



---

## 7. Description

Inventory No. T-1164

---

### Condition

excellent     deteriorated  
 good         ruins  
 fair          altered

---

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

This is a one-story frame building on a brick/block foundation with one open space and an attic. The building encompasses 512 square feet of space and was built adjacent to the Williamsburg Methodist Episcopal Church in 1900. In 1956, the building, transferred back to the church by the Talbot County Board of Education, was used by the church as its social hall.

The building, as it stands today, is in poor, but not irreparable condition. An exterior inspection of the building shows that one side of the building and the roof is badly deteriorated and seems to need major repair/restoration.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. T-1164

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1915

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1915

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

This building is significantly important to the history of Maryland and Talbot County because it represents a shift in the educational experience of the African-American of the villages, signifying the beginning of separation of church and state. This building brought the beginning of a formal education program for African-American children of the village.

This building is adjacent to the Williamsburg United Methodist Church located on the right side of Route 565, Old Trappe Road, in the village of Williamsburg in Talbot County, Maryland.

In the late 1800's, the Talbot County School Board, in an effort to abandon the use of homes and churches as schools for African-American children introduced a policy requiring the churches in the affected villages to provide, without any monetary compensation, a lot of suitable size for a schoolhouse and playground and two privies. In exchange, the Board of Education built the schoolhouses, provided teachers and maintained the buildings.

In order to provide the land for this purpose, on August 6, 1915, the Trustees of the Williamsburg M. E. Church and the New Building and Loan Association of Talbot County transferred a portion of the church's property to the Talbot County Board of Education.

On this property, a one-story frame building with an open space was constructed as a one-room school. It served as the only schoolhouse providing education for the African-American children who were age-eligible for grades 1 through 4 who were living in Williamsburg, Bailey's Neck and Ivytown until 1956. One teacher was responsible for teaching all subjects to all grades.

The single room had a row of windows on one side, blackboards on two walls of the room, four or five rows of desks separated by grade levels, two coat closets and a hand-operated water pump. Heat for the building was provided by a pot-bellied coal stove. Outside, two privies/outhouses were provided behind the schoolhouse, near the woods - one for girls, the other for boys.

After completing the fourth grade, students were bussed to Easton, MD to attend grades 5 and 6 at the Robert Russa Moton Elementary School on Port Street then to the Robert Russa Moton Jr. Sr. High School in Easton to complete grades 7 through 12.

In 1956, the White Marsh Elementary School opened in Trappe, MD. This school consolidated all of the former elementary schools in the Trappe District.

Subsequently, in October 31, 1957, the Board of Education of Talbot County and Thomas Pullen, Jr., State Superintendent of Schools, returned the property back to the Trustees of the Williamsburg Episcopal Church of Talbot County, Maryland for the sum of \$5.00.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-1164

Name  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

---

The church re-purposed the schoolhouse, using it as a social hall and dining area for such church activities as church suppers, wedding receptions, Mother and Daughter tea parties, Ol' Folks" concerts and other church social and memorial functions. The building was used for these purposes until 1997 when the church closed and the membership of the church was moved to the Waters United Methodist Church in Oxford MD.

.....  
Note:

When the Trustees of Waters United Methodist Church changed the deed from the Trustees of Williamsburg Church to their names in April/May 2009, the new deed seems to include and combine the school and church & parsonage properties. Prior to this, there were two deeds: one for the church and parsonage and a separate one for the schoolhouse.

The records at the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation have not combined the two properties as of this date.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-1164

Book: The Story of an Old-Fashioned Trappe By Dickson Preston, published 1976 (the story of Nate Hopkins)  
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, Talbot County, Real Property Data Search  
Deed from the Trustees of Williamsburg M.E. church & New Bldg & Loan Assoc of Talbot County to Board of School Commissioners dated 8/6/1915  
Deed from the Board of Education of Talbot county to the Trustees of the Williamsburg Methodist Episcopal Church of Talbot County dated 10/31/1957, Liber 343 Page 30  
Oral History

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 812 square feet  
Acreage of historical setting \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name Trappe Quadrangle scale: \_\_\_\_\_

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Per deed dated 8/6/1915 from the trustees to the Board of Education:

"...Beginning for the same at a gum tree at the northwest corner of a lot of ground (in the hamlet of Williamsburg, Easton district of Talbot County which the said Trustees purchased of F. Carroll Goldsborough, and his wife, conveyed by Deed dated Mch 14, 1906 and running from thence easterly a distance of One hundred and fifty feet (150 ft) thence in a southerly direction parallel with the public road One hundred and fifty feet (150) feet, more or less to the church lot, thence in a westerly direction with the said church lot and the land of Wesley Benson one hundred and fifty (150) feet to a stake set in the ground at the southwest corner of the lot hereby conveyed, thence in a northerly direction One hundred and forty (140) feet to the place of beginning, including also a Twelve (12) feet driveway from the public road through the center of the parsonage lot as an inlet and outlet to and from the above described lot -- be the quantity of land therein contained what it may."

