

T-571

1895

Union United Methodist Church

St. Michaels

private

Dominating the intersection of Fremont and Cherry streets, the Union United Methodist Church is a significant tee-plan Gothic Revival structure highlighted by a three-story bell tower with a broach spire. The wall surfaces are pierced by colored glass lancet and round windows. The Victorian interior has an original recessed altar as well as a matched board ceiling. The only major interior change involves the replacment of the pews. The Union congregation is the largest black church standing within the town limits. The 1895 building is a prominent building in the northwest section of St. Michaels.

Purchase of this property by the trustees of the Union M. E. Church dates to 1894, when John S. and Angeline D. Hambleton sold the lot for \$150. (122/282). Prior to the sale the land belonged to Samuel Harrison and Thomas Haddaway.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-571

Magi No. 2105715608

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Union M.E. Church

and/or common Union United Methodist Church

2. Location

street & number N.W. corner of Fremont and Railroad Streets not for publication

city, town St. Michaels vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

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 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 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 Union United Methodist Church

street & number Mr. James Thomas telephone no.: 745-2171

city, town St. Michaels state and zip code MD 21663

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-571

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

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

Union United Methodist Church

The Union United Methodist Church stands on the northwest corner of the intersection of Fremont and Cherry streets in northern St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The tee-plan frame church faces south.

Built in 1895, the single-story tee-shaped church is dominated by a three-story corner tower topped by a broach spire. Supported by a minimal brick foundation, the frame church is sheathed with asbestos shingles and covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The eaves are extended and trimmed with simple corner brackets. A modern church hall, erected in 1968, extends to the north.

The south elevation of the church consists of a gable front facade marked by two colored glass windows topped with shallow Victorian decorative arches. The upper gable is pierced by a round colored glass window. A clay chimney pot pierces the roofline. Located in the southeast corner is a marble datestone with the 1895 date. The south face of the tower has a double door entrance topped by a divided colored glass transom. A shallow arched pediment tops the doorway. The second level of the tower is marked by a round, colored glass window, and the third level or belfry has two large louvered panels. Rising above the belfry is the broach spire which is finished with a metal finial.

The east elevation of the church is similarly detailed as the south facade with a gabled front wall pierced by two colored glass windows. An identical colored glass round window marks the upper gable. In contrast to the south gable, a brick stove stack rises from the gable end. The west face of the tower has an identical double door entrance, while the mid-level opening has been blocked up. The other features remain consistent with the south side.

Union United Methodist Church Description
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The gabled elevation on the west side is detailed in the same manner as the other two sides, and the north side of the church is largely covered by the single-story concrete block addition.

The church interior is divided into three principal sections; the altar, the main sanctuary and a rear section of seating. The recessed altar is raised on a platform and framed by a Victorian surround supported by slender colonettes. The altar arch is decorated with a center cross and incised tendril motifs. The pipe organ is located in the recessed portion of the altar, which is sheathed with narrow beaded board wainscoting. The matched board of the sanctuary is finished in diagonal patterns. Bronze chandeliers have milkglass globes. The pews in both the front and rear sections are modern replacements. A folding door partition separates the main sanctuary from the rear section. The doors are hung from fluted support posts.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-571

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 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 1895 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

The Union United Methodist Church of St. Michaels is a significant tee-plan, Gothic Revival structure dominated by a three-story bell tower with a broach spire. The wall surfaces are pierced by colored glass lancet and round windows. The Victorian interior has an original recessed altar as well as a matched board ceiling. The only major interior change is the replacement of the pews. The Union congregation is the largest black church standing within the town limits of St. Michaels. The 1895 church building is one of the most important structures in the northwest section of the town, and anchors an important corner at the intersection of Cherry and Fremont streets.

UNION M. E. CHURCH

Year: 1894 Vol: 122 Page: 282

From: John S and Angeline D Hambleton and Rebecca and John Price: \$150
F West, Gloucester City, Va.

To: Trustees of Union M E Church

Notes: Begins at SE corner of this lot at intersection of Railroad Avenue and West Street, an extension of Fremont Street. Run West inside the sidewalk of Railroad Avenue, west 63 ft to a stake; then N 75 ft to another stake; then E parallel to Railroad Ave. 45 ft to West Street; then S with the western side of West Street 77 ft 10 inches to beginning.

A part of a tract at present owned by John S Hambleton & Rebecca West; purchased by their father Philemon Hambleton, dcd, 1856, 67/263, the other heirs having sold their interest to John S Hambleton.

