FHR-8-300 (11-78)

CARR-269

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Springfield Presbyterian Church

and/or common: Springfield Presbyterian Church

2. Location

street & number: 7300 Spout Hill Road — n/a not for publication

city, town: Sykesville — n/a vicinity of — congressional district: Sixth

state: Maryland — code: 24 — county: Carroll — code: 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	X religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name: Board of Trustees
Springfield Presbyterian Church

street & number: 7300 Spout Hill Road

city, town: Sykesville — n/a vicinity of — state: Maryland 21784

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Land Records of Baltimore County (1836)

street & number: Hall of Records

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date: March 1985 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: 21 State Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date n/a
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of previously listed National Register properties included in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: religious

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

The Springfield Presbyterian Church was built in 1836 and stands as an outstanding example of rural ecclesiastical architecture reflecting Classical influence. The three story structure is constructed of coursed rubble stone covered in stucco. It has a gable front main facade that is three bays wide with the main entrance in the center bay of the second story. A stairway with granite block steps leads up to the entrance which has Classical influenced ornamentation of paneled double doors, paneled door surround, and plain pilasters and entablature. The center bay of the third story has a ten-over-ten sash window with sidelights. The outer bays of the second and third stories have ten-over-ten sash windows. In the gable is a circular datestone. The first story on the front and sides have one-over-one sash windows. The second story on the sides has ten-over-ten sash windows in each of the four bays while the third story is unfenestrated. The broad gable roof is supported by a king-post truss and has a boxed cornice that returns at the corners. The interior of the church has a Sunday-school room on the first floor. The second story contains a vestibule and nave with a railed chancel in the front and a gallery in the rear. At the southeast corner of the structure is a one-story brick wing built in the 1960s.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Springfield Presbyterian Church is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Spout Hill Road and Second Avenue, just east of O'Brecht Avenue in Sykesville, Carroll County, Maryland. The church is located .4 mile northwest of the Sykesville Historic District (listed in the National Register in 1985); modern residential development separates the church from the district. The site of the church is at the top of a hill on the northern outskirts of the community. The site has a commanding view of the surrounding rural countryside. The main facade of the church faces north.

The church, built in 1836, is a three-story, three-by-four bay (approximately 37' x 50') structure constructed of locally quarried stone covered with stucco. It has a rectangular floor plan. The gable front main facade is three bays wide and faces north. The dominant feature of this facade is the stone stairway which leads to the central entrance on the main floor. This stairway has two flights of large granite steps leading from the ground to a landing (one flight on each side of the landing) from which a central flight of stairs supported by a half-arch leads to the entrance. The lower flight on the west side has been widened. The main entrance has a paneled door surround and paneled double doors with transom. The entrance frame has plain wood pilasters and entablature. The windows on the ground floor are single-pane double-hung sash. The outer bays of the second and third stories have ten-over-ten pane sash windows. The central window in the third story has ten-over-ten pane sash with flanking one-over-one pane sidelights. Above this window in the gable is a circular medallion with the inscription, "Springfield A.D. 1836." The gable roof has a boxed cornice that returns at the building's corners. A brick chimney is located at the south gable end and until recently there was an interior-end brick chimney at the north gable end.

The west facade has four bays with windows on the first and second stories (sash type identical to windows on main facade). The third story is unfenestrated on the west, south, and east facades. The east facade is identical to the west facade except that it has two entrances on the ground floor and a wing addition attached at the southeast corner of the building. The south facade has windows in the outermost bays of the first and second stories, a one story shed in the central bay of the ground floor, and a boarded-up window with sidelights in the central bay of the main floor.

The wing addition is a one story, brick structure constructed in the 1960s for expanded educational facilities. Because of a sharp rise in grade level at the road and the peculiar angle at which the wing is sited, its presence is barely distinguishable from the road. Thus it does not affect the visual characteristics and architectural integrity of the main structure.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

The vestibule of the church shows several of the original decorative features of the structure. For example, the windows have beveled sides with a plain wood sill and no interior frame. The corner stairway to the gallery has chamfered posts with a shaped handrail and square spindles. Also in the vestibule is an original church pew with its paneled sides and molded top. The nave was remodeled in 1978 when all of the windows were squared-off with paneled surrounds and molded frames with a dentil cornice. The pews, which were originally arranged in three groups with two aisles, were replaced with two sections of pews with a center aisle arrangement in the late nineteenth century. The chancel is elevated and has a paneled railing. A large section of paneling with a dark wooden cross dominates the chancel. The gallery contains a choir loft. The roof framing system is a king-post truss.

Integrity

Springfield Presbyterian Church retains substantial integrity despite two interior remodelings, the first carried out in the late 1940s-early 1950s and the second in 1978.

Photographs taken before the first renovation reveal a very plain interior, with decorative detailing confined to dark stained wainscoting and bands of Victorian stencilwork above the wainscoting and at cornice level. The 1940s-1950s renovation resulted in the installation of the present paneled communion rail, as well as the pulpit and lectern, altar, and paneled altar piece.

In the renovation of 1978, the splayed window reveals were squared off, and symmetrical architrave trim with corner blocks and heavily molded window cornice was added, running from the gallery to the altar piece. These changes were confined to the sanctuary and chancel areas; the vestibule and gallery are unaltered.

Except for the unfortunate boxing of the window reveals, these alterations essentially consist of the introduction of decorative elements into a plain interior. These alterations did not involve the removal or disruption of significant architectural fabric, and are readily reversible. Their effect on the integrity of the building is minor.

