME DAMASCUS CAMP MEETING

M: #10-21

LOCATION Rt. 122 DAMASCUS, Md

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 1/22/74 M. DWYER