

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Emory Grove Camp Meeting Grounds

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 124, opposite Spiceberry Lane

CITY, TOWN

Gaithersburg

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

M-NCPPC

Telephone #: 589-1480

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

M:20-8

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Grove is still pretty much as it appeared over the years, except for the addition of a Park playground and parking facilities. According to Mrs. Maude Taylor, the Seneca Sandstone gates that sit along Rte. 124 near Long View School, were built by German POW's, who had a labor camp here during World War II.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:20-8

# 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 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 checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See history of Camp Meeting by Mrs. Maude Taylor.

M:20-8

# 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

8/28/74

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

# HISTORICAL CELEBRATION

1865

1975

**August 10th, 17th, 24th**

12:00 — ~~8:30~~ p. m. Sunset

**OLD EMORY GROVE CAMP GROUND  
NEAR GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND**

SONG and PRAISE SERVICES, - 2:00 to 3:00 P. M.  
HISTORICAL COMMENTS ON CAMP MEETING,  
COMMUNITY, and COUNTY ACTIVITIES.

*AS OF OLD, BRING YOUR LUNCH BASKETS FOR  
YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS*

J. R. Harvey, President, Emory Grove Civic Association  
Heritage Committee - Mae Nolan, Glen Taylor, Maude Taylor

EMORY GROVE PARK - Now Owned by Maryland National  
Capital Park and Planning Commission

### PARK REGULATIONS

No Admission Fee - No Collections  
No Buying or Selling — No Litter

DEDICATION NOTES FOR EMORY GROVE PARK (FALL, 1974)-MRS. MAUDE  
TAYLOR

"Honored Governor, guests, ladies and gentlemen-may I present you with a few notes on the Emory Grove Camp Grounds? This data was collected by my late husband, Edward U. Taylor, who was the Montgomery County Superintendant of the Colored Schools for nearly 30 years.

Emory Grove Camp Grounds (1865-1881-1967)

As early as 1865 this general area was a meeting place for song and praise services. The leaders were John Dorsey, Abraham Lancaster and Jefferey McAbee. In 1881 this spot was set aside and dedicated for religious services. Camp meetings were held each year-beginning on the 2nd Sunday in August and closing on the last Sunday in August. Some of the Trustees in 1881 were: Samuel Johnson, Henson Tyler, Frank DuVall, J. Ennis, Alexandria Taylor, Robert Warfield and W. Chambers.

Years later, the Old Emory Grove Camp Meeting Association passed on to the descendants and they formed the Mineral Grove Club of Montgomery County. Some of the names are as follows: Nathan DuVall, F. Rick, William Luster, William Hawkins, W. Ricks, F. Washington, Charles Ross and Frank DuVall.

In 1947 the Camp Grounds were bought by Edward Johnson, who continued the camp meetings and developed a park for both baseball and football games.

After about 100 years, the Old Camp Meetings stopped short-leaving fond memories of the jubilant song and praise services. Thank You.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated May 16, 1984

ACTION TAKEN

The following area sites were reviewed either as part of this Plan or at previous public hearings and were found not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance. This Plan recommends their removal from the Locational Atlas. Although removed from the Locational Atlas these sites will remain on the Maryland Historical Trust's Inventory of State Historical Resources.

<u>Site No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Planning Board Hearing Date</u>
20/1	Remus Dorsey Tenant House**	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/2	Dorsey Cemetery	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/3	Shaw Cemetery	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/5	Snouffer Schoolhouse	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/6	Urah Bowman House**	6/17/82
20/7	Day Farm Barns**	9/25/80
20/8	Emory Grove Camp Meeting Grounds	7/5/83 - 7/6/83
20/9	Emory Grove Methodist Episcopal Church	7/5/83 - 7/6/83
20/10	MINERAL SPRING HOUSES	4/12/84
20/11	SYLVESTER THOMPSON'S STORE	4/12/84
20/12	FIELD'S KING FARM	4/12/84
20/13	WATKINS FARMHOUSE	4/12/84
20/14	Peters House/Monument View Hill	7/22/82
20/15	Gaither/Howes House	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/16	Heater/Crown Farm	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
*20/18	THOMPSON HOUSE**	10/9/83
20/19	Windy Knoll Farm	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/20	Hunting Hill Church	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/22	Hunting Hill Store and Post Office	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
20/23	Ward/Garrett Cemetery	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
*20/24	Mills House	1/20/83
20/25	Briggs Farm #1**	7/24/80
20/26	BRIGGS FARM #2**	4/12/84
20/27	Pleasant View Church**	6/17/82
20/29	Woodlands Site and Smokehouse	4/5/83 - 4/6/83
*20/30	RAILROAD UNDERPASS	4/12/84

\* Recommended for designation by the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission.

\*\* No longer standing.

1. Name: Camp Meeting (20/8)  
M.E. Church (20/9)
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 20/8  
20/9
3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 8 E-20  
Map 15 E-1
4. Address: Emory Grove Methodist Episcopal Church and Camp Meeting  
17812 Laytonsville Road, Gaithersburg
5. Classification Summary
- |                    |                        |                           |  |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Category           | <u>building</u>        | Previous Survey Recording | <u>M-NCPPC</u>   |
| Ownership          | <u>private</u>         | Title and Date:           | <u>1976 Inventory of</u>   |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u>             |                           | <u>Historical Sites</u>  |
| Status             | <u>occupied</u>        | Federal                   | <u>State</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>County</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Local</u> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Accessible         | <u>yes; restricted</u> |                           |  |
| Present use        | <u>religious</u>       |                           |  |
6. Date: 1903
7. Original Owner: Emory Grove ME Church Congregation
8. Apparent Condition
- a. good      b. altered      c. original site
9. Description: This five bay by five bay, one-and-a-half story L-shape frame church faces southeast. The exterior walls have recently been covered by coursed ashlar block asphalt veneer. At the corner of this L-shaped church, southeast elevation, there is a three story bell tower with a pyramidal roof covered by green asbestos shingles. On the southeast and northeast elevations of the tower there is a round stained glass window with a five point star. There are two-over-two double-hung stained glass lancet windows. Intersecting gable roof has green asbestos shingles.
10. Significance: The Emory Grove M.E. Church stands today as the spiritual center of a now dispersed community. The community was begun as a religious camp meeting by former slaves as early as 1865. In the early 1870s families from nearby farms in Redland and Goshen began to settle here, buying land from the Woodard, Bowman, Cook, and Talbot farms, and forming a 123 acre community.
- Before 1870, church services were held in the tenant home of John W. Dorsey, located on the Codwise farm (now the Montgomery County Airpark). The log first church was dedicated in 1874. In the early 1900s the congregation decided to rebuild the church and most of the old structure was demolished. Some of the original hand-hewn logs were used in the flooring of the new church and were uncovered during remodeling in the early 1960s.
- In 1974, the community fell victim to urban renewal and all of the older homes were razed, leaving only the church, its cemetery, a parsonage built in 1957 and 2 or 3 newer homes. Emory Grove Park was dedicated in 1974.
11. Researcher and date researched: Carlotta Anderson-9/79  
Candy Reed  
Arch. Description
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock
13. Date Compiled: 10/79
14. Designation Approval \_\_\_\_\_
15. Acreage: .50 acres plus

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 20/8  
(Camp Meeting)  
M: 20/9  
(M.E. Church)

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Emory Grove Methodist Episcopal Church and Camp Meeting

AND/OR COMMON

Emory Grove Methodist Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

17812 Laytonsville Road

CITY, TOWN

Gaithersburg

x VICINITY OF Emory Grove

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"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Emory Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

17812 Laytonsville Road

CITY, TOWN

Gaithersburg

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 20760

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: EBP 18

Folio #: 20

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland 20855

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<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 checked="" 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

This five bay by five bay, one and a half story L-shape frame church faces southeast. The cornerstone reads: Emory Memorial M.E. Church Built 1874 Rebuilt 1903.

The church has new cinderblock foundations reinforced by poured concrete. The exterior walls have recently been covered by coursed ashlar block asphalt veneer. On the southeast elevation there is a three story bell tower with a pyramidal roof covered by green asbestos shingles. At the second level of this tower, on the southeast and northeast elevations, there are large round stained glass windows each with a five-point star. The southeast (front) doors are set in the bell tower. These are double wooden paneled doors. An aluminum awning hangs above the doorway.

There are one-over-two double-hung stained glass lancet windows. On the southeast elevation there is a large three-part lancet window composed of one-over-one windows and flanked by single one-over-one double-hung windows.

The church has an intersecting gable roof covered with green asbestos shingles. On the northwest elevation there are two one story lean-to structures each with a shed roof. There is one interior and one exterior chimney on the northwest elevation.

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 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) <b>Black History</b>	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES                      1903                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The community of Emory Grove was begun by recently freed Negro slaves<sup>1</sup> as a religious camp meeting in the late 1800s. As early as 1865 the area was a meeting place for song and praise services. The leaders were John Dorsey, Abraham Lancaster and Jeffrey McAbee.<sup>2</sup>

In the early 1870s families from nearby farms in Redland and Goshen began to build houses and settle here. They bought land from the farms of the Woodwards, Bowmans, Cooks and Tablots and formed a 123-acre community.

Before 1870 church services were held in the tenant home of John W. Dorsey, located on the Codwise farm, now the Montgomery County Air Park. Hewing of logs for the first church was begun in the early 1870s by Frank Hwall, James Johnson and Henry Tyler, and the church was dedicated in 1874.<sup>3</sup> It appears on the Hopkins Atlas of 1878 as the Emory Grove Methodist Episcopal Church in Cracklin District No. 1.

The church appears to have been built before the land was deeded to the trustees. In a deed dated March 26, 1878 the "half acre more or less" which was part of a tract called "Woodward's Hall" passed from Rozell and Eliza J. Woodward to Jeoffrey Moekabee, Samuel Johnson, John W. Dorsey, John Waters and William Chambers, trustees of the church.<sup>4</sup> In 1921, an additional 7350 feet of the subdivision "Woodward Hall" was acquired by the church.<sup>5</sup>

The congregation decided to rebuild the church in the early 1900s and most of the old structure was demolished.<sup>6</sup> Some of the original hand-hewn logs were used in the flooring of the new church and were uncovered during remodeling in the early 1960s.<sup>7</sup> A cornerstone dated 1903 establishes the date of completion of the new church, which has a capacity of 300 and cost around \$3,000. The remodeling of the church, including new floors, lowering of the ceiling and the addition of rest rooms, basement and a kitchen, took place between July, 1960 and Spring, 1962.<sup>8</sup>

In 1974 the community of Emory Grove fell victim to urban renewal and all of the older homes were razed, leaving only the church, its cemetery, a parsonage which was built in 1957 and two or three of the newer homes in the community. Emory Grove Park, part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission facilities, was dedicated by Gov. Marvin Mandel on September 7, 1974.

Although nearly all the members of the Emory Grove community were forced to move away, many still attend the church, which currently has a man pastor, Laverne Thomas.

(footnotes on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See Attachment Sheets A & B

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .50 acres plus

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

southwest corner of intersection of Laytonsville Rd. (Rt. 124) and Emory Grove Road

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Carlotta Anderson

Candy Reed - Arch. Desc.

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

9/79

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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