

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

12-11

1. Name Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church South (site) and Cemetery

2. Planning Area/Site Number 12/20 3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 5
F-7

4. Address Mt. Ephraim Road, Dickerson

5. Classification Summary

Category site
 Ownership private
 Public Acquisition NA
 Status unoccupied
 Accessible yes: unrestricted
 Present use other: cemetery
 Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal State X County X Local Local
 (Title and date: Inventory of Historical Sites - 1976)

6. Date 1888

7. Original Owner

8. Apparent Condition

a. deteriorated c. original site
 b. unaltered

9. Description: The church site is located between two cemetery sections, which are at the summit of a gentle hill on Mt. Ephraim Road. There is some iron fencing within the cemetery. The potters' field was located in the far right corner of the plot. There are some marble tombstones. A metal sign reads:
 "Former Site of Mt. Pleasant M.E. Church South 1888-1930".

10. Significance: This peaceful cemetery, set in one of the upper County's most scenic landscapes, is still used by the congregation of the Dickerson United Methodist Church. The membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South residing in the vicinity of Dickerson had worshipped in the Poole's Tract schoolhouse (still standing on Mt. Ephraim Road near its intersection with Barnesville Road) until 1887 when the congregation had grown sufficiently large to warrant their own building. The trustees of the Mt. Pleasant M.E. Church worked with the Montgomery Circuit Minister, W.G. Hammond, to buy 1 acre of land and build the church. W.T. Hilton, Barnesville carpenter who built other churches in the area constructed it in 1888 with help from the congregation. In 1899 the Church expanded its burial property, buying 1/2 acre from Henry and Laura Lawson. By 1926 the church had fallen into disrepair and the trustees proposed construction of a new building in Dickerson proper, the present Dickerson United Methodist Church, more convenient to most of the congregation. The old Church was sold and torn down in 1940.

11. Date researched and researcher 6/78-Mark Walston

12. Compiler Gail Rothrock 13. Date Compiled 2/79 14. Designation Approval

15. Acreage 1.5 acres

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church South (site) and Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mt. Ephraim Road

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Trustees of M.E. Church South

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20753

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: JA 9 TD 8
Folio #: 242 465

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE M-NCPPC Historical Sites Inventory

DATE

— FEDERAL STATE COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

6700 Needwood Road

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland

4, 12-23

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 church site is located between two cemetery sections, which are at the summit of a gentle hill on Mt. Ephraim Road. There is some iron fencing within the cemetery. The potters' field was located in the far right corner of the plot. There are some marble tombstones. A metal sign reads:

"Former Site of Mt. Pleasant M.E. Church South
1888-1930".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 **1888**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

William T. Hilton

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

By the year 1887, the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South residing in the vicinity of Dickerson, Maryland, had grown sufficiently large to warrant the erection of their own church. Prior to this time, the congregation worshipped in the Poole's Tract school-house, located on Mt. Ephraim Road near its intersection with the Barnesville Road. It was at that place, ordinarily used for public meetings, that the membership, on December 3, 1887, drafted the formal certificate of incorporation for the Mt. Pleasant Church. The object for which the corporation was formed was "...to create a corporation to provide, keep, maintain and dispose of a place of divine worship for the ministry and membership".¹

The first elected trustees of the Mt. Pleasant Church were Edward Nichols, Zachariah G. Cooley, James S. Maxwell, Christopher C. Luhn and George Bitzer. These men worked in conjunction with W. G. Hammond, the minister in charge of the Montgomery Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in moving towards the erection of the church building.

On February 29, 1888, the trustees purchased from James and Sarah Maxwell a one acre lot situated on "the county road leading from Dickerson Station to Mt. Ephraim", paying \$75 for the parcel.² It was on this plot that the church was erected. The size of the building was 30x40 feet and 16 feet high. It contained six windows, two on either side, and two in the front. Bids were accepted for the various jobs. The plastering, using sand, lime and horsehair, was done for \$65 by J. Manion. W. T. Hilton, well-known Barnesville carpenter who had constructed other churches in the area, did the actual construction work for \$120. However, the church men hewed all the timbers for construction. The completed building was dedicated on July 24, 1888.³

The Church expanded upon its burial sites on July 18, 1899, acquiring two one-quarter acre parcels north, south, and adjacent to the original lot. These two pieces were purchased from Henry and Laura Lawson for \$55.10.⁴ Potter's field was located in the far right corner of the plot from the church building.

By 1926, the Mt. Pleasant Church had fallen into disrepair, and the various trustees proposed the construction of a new building (completed in 1930). The selected site of the church's relocation was more logically situated for the needs of the Dickerson community,

(See Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery County Land Records
Montgomery County Corporation Records
"History of Dickerson United Methodist Church", n.d., unpublished
manuscript (in possession of pastor of Dickerson United Methodist Church)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.5 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE		DATE
Mark Walston		6/1/78
ORGANIZATION		TELEPHONE
Sugarloaf Regional Trails		926-4510
STREET & NUMBER		STATE
P.O. Box 87, Stronghold		Maryland 20753
CITY OR TOWN		
Dickerson		

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) 910-4510

Significance, continued

Mt. Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church South (site) & Cemetery
being closer to the center of town. The old building having
been thus abandoned, the structure was sold to Earnest
Page and a Mr. Moxley for \$140, and the two men tore down the
Mt. Pleasant church sometime around 1940, [5]

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1. Certificate of Incorporation EBP 1/97, Montgomery County Corporation Records
 2. Deed JA 9/242, Mont. Co. Land Records
 3. "History of the Dickerson United Methodist Church", unpublished manuscript
 4. Deed TD 8/465, Mont. Co. Land Records
 5. "History of Dickerson U.M. Church", op. cit.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mt. Ephriam Road, off Rte. 28

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

— VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M:12-20

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 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

There are a number of marble tombstones in this roadside cemetery. A metal sign reads:

"Former Site of
Mt. Pleasant
M.E. South Church
1888-1930"

Across the field, to the NE, is the picturesque Ensor farm, with its attractive frame farmhouse set in a wooded grove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M:12-20

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC	<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
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
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<input checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

7/25/73

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

TELEPHONE

589-1480

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



FORMER SITE OF
M.T. PLEASANT
M.E. SOUTH CHURCH
1888-1930

NAME MT. PLEASANT CEM.

No 12-20

LOCATION MT. EPHRAIM Rd DICKERSON, Md

FACADE LOOKING E.

PHOTO TAKEN 7/25/73 M. DWYER