

*Inventory*

00 291

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Paw Paw; Odd Fellows Academy, Odd Fellows Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Paw Paw building (Preferred)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 68 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF  
CODE

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY  
Cecil

CODE  
005

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Port Deposit Heritage, Inc.

To be restored as a library and museum.

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Port Deposit

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cecil County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

Maryland

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# DESCRIPTION

CE-271

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 Paw Paw building or Paw Paw was built in 1821 by the First Methodist Episcopal congregation of Port Deposit. This slightly rectangular building measures 36' x 40'. It is two stories in height and has a hip roof covered with asbestos shingles. The Paw Paw is constructed of stone covered with plaster on both the interior and the exterior. There was a box pulpit very high at the north end. Across the southern end was a gallery for the black members of the congregation who had a separate entrance in the southeastern corner of the church. There were also separate entrances for the men and women. The women's entrance was also on the north side of the building, but at the western end of that wall. The men's entrance was on the facade of the Paw Paw. Once inside the church, the women sat on the eastern side and the men sat on the western. Located centrally on the rear wall is a chimney made of brick which was for an old stove. The window sash throughout are 6/6. Some of them remain but are without glass. Every window had louvered shutters in 1914 and most of these are on the building site. Several of the shutters on the facade have strap hinges. Over the windows there are stone and wooden lintels as well as splayed arches of stone. There is no conformity or pattern evident. The exterior is very plain as is the box cornice and the frieze board. Each of the doors is panelled and has a transom over it. The sills of the doors are granite.

The facade of the Paw Paw has a centrally located entrance. A raised platform porch once extended from it with stairs leading down to a lower level on the south (in 1914 picture). This door is flanked on both sides by a pair of windows. The second story has two windows located on either side of the center of the building like the first story. Directly over the first floor door is an indented square space which could have housed a name or date plaque. The rear wall of the Paw Paw has no windows or doors.

The northern exterior wall has five windows, three on the first story and two on the second. Its southern counterpart has two panelled entrance doors located at each end with one window in the middle. On the second story there are two windows evenly separated.

The interior of the first story has a new floor. Dividing the building in half are three square columns spaced at different intervals. On the east wall the brick chimney is visible. This was connected to a small stove on each story. The interior of the second story has had the most alteration: Where there was no floor but open space for those in the gallery to listen and watch a floor has been added. One long hewn beam is exposed running north and south. Off of the main room which is located over the men's seating section are three small rooms. All of the doors on the second floor are panelled and have architrave trim. The

See continuation sheet 1.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Paw Paw Building  
Cecil County

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CONTINUATION SHEET      ITEM NUMBER      7      PAGE      1

Description - continued

ceiling of the main room has some crown moulding under it. The baseboard of this room changes as it reaches the north and south walls. It slowly arches upward about one and a half feet then runs across the wall to the side where it again slopes downward. The stairway to the second floor is completely enclosed and separated from the first floor by a plaster wall. The interior walls are lath covered by plaster. The main room has some wallpaper remaining on the walls.

Outside of the black's entrance are several granite stones arranged in a square to form a small stoop. Extending from the northeast corner of the Paw Paw and running parallel to the facade is a stone retaining wall which is broken only for steps down to the street level. Near the southwest corner are several granite steps leading down from the side entrances to the ground between the Paw Paw and the retaining wall.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-291

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1821 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Paw Paw building was used as a church from the time of its erection in 1821 until 1839 when a new church was built across the street. In the 1820's it was one of the churches on the Cecil and Strasburg circuits. After 1839 it was used as a school and was called Heath of Health Academy from the name of the teacher. From 1852 to 1867 the building served as a meeting place for Harmony Lodge. In 1860 it was also known as the Odd Fellows Academy which was a local school.

In 1877 the Cornish family operated a grocery store and "dining salon" in the Paw Paw. In 1894 Snow's Battery held their reunion at the "Odd Fellows Hall." This group was a society of Civil War Veterans, all from Port Deposit.