The exterior of the church remains virtually unaltered. Window sash have been replaced, but the openings remain unchanged. The 1960s educational wing, a low one-story brick structure, is connected to the southeast corner of the basement by a small hyphen; its attachment caused minimal disturbance to historic architectural fabric, and it presents the visual impression of a separate structure.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	X education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ transportation
		___ invention		___ other (specify)

Specific dates 1836 **Builder/Architect** Benjamin F. Forrester, carpenter

John Oram, mason

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C
Applicable Exceptions: A
Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

The Springfield Presbyterian Church is a significant landmark of community history and religion in Sykesville. The structure served as the area's first school as well as the building of worship for the Presbyterian congregation. The church has had a number of influential Marylanders associated with it including George Patterson, reknown for his agricultural experimentation at his estate "Springfield," who donated the land for the church,and Frank Brown, past governor of Maryland. The church is also one of the best examples of the rural interpretation of early 19th century Classicism in Carroll County. Despite its widespread popularity, this style was not employed widely in the county; its influence is most apparent in major public buildings such as Springfield Presbyterian Church and the County Courthouse.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 3

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

A meeting held August 4, 1835, at Brown's Hotel in Sykesville brought together citizens interested in erecting a house of worship and academy in Sykesville. A Board of Trustees for the First Presbyterian Church of (then-)Baltimore County was elected with Mr. George Patterson designated as chairman and a building committee appointed. Mr. Patterson offered to donate land for the church from his estate "Springfield" at a site deemed suitable by the building committee. The Records of the Trustees of Springfield Church, which are preserved in the Maryland Hall of Records, describe in detail the decisions made in constructing the church and the bids submitted by various contractors. The proposals for the different kinds of woodwork for the structure are especially enlightening. John Oram was hired to do the masonry work, Benjamin F. Forrester contracted for the woodwork, and John Gillespie dug the foundation and quarried some of the stone. The records also describe the ceremony for the laying of the cornerstone which was held on May 14, 1836.

The Classical-influenced architecture of the church presents a rural interpretation of a style that was very popular during the 1830-1840s. This church and the County Courthouse in Westminster stand as the two most important Classical buildings in Carroll County. The church relies on the massive appearance of its three-story, gable front main facade for its visual effect. The massive granite stairway and the large ten-over-ten sash windows in a symmetrical arrangement around the central entrance help to balance the vertical emphasis of the main facade. Also a key to the balance is the central focus of the facade with the stairway leading to the framed doorway to a ten-over-ten window with sidelights to a circular datestone to the peak of the broadly pitched gable roof. Instead of intricate details, the structure relies upon its massing and proportion in making its architectural statement. A similar expression can be found in the vestibule where the original interior details, while not elaborate, make a solid architectural impression through their plain design.

George Patterson was the first chairman of the Board of Trustees of Springfield Presbyterian Church and he was widely known throughout the country for his agricultural enterprises at "Springfield." J. Thomas Scharf in the History of Western Maryland states that "under the cultivation of Mr. Patterson, Springfield became the most celebrated, and was truly what he designed it to be, the model farm in Maryland." The July 8, 1858, edition of The Country Gentleman (published in Albany, N.Y.) describes in detail the innovations at Springfield including the nine-year crop rotation practiced and his prized herd of Devon cattle. Stephen T. C. Brown was also an influential member of the Board of Trustees who operated a farm adjoining "Springfield." In 1880, his son Frank Brown purchased Springfield from the Patterson estate and combined the two farming operations. Frank Brown served as Trustee to the Springfield Presbyterian Church and held several political offices including Governor of Maryland from 1892-1896.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

The Springfield Institute was the first organized school in the Sykesville area. Founded in 1825, the village of Sykesville grew rapidly following its establishment as a stop on the B & O Railroad metropolitan branch about 1830. By 1878 the town was firmly established as an important center of commerce and transportation for southern Carroll County, and a group of citizens formed a committee to determine how to provide for the educational needs of the growing population. The committee approached Rev. Charles Beach, who had recently assumed the pastorate of Springfield Presbyterian Church, who secured the permission of the Board of Trustees to begin holding classes in the church basement. Rev. Beach was installed as the first principal of the Springfield Institute, his wife assisted in management, and his three daughters served as teachers. Classes in history, geography, mathematics, music, literature, English, French, and Latin were held in the Church until 1882, when a 3 story frame building was constructed to house the Institute, whose enrollment had grown to about 50 pupils. The new building, described in a contemporary newspaper account as "a frame structure... in 'The East Lake style,'" was constructed on land donated by Frank Brown across the road from the church, and provided classrooms and residential facilities. Commencement exercises continued to be held in the church building. Although the school was advertised in 1884 as "a boarding and day school for girls," boys too had been accepted as day students from its inception. The Beach sisters resigned in 1886, and management of the Institute changed hands several times until it closed in 1900. During its 22 years of existence, its enrollment numbered as high as 50-60 pupils each year, representing a significant educational presence in the rural community.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

The Country Gentleman; Albany N.Y.: July 8 1858, p. 1-2.

J. Thomas Scharf. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia, Pa.: Louis H. Everts 1882, pp. 873-880

Wimmer, Thelma C. and Swain, Robert L., Jr. The Springfield Institute 1878-1900. Published by the author, 1984.

9. Major Bibliog. aphical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 4

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. one acre

Quadrangle name Sykesville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	330010	4359940
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county		code
state		code	county		code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Joe Getty		
organization	Carroll County Dept. of Planning	date	December 1981; revised Dec. 1984
street & number	3270 York Street	telephone	374-2605
city or town	Manchester	state	Maryland 21102

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 6-25-86

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

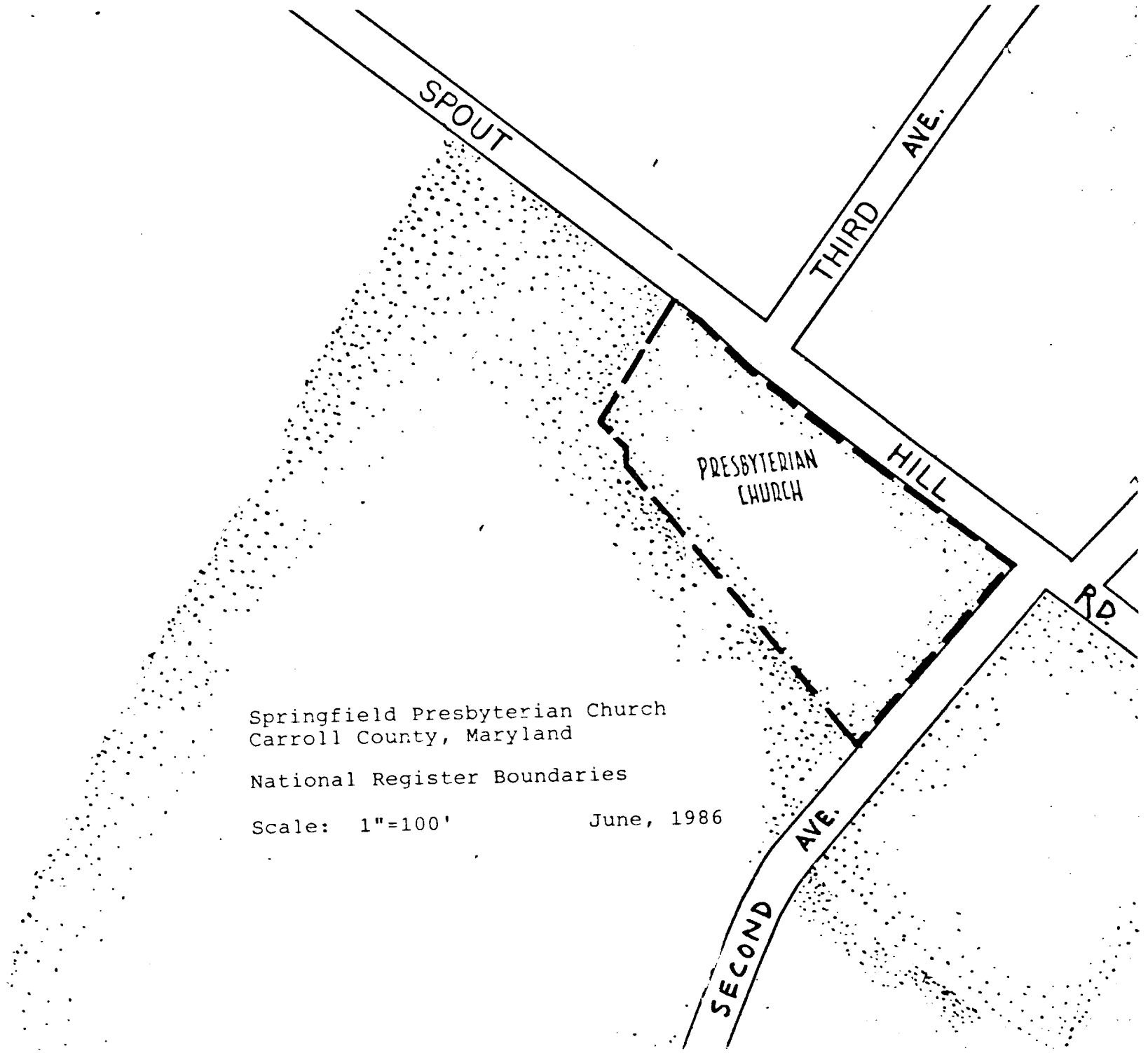
Attest:

Chief of Registration

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Boundaries are indicated by a broken line on the attached map (continuation sheet No. 6) labeled National Register Boundaries and drawn to the scale 1" =100'.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The nominated property, approximately one acre, comprises the resource within its historic setting. Boundaries are determined by current property lines and represent the immediate environment historically associated with the church building.



Springfield Presbyterian Church
Carroll County, Maryland

National Register Boundaries

Scale: 1"=100' June, 1986

CARR-269

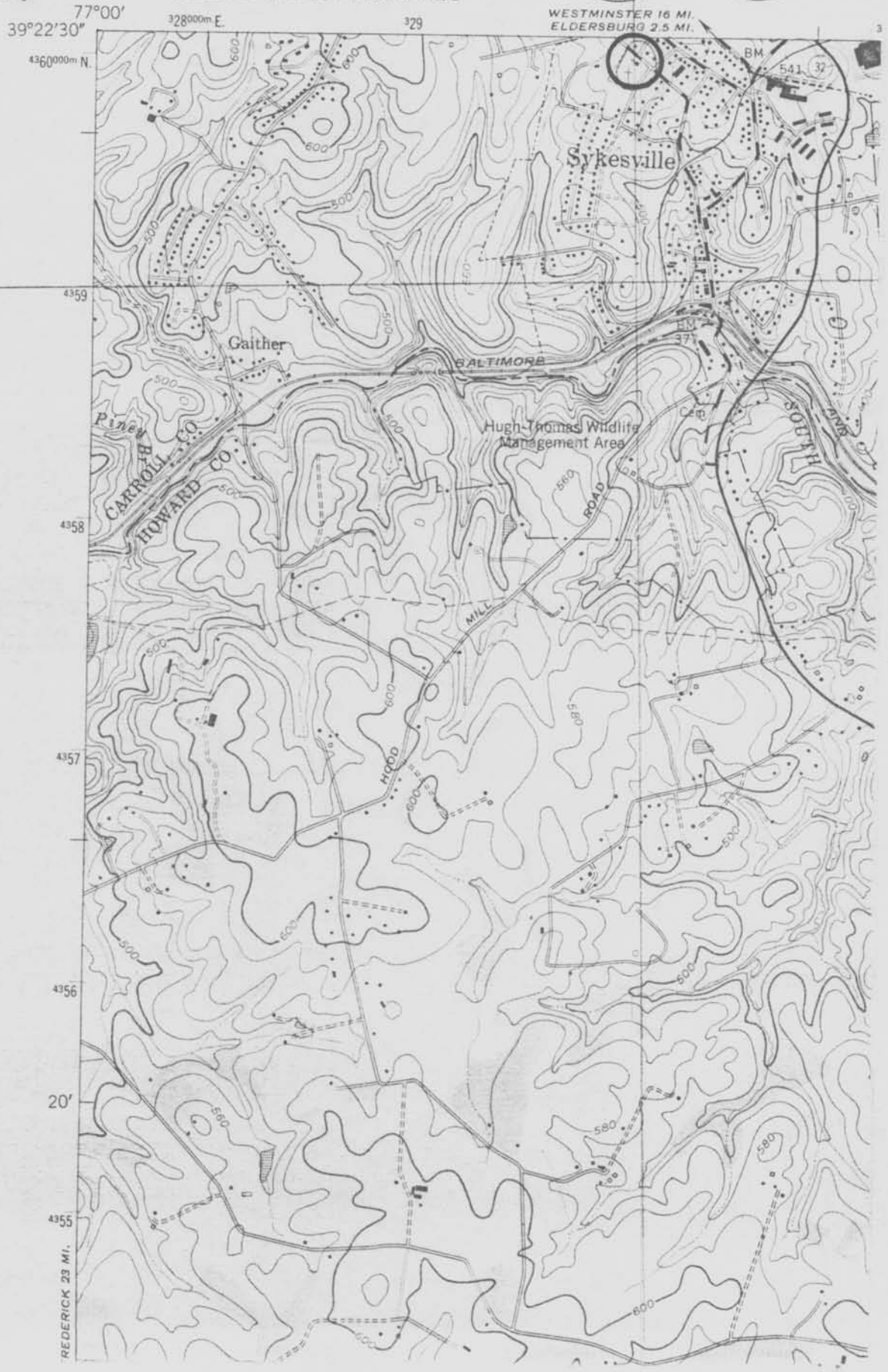
SPRINGFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND

18-330010-4359940

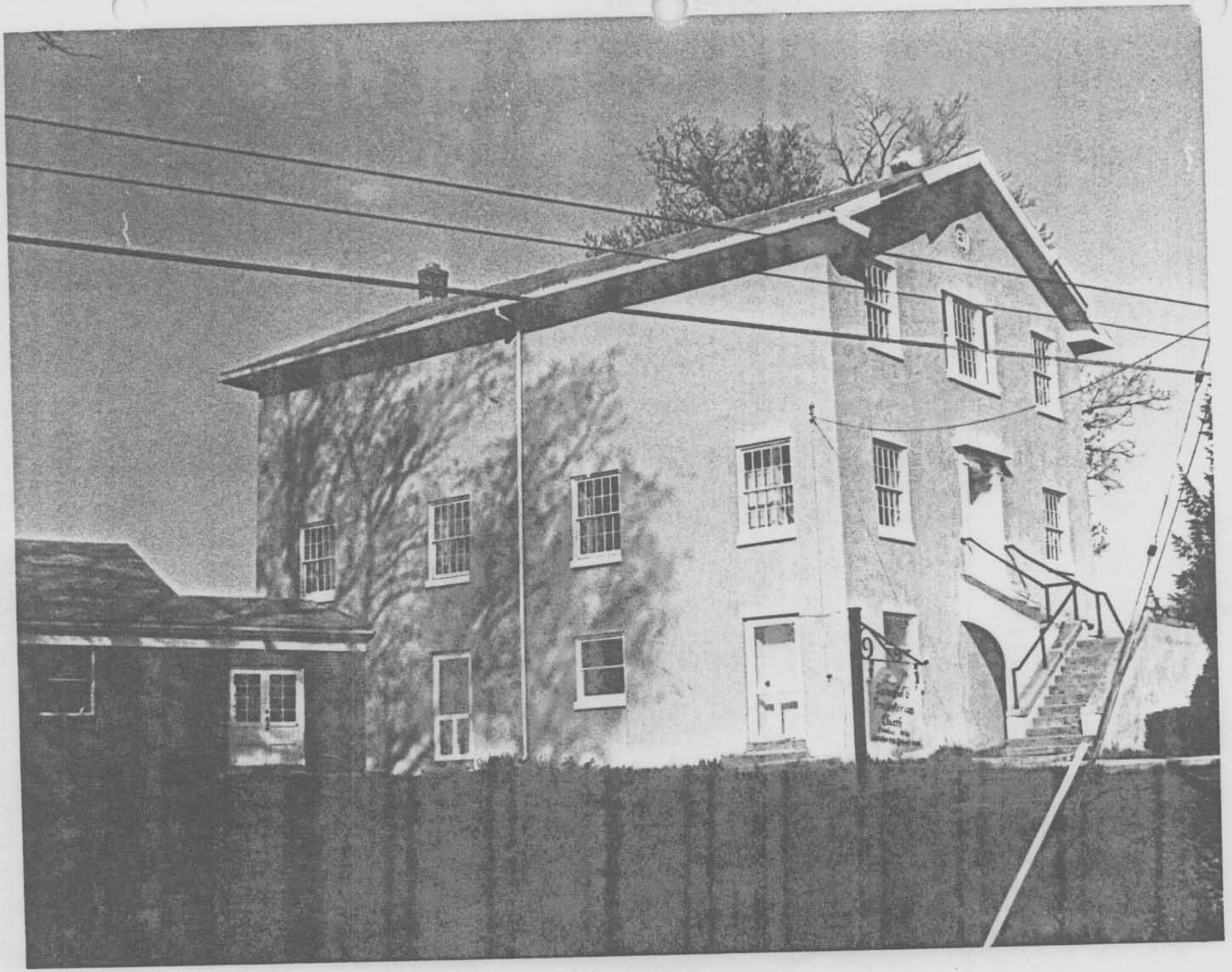
5562 I NE (WINFIELD)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



CARR-269

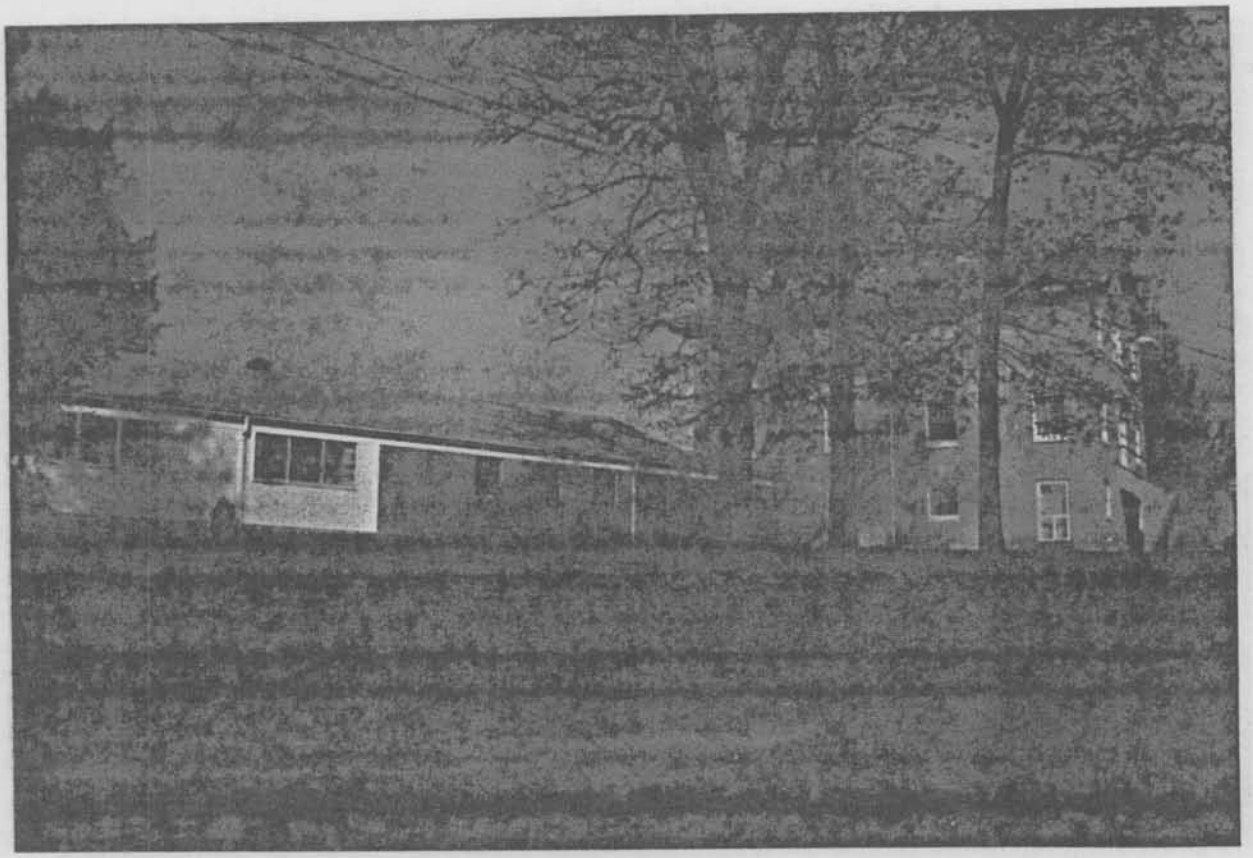
1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. East & North Elev. (camera facting S.W.)
7. 1/12

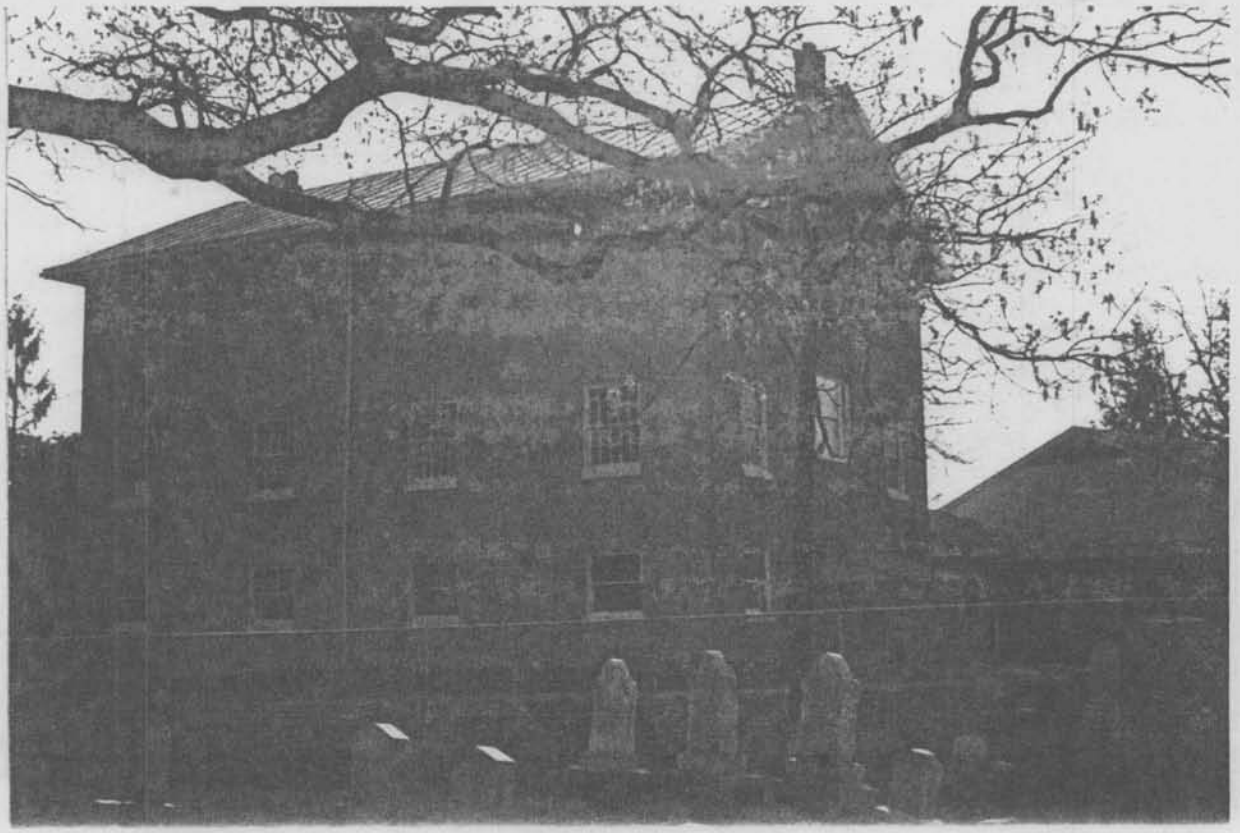


CARR-269

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. East & South Elev. (camera facing N.W.)
7. 2/12

CARR-269

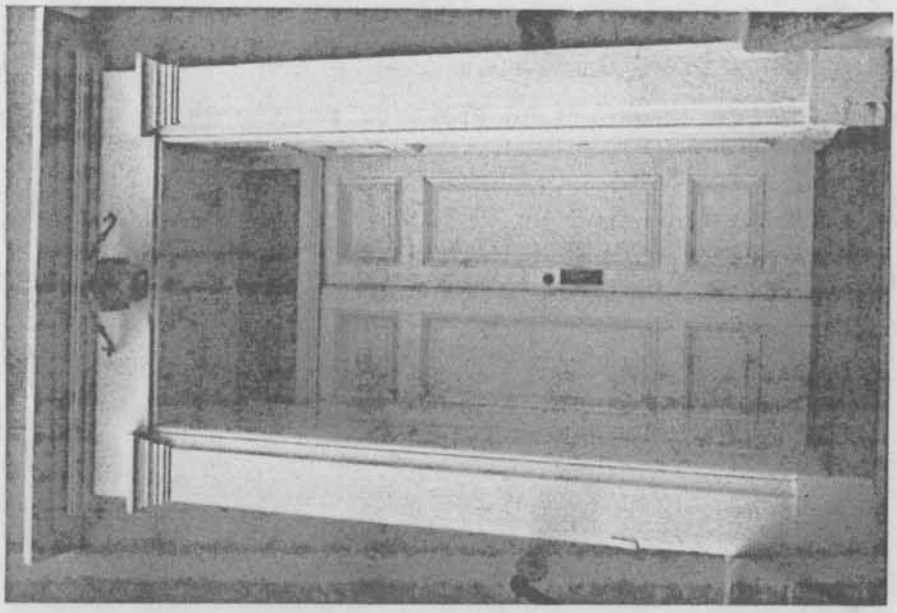


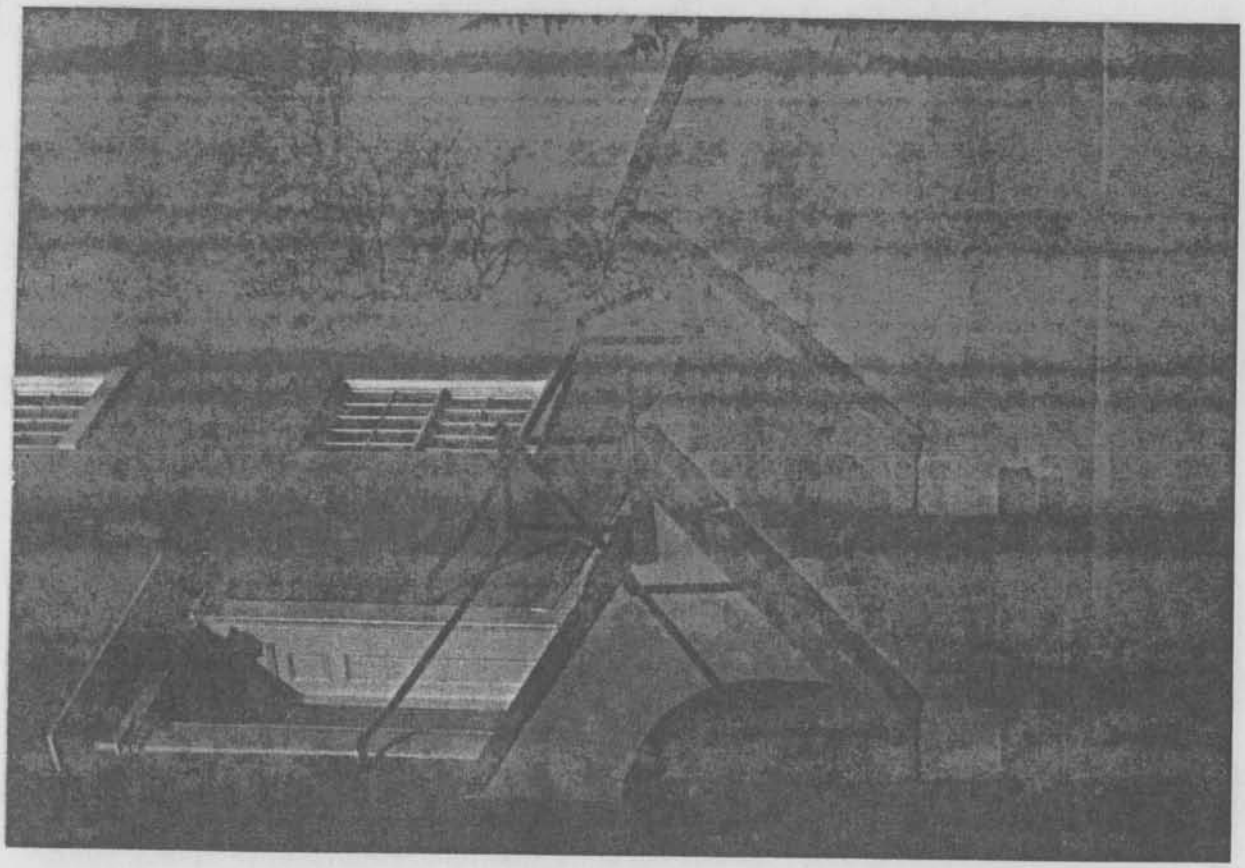


1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. South addition (camera facing northwest)
7. 3/12

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. North & West Elev. (camera facing S.E.)
7. 4/12

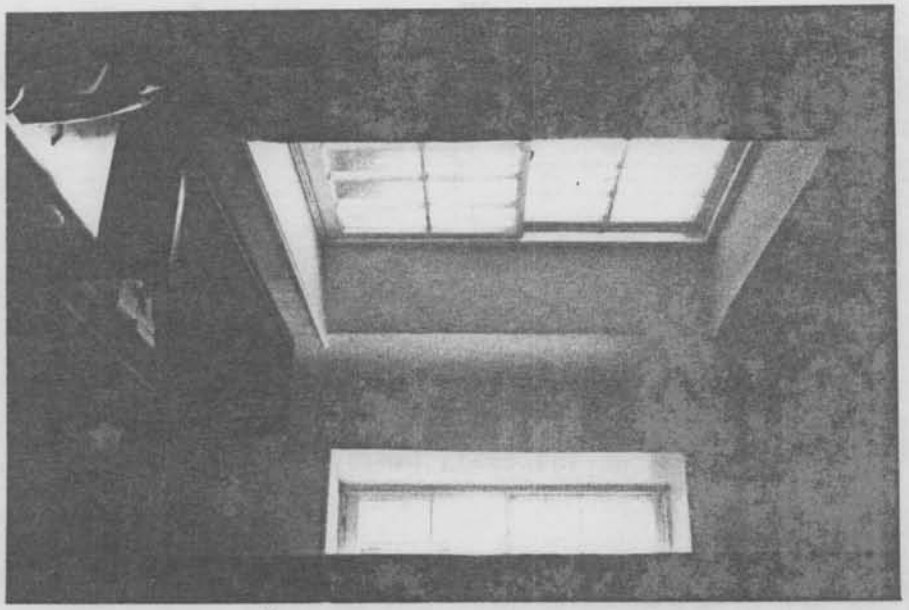
CARR-269

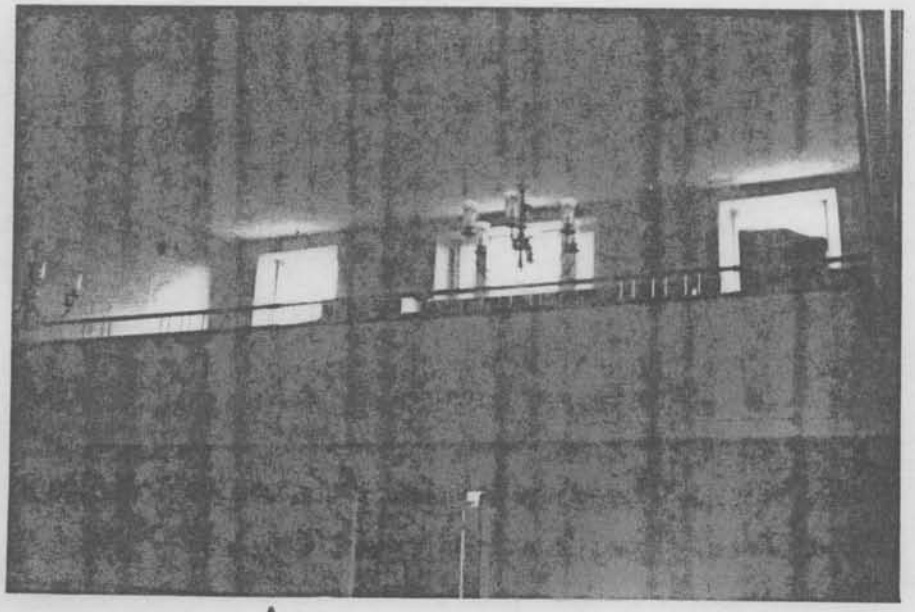




1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Main entrance detail
7. 5/12

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Granite entrance stair
7. 6/12





CARR-269

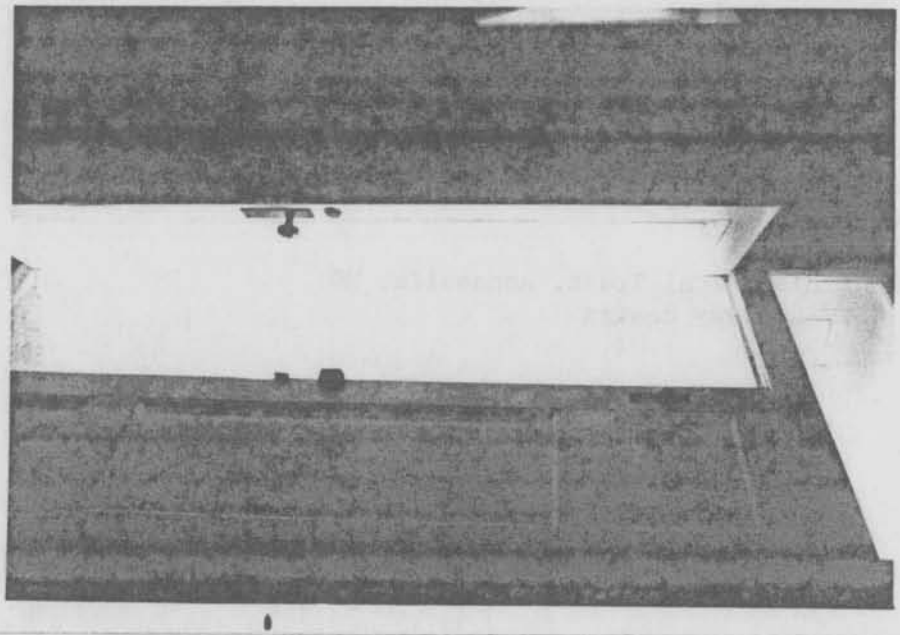
1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior - Foyer showing beveled windows
7. 9/12

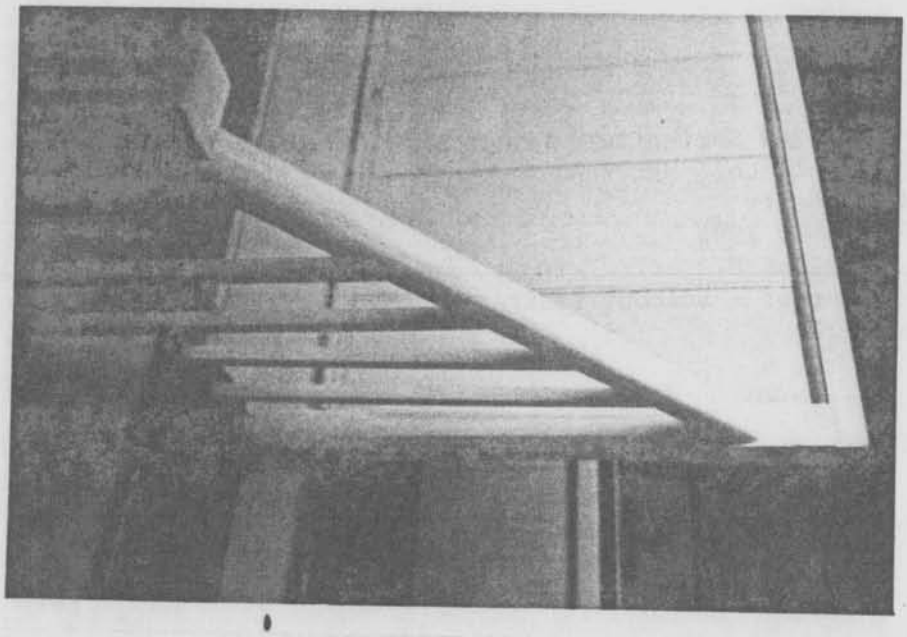
1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior - Sanctuary and Altar
7. 7/12

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior - original pew
7. 10/12

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior - Rear Balcony
7. 8/12

CARR-269





1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior--doorway design
7. 11/12

1. CARR-269 Springfield Presbyterian Church
2. Carroll Co., Maryland
3. Joe Getty
4. October 1984
5. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
6. Interior - Balcony stair rail
7. 12/12

Springfield Presbyterian Church
Sykesville

Dec. — 78

Can. - 269

north elevation

Fredi E.

Spring Field Presbyterian Church
Sykesville

Dec. — 78

Can. — 269

north & west elevation - corner

Fredi E.

Springfield Presbyterian Church
Sykesville

Dec. -78

Can- -269

west elevation

Jodi E.