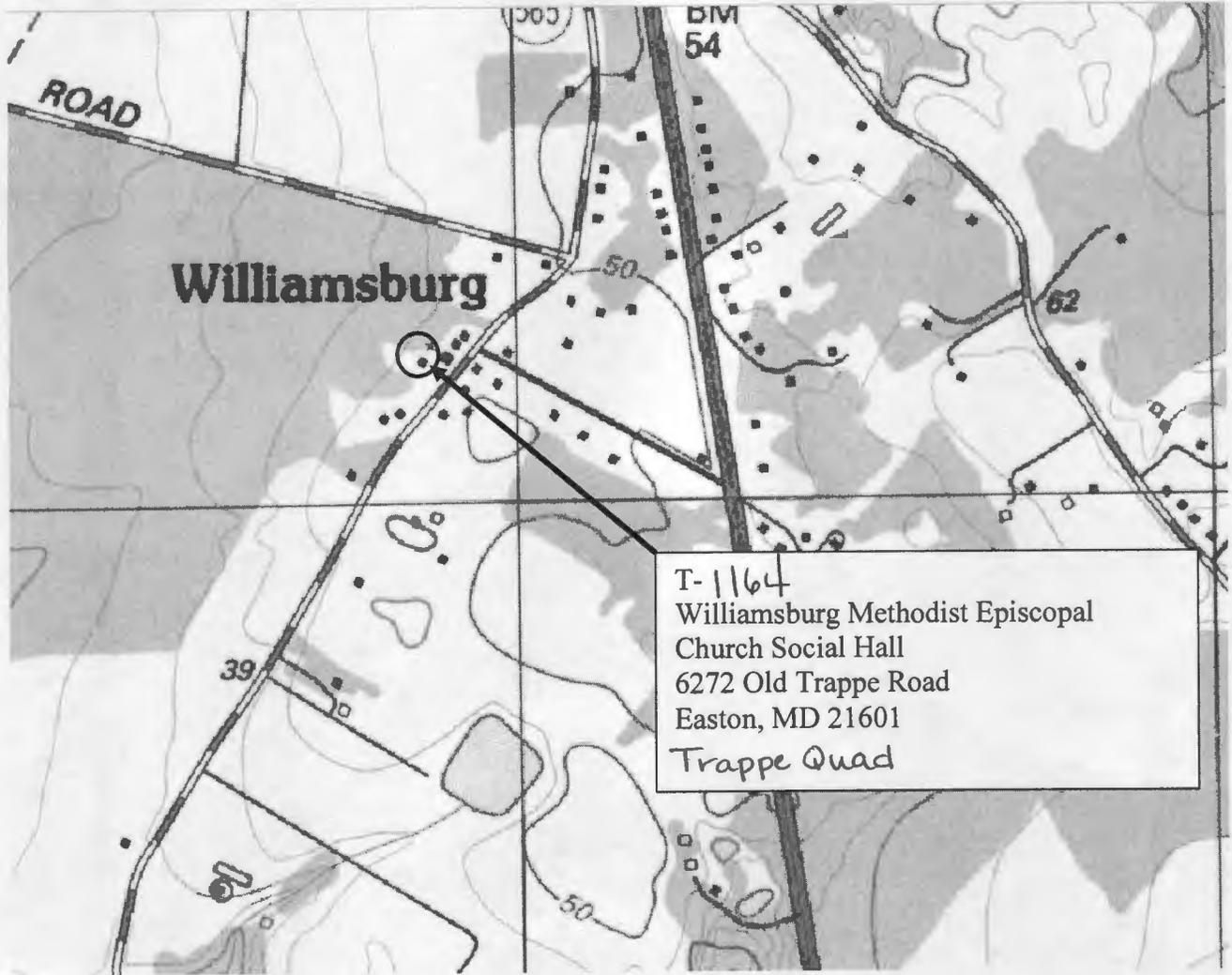
## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Joyce Roberts Lima	<i>Joyce E. Lima</i>		
organization	N/A		date	9-13-2009
street & number	467 Aventura Ct		telephone	410-768-6884
city or town	Glen Burnie		state	MD 21061-6101

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
Maryland Department of Planning  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



T-1164  
Williamsburg Methodist Episcopal  
Church Social Hall  
6272 Old Trappe Road  
Easton, MD 21601  
Trappe Quad





T-1164

Williamsburg Elementary School. (Williamsburg United  
Methodist Church Social Hall)

Talbot Co. MD

Joyce Lima

April 2009

# 1 of 2



NO  
PARKING

T-1164

Williamsburg Elementary School (Williamsburg United  
Methodist Church Social Hall)

Talbot Co. MD

Joyce Lima

April 2009

# 2 of 2