Until recently the building has been used as an apartment and also a recreation hall for the youth of the town. During the 1950's record hops and square dances were held on the first floor.

The Port Deposit Heritage, Inc: intends to restore the building to its 1914 appearance and use the Paw Paw for a library and museum.

In 1849, Mr. Elijah Reynolds had to move his carpenter shop into the Academy due to ice damage to his shop.

The following is from December 15, 1888 edition of the Whig (Elkton):

"In 1824 he [Rev. John Goforth] was on the Dauphin Circuit and in 1826 was junior preacher for Cecil Circuit. He was virtually in charge of Rock Run the first three years of its history (1819-1821) and in the latter year the first or Paw Paw church was built against the hill about the middle of the town on land donated by the mother of the Hon. J.A.J. Cresswell. It is a solid stone building, 36' x 40'....

"In May 1839, the official board resolved to build a new church.... It is a solid granite structure opposite the first or Paw Paw church, and was dedicated December 29, 1839.... (Nesbitt Hall - 40' x 55'.)

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Paw Paw Building  
CONTINUATION SHEET Cecil County ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Statement of Significance - continued

"During the pastorate of J.A. Brindle, Hon. Jacob Tome had begun the erection of the third structure as a memorial to his wife, a short distance north of the first and on the same side of the street. This was finished in 1872...."

"This handsome structure is 55' x 102'----- it will be perceived that every time we have built a new church we have taken the length of the next preceding for the width of the new--- and this promises to be more than adequate for all the needs of the indefinite future...."

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Miller - History of Cecil County

The Daily Times, Smyrna, Delaware, March 19, 1875

CE-271

Methodist Episcopal Church Records --Historical Record

Cecil Whug -- Private letters.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 60 x 100 feet

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	8
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4	0	3	9	7	0
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4	3	8	4	6	1	0
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ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

B 

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ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

C 

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D 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Grace C. Humphries, President

ORGANIZATION

Port Deposit Heritage, Inc.

DATE

12/18/75

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Port Deposit

STATE

Maryland 21904

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

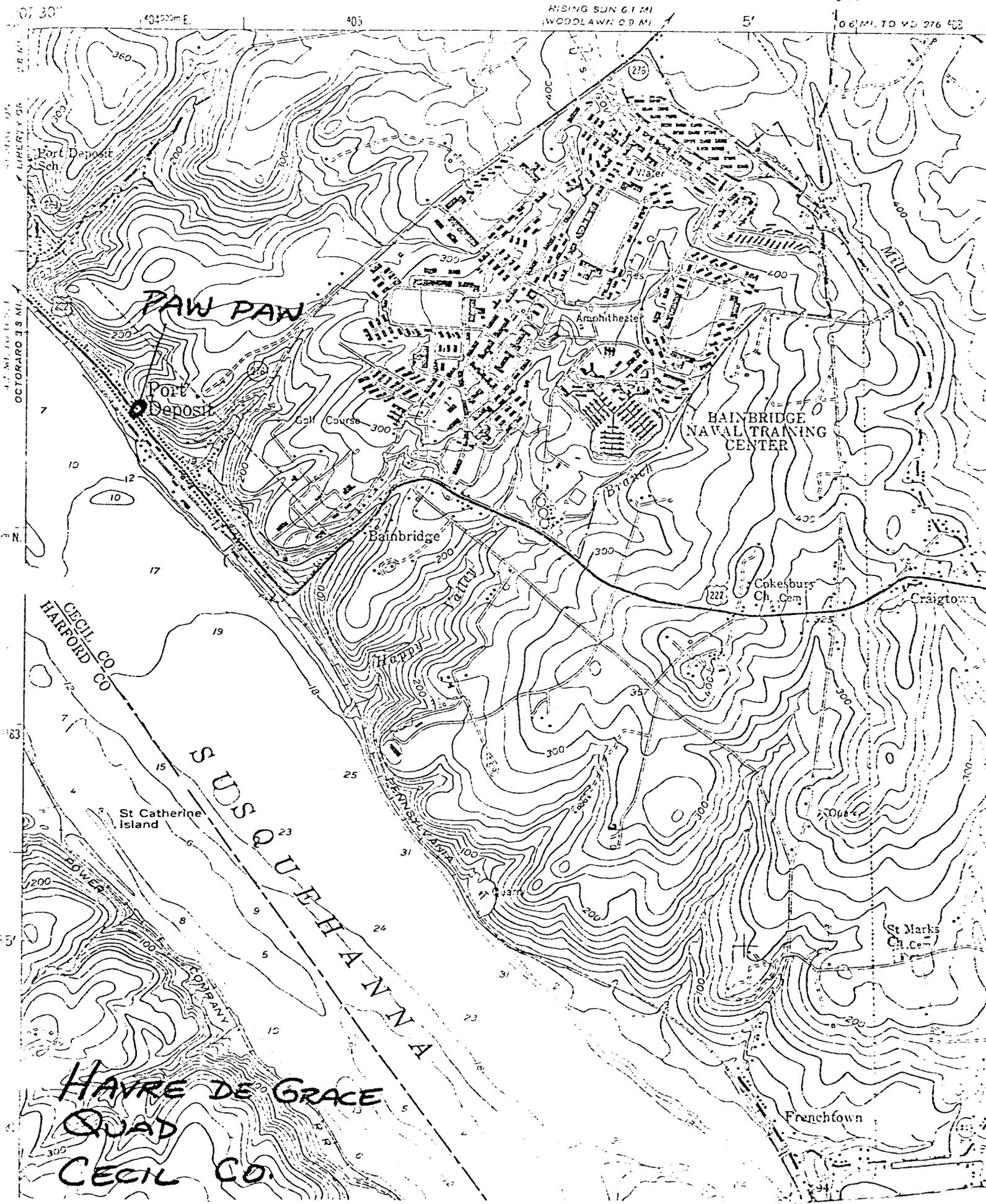
EST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CE 291



**HAVRE DE GRACE  
QUAD  
CECIL CO.**

0802913308  
CE 291

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: (Old Methodist Episcopal Church)				
AND/OR HISTORIC: "Paw-Paw Hall"				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: North Main Street, east side				
CITY OR TOWN: Port Deposit				
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Cecil		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both		STATUS <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant Church</u>
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Tome Methodist Episcopal Church				
STREET AND NUMBER: N. Main Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Port Deposit			STATE: Md 21904	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court				
STREET AND NUMBER: Cecil County Courthouse				
CITY OR TOWN: Elkton			STATE: Md 21921	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This fieldstone building is covered with stucco, chipping badly. The roof is gabled, windows are boarded up, the porch entry is gone and doors are broken in.

Oblong, it is 2 stories high, 5 bays by 3 facing west. The hip roof ridgetime running north-south. The doorway is a six panelled door under a 4 light transom.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1821

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

(This building would be difficult to restore, judging from the fact that it has been open to the weather for years it is safe to assume that little remains of the interior.)

Built for the first Methodist Church it was later used as an academy, and was the meeting place for Harmony Lodge of Masons between 1852-67.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Identified as "Oldest Methodist Church" by Lake Griffin & Stevenson in Illustrated Atlas of Cecil County 1877  
 Alice E Miller, Cecil County, Maryland, Sector, Maryland,  
 C & L Printing & Specialty Co., 1949, p 126

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING

ORGANIZATION: MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 RIVA ROAD

CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:

National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





CE-291 Paw Paw Bldg., Port Deposit

~~CE-291~~ ~~CE-291~~



CE-291

Paw Paw Building

North Main Street

Port Deposit

West Elevation

Geoff Henry 3/86

Negatives at MHT



CE-291

Paw Paw Bldg.