

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church (Ebenezer Church) Inventory Number: S-252
 Address: 5355 Cornstack Road City: Marion Station Zip Code: 21838
 County: Somerset USGS Topographic Map: Kingston
 Trustees of Ebenezer M.E. Church
 Owner: 33 E. Broad Street, Princess Anne, MD 21853 Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 0200 Tax Map Number: 0058 Tax Account ID Number: 03-051080
 Project: Great Bay Wind Energy Center Agency: _____
 Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? yes no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible yes no

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Library – MIHP form S-252

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church is a late-nineteenth century frame church located near Rehobeth. The church was originally founded by an all-white congregation in 1830, and sold to local black residents in 1876, when the white congregation constructed the nearby Davis Chapel. The new congregation eventually constructed the current church building and associated fellowship hall in the late nineteenth century. The current Ebenezer United Methodist Church is comprised of a main, L-plan structure with engaged corner tower, and a modern, one-story addition. A large nineteenth century cemetery is located north and east of the church.

The church was previously surveyed in 1985 (see MIHP form S-252 in MHT Library), and has experienced several alterations and a major addition since that time. The asbestos shingle siding has been replaced with vinyl siding throughout the building, which has compromised the detail previously evident in the tower, including a diamond-paned, colored glass light that is now covered. The foundation has been completely parged over with concrete. A two-story fellowship hall inventoried as part of the 1985 survey has been demolished. The cemetery remains intact and does not appear noticeably deteriorated.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
<u>Jonathan Bays</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>4/2/14</u> Date
<u>NA</u> Reviewer, NR Program	Date

201401268

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

While the role of the Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church the history of the local African-American community in Somerset County during the late-nineteenth century is noteworthy, the church is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The church building has undergone substantial renovations since the previous survey, and is therefore not considered eligible under Criterion C because of lack of integrity of materials and form due to considerable alteration.

Prepared by: Grant Johnson (EDR)

Date Prepared: February 2014



Great Bay Wind Energy Center
 Somerset County - Maryland
Historic Resources Assessment
 February 2014

Notes: Basemap: ESRI USA Topomaps Online Map Service

- Demolished/Removed, Not Eligible
- EDR Recommends NRHP-Eligible
- EDR Recommends Not NRHP-Eligible
- Undetermined



www.edrinc.com



Ebenezer
LUTHERAN REFORMED CHURCH

TEACH US TO PRAY
SOMETIMES JUST NOT
THINKING OF ONESELF
IS A FORM OF PRAYER

S-252

FROG EYE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (EBENEZER CHURCH)

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT JOHNSON

8/26/2013

DIGITAL FILE AT MD SHPO

VIEW E TOWARD WEST FACADE OF CHURCH

PHOTO #113

S-252-2013-08-26-01

Epson Professional Paper

Epson Professional Paper

Epson



S-252

FROSTY'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (EBENEZER CHURCH)

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT JOHNSON

8/26/2013

DIGITAL FILE AT MD SHPO

VIEW SE TOWARD NORTH & WEST FACADES OF CHURCH

Photo #213

S-252-2013-08-26-02



S-292

PROCEYE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (GEBENEZER CHURCH)

SOMERSET COUNTY, MO

GRANT JOHNSON

8/26/2013

DIGITAL FILE AT MO SHPO

VIEW NE TOWARD SOUTH & WEST FACADES OF CHURCH.

PHOTO #3 | 3

S-292-2013-08-26-03

S-252

c. 1890-1910

Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church
Rehobeth vicinity
public worship

The Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church stands at the intersection of Cornstack and Bryan Hall roads near Rehobeth. The tee-shaped Gothic Revival church is similar to many in Somerset County with its corner entrance tower and tripartite colored glass windows. Located north of the church is the cemetery. One ^{graveyard} plot is surrounded by a Victorian iron fence made by Stewart Iron Works of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Although the written history of many black churches is rather sketchy, the background of Frogeye Church is slightly more complete. ^{The} Frogeye Methodist ^{church} was organized by the white residents of the Rehobeth vicinity in 1830, and it continued as such until 1876 when the white congregation sold the structure to the black residents of the area. Meanwhile, a new Methodist church, first known as "Davis Chapel," was built in 1876 closer to Rehobeth on the Shelltown Road. Apparently the black residents used the old church until the late nineteenth century when they erected the present building.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-252

Magi No. 2002525708

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common Ebenezer Church

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Cornstack and Bryan Hall Roads not for publicationcity, town Rehobeth vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Frogeye M.E. Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Rehobeth state and zip code Maryland 21853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No.

S-252

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church stands on the east side of Cornstack Road at the intersection of Bryan Hall Road, near Rehobeth, Somerset County, Maryland. The T-shaped frame structure faces west with the primary gable running on an east/west axis. Accompanying the church is a two-story fellowship hall and a large cemetery.

The late 19th-century frame church rests on a brick pier foundation and is uniformly sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the eaves extend beyond the wall surfaces. A plain bargeboard covers the ends of rafter feet and roof nailers. Rising in the southwest corner is a three-story pyramidal roofed entrance tower. A double door entry is topped by a pointed arch, colored glass transom. The mid-level is marked by a diamond pane colored glass light. At the second story the tower tapers in slightly, and the cornice is interrupted by small gables covered with fishscale shingles. The tower is covered with wood shingles and appears to have been capped.

The west elevation of the sanctuary is distinguished by a tri-partite colored glass window. Located to the north is a shed roof extension marked by a narrow lancet window.

The north elevation has a large gabled roof that covers the altar, centered in the wall is a round window divided into pie-shaped panes. To the west is a narrow lancet window and to the east a recent shed addition. Two narrow brick stove stacks rise from the north slope of the roof.

The east facade of the church has an identical tri-partite window. Extending southward is the leg of the "T", which is pierced on the east side by a narrow lancet window. A rear entrance is located in the southeast corner of the main church body.

The south elevation of the "T" has an identical tri-partite window.

The interior of the church was not open.

Located to the east of the church is a two-story one-bay by three-bay fellowship hall evidently erected about the same time as the church. It is also covered with asbestos shingles and capped by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. A narrow brick stove stack rises from the east gable end.

The west (main) facade has a center door and an adjacent 6/6 sash window. A single 6/6 sash window lights the second and attic floors. Attached to the north side of the hall is a single-story flat-roofed addition.

The cemetery is located on the north side of the property and consists of several dozen 19th and 20th-century markers. One plot is surrounded by a Victorian iron fence made by Stewart Iron Works in Cincinnati, Ohio.

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 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 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		

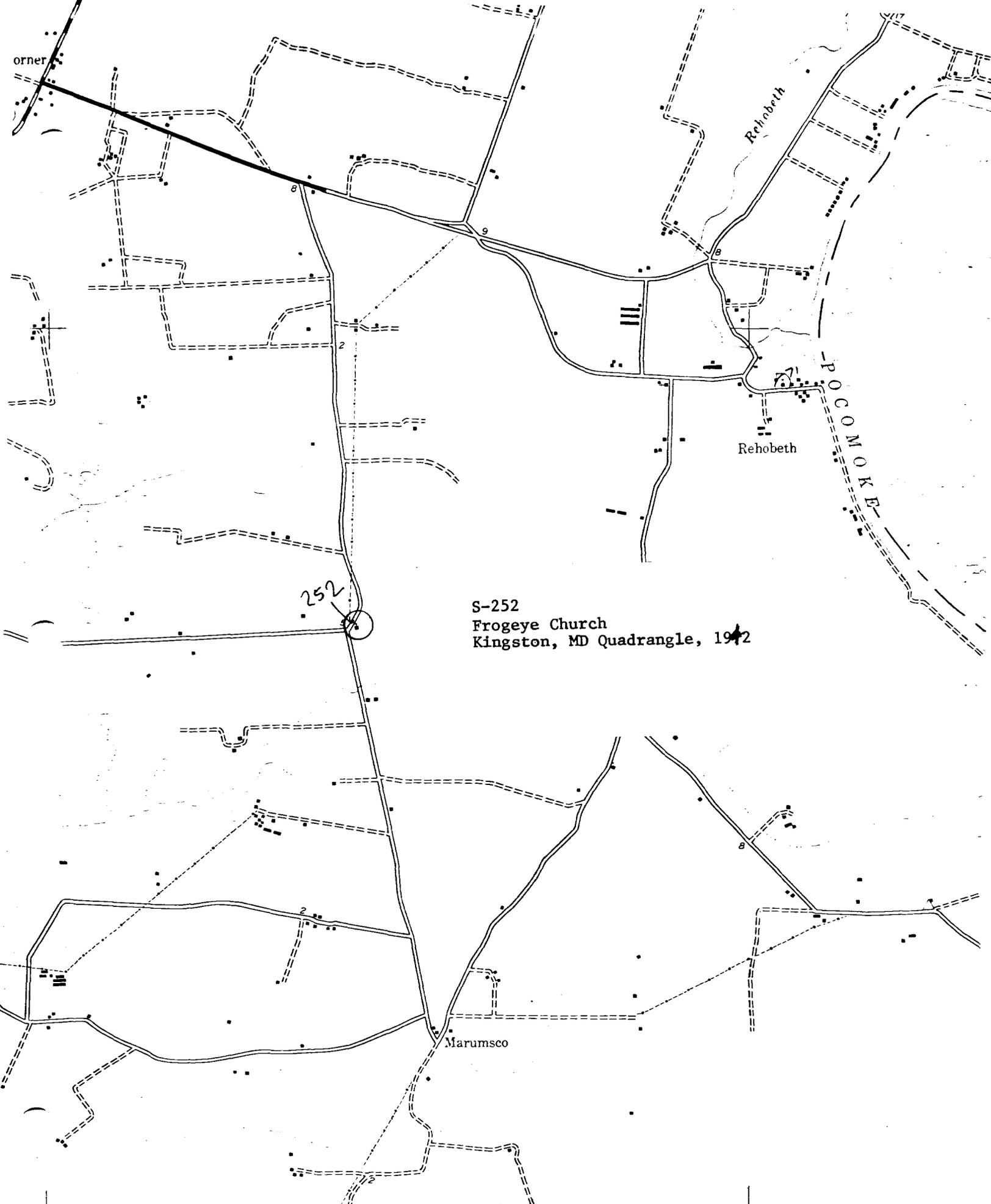
Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

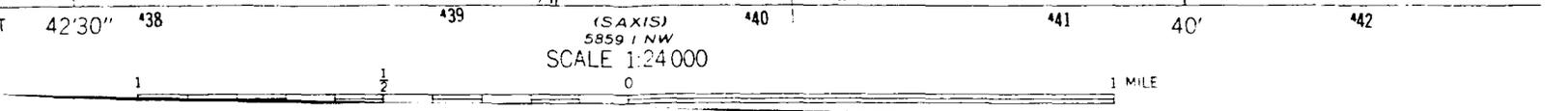
The Frogeye M.E. Church is an altered late 19th-century frame church built in a similar manner as other black churches in rural Somerset County. The "T" or "L" plan with corner tower was popularly employed through the fourth quarter of the 19th century and first quarter of the 20th century. The tri-partite sanctuary window is a common feature in many other churches.

History and Support

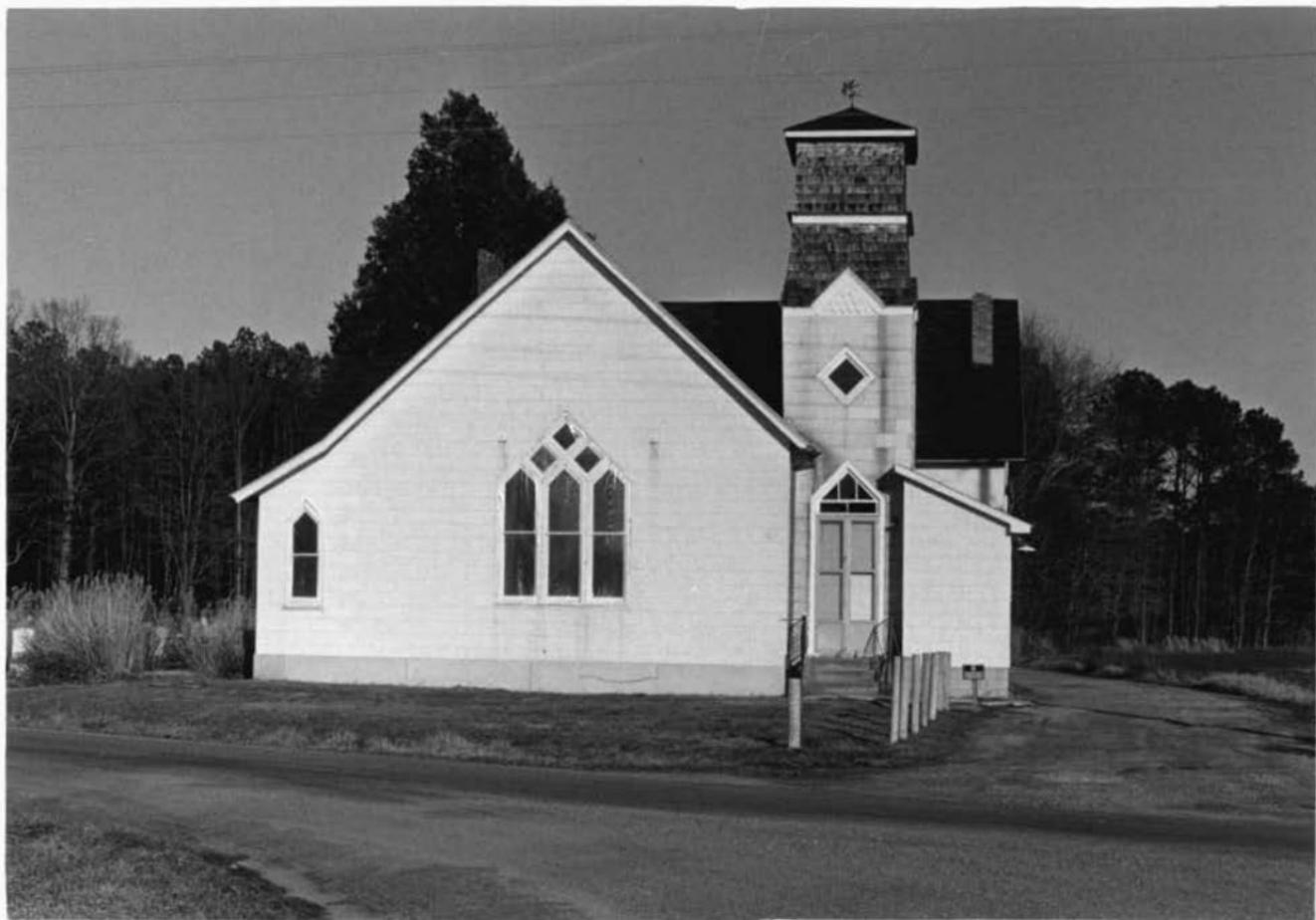
The written history of many black churches is rather scarce, but the history of Frogeye M.E. is slightly more complete. Frogeye Methodist was organized by the white residents of the Rehobeth vicinity in 1830, and it continued as such until 1876 when the white congregation sold the structure to the black residents of the area. Meanwhile, a new Methodist church, first known as "Davis Chapel" was built in 1876 closer to Rehobeth on the Shelltown Road. Apparently, the black residents used the old church until the late 19th century when they erected the present building.



S-252
Frogeye Church
Kingston, MD Quadrangle, 1942



(SAXIS)
5859 1 NW
SCALE 1:24 000



Frogeye Church

S-252

Frogeye, Somerset County

West Elevation

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Frogeye Church
Frogeye, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

S-252



Frogeye Church

S-252

Frogeye, Somerset County

East Elevation

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Frogeye Church
Frogeye, Somerset County
Community Hall
West Elevation
3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

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Frogeye Church

S-252

Frogeye, Somerset County

Cemetery

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust