

mont. 16-12-11

Love and Charity Hall
Martinsburg, Maryland 20753
Private

c. 1914

This abandoned, two story frame building was once the meeting place for members of the Love and Charity Society, a sick and burial society that developed in Black communities in the late 1800's. It was also a center for community activities as well. This is one of the few that survive in Maryland.

Mont.: 15-12-11
Magi #

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES
INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Love & Charity Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N. SIDE OF WHITE'S FERRY RD.

CITY, TOWN

Martinsburg

— 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER HALL Storage

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Warren M.E. Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

22625 White's Ferry Road

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson,

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 20753

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Court House

E.P.P.
Liber #: 15

Folio #: 10

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" 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 _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large, two story frame structure was built as the meeting hall for the members of the Love and Charity Society, a local and perhaps statewide sick and burial society. Today the building is no longer used and serves only as a storage facility for cast-off items.

The building is located behind the Martinsburg school. Its facade is oriented toward the south in the direction of the school and White's Ferry Road. The axis of its gable roof runs south-north. The structure is plain in appearance, but is well proportioned. The south gable end serves as the facade, consists of two bays, and contains double doors, placed in the center. They are topped with a horizontal transom. The second floor carries two double hung sash windows with rounded arches. Near the peak of the gable end is a square window for the attic, the window of which is missing.

The building is three bays in depth. The frame was sheathed with weatherboards that are painted gray-blue. Corner boards and window and door trims accent the building and are painted white. The cornices are boxed and carry short returns. A brick stove flue ascends the inside of the east wall near the center of the length.

Since the building was locked, an investigation of the interior was not possible. Views through the windows were obscured by the stuff piled inside the building, so a description of its decorative features was not possible.

According to Lemuel Graham, an 84 year old oral informant from Martinsburg, this building was constructed by a carpenter Scott Bell, the same man who built the Warren M.E. Church in 1903. Bell also constructed the St. Paul's Community Church in Sugarland. (His great grandson, Raymond Bell, lives in Poolesville according to Lemuel Graham and Tilghman Lee from Sugarland, and he ought to be contacted for further details about his ancestor's life as a carpenter and the buildings he constructed.)

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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		Black history
				Local history

SPECIFIC DATES	c. 1913-1914	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Scott Bell
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was one of the principal institutions of the historical Black community: the sick and burial insurance societies that developed indigenously in the communities so that the people could care for their own in times of need. In addition to being a meeting place for the society members, the building was a center for the community, a place where dramatical performances, lectures, and other community activities took place. For more details of this organization, members of the community such as Lemuel Graham, Evelyn Herbert, and John Thompson ought to be consulted.

During the course of my survey of sites in southern Maryland, I located the Love and Charity Hall in Abell, Md. Since they carried identical names, it is most likely that they were parts of the same statewide organization. Historians of Black communities ought to further investigate these sites to learn more of their development and their role in the historical Black community. This is especially important now since these Black self-help organizations have been superseded by modern, national financial institutions, and these earlier organizations have been abandoned. These two vestiges remain, as perhaps do written records related to them, written records that would be important documents to interpret their history.

According to Graham, this hall was constructed about four or five years before he left to fight in World War I. This puts the date of construction at 1913 or 1914.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, County Courthouse, Rockville, Md.
EBP 15/10.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

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

George W. McDaniel

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

6/78

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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



M:16-12-11

NAME ~~(OLD) WARDEN M.E. CHURCH~~ Love and Charity Hall

LOCATION Rt. 107 & MARTINSBURG Rd. MARTINSBURG, Md.

FACADE S.E.

PHOTO TAKEN 5/30/73 M. DWYER



M:16-12-11

Love and Charity Hall

(Charity Lodge Hall)

White's Ferry Rd (MD 107), Dickerson

C. 2000

Warren Historic Site

Social Hall

east facade

Montgomery Co.



M:16-12-11

Love and charity Hall
(charity Lodge Hall)

White's Ferry Rd (MD107), Dickerson

c. 2000

Warren Historic Site

Social Hall
front

Montgomery Co.



M: 16-12-11

Love and Charity Hall

(Charity Lodge Hall)

White's Ferry Rd (MD 107), Dickerson

C. 2000

Warren Historic Site
west facade

Montgomery Co.



Love + ~~had~~ charity Hall

S. N. W. elevation

M-16-12-11

Martinsburg, Md.

6/78 GWM

2-19530 # 130