Year: 1856 Vol: 67 Page: 263

From: John N (?) Hambleton Price:

To: Philemon Hambleton

Notes: Samuel Hambleton had sold 11 3/4 acres (of which this is a part) to Dr. Wm. Jones. Never paid for and no deed executed. Both Dr. Jones & Samuel Hambleton died. Executor for Jones, Charles Robinson has sold the land and paid off John N Hambleton as residuary legatee. Since no deed was written it is thought best that John N Hambleton should give a deed in addition to the trustee's deed. See trustee's deed for description (1856, 67/264).

Year: 1856 Vol: 67 Page: 264

From: Charles Robinson, trustee Price: \$2345

To: Philemon Hambleton

Notes: All that part of Elliott's Lot and Joseph's Lot sold by Samuel Harrison to Samuel Hambleton, 1832, 50/322. Begins at the place where a cedar post stood by the road into Church Neck set down as a division between Thomas Harrison and James Braddock; run with the road E 100P to Main Road; then therewith N 26 W 22P; then W 90P to what was the divisional line between Thomas Harrison and James Braddock; then with that line to the beginning. 11 3/4 acres except three small building lots sold off by William Jones.

Year: 1832 Vol: 50 Page: 322
From: Samuel Harrison Price: \$475.50
To: Samuel Hambleton

Notes: All that part of Elliott's Lot and Joseph's Lot sold by Robert Richardson and Thomas Harrison to Thomas L Haddaway, 1795, 26/322. Afterwards sold by Samuel Harrison, administrator of Thomas L Haddaway. Begins at former cedar post , runs with Church Neck road E 100P to Main Road, with the main road, N 26 W 22P, then W 90P to the Harrison-Braddock line, then to the beginning. 11 3/4 acres.

Year: 1795 Vol: 26 Page: 322
From: Robert Richardson and Thomas Harrison Price:
To: Thomas L Haddaway

Notes: Same description as 1856,67/264 except that the cedar post was in place.

This is the first sale of this subdivision.

On 1 March 1803, Thomas L Haddaway had this ad in the Republican Star (Easton): "Leaving Eastern Shore. A water lot in St Michaels, 60 x 140; good dwelling house, kitchen, smoke house. Also, convenient to lot, twelve acres, fenced, with dwelling house, carriage house, and stable. Thomas L Haddaway. 11 Jan 1803" Thomas L Haddaway died at St Michaels in December, 1817.

I have not found how or why Thomas Harrison's name is on the deed!

Year: 1784 Vol: 22 Page: 36
From: James Wignal Price: pl66 sp
To: Robert Richardson

Notes: There were two of James Braddock's parcels included in this sale. The one here concerned is 44 1/4 acres of "Elliott's Lot" purchased by Braddock from John Johning Hopkins, 1777, 21/20.

Year: 1784 Vol: 21 Page: 417
From: John Thompson Price: p600 sp
To: James Wignal

Notes: Thompson (under pressure ?) sells Wignal ALL of James Braddock's un-sold land which was left to Thompson by Braddock in his will.

Braddock had been the factor of Gildart & Gawith at St Michaels and had used the firm's money to purchase the St Michaels land.

James Wignal arrived with a Power of Attorney from Gildart & Gawith for the purpose of recovering as much as possible of the company's assets.

Year: 1782 Vol: JB3 Page: 144 (WILLS)
From: Will of James Braddock Price:
To:

Notes: "In the name of God Amen. I James Braddock give and bequeath my soul to God, from whence it came(.) I give and bequeath Thomas Wrightson all the black smith's tools...I give & bequeath unto John Thompson all the real and personable estate of what nature and kind whatsoever with paying all my debts. James Braddock. May 3, 1782"

Year: 1777 Vol: 21 Page: 20
From: John Johning Hopkins Price: p309 15s
To: James Braddock
Notes: Part of Elliott's Lot. 44 1/4 acres.

This is the last deed on which the property can be located with certanty.

Year: 1771 Vol: 20 Page: 154
From: Thomas Ashcroft Price: p100*
To: John Johning Hopkins

Notes: Part of Beach, Davenport, Elliott's Lot. In 1766, Hopkins had bought an alleged 100 acres from Ashcroft for p100. By 1771 he found that the land was not as represented. Ashcroft apparently acquired 19 acres from Edward Hopkins, now dcd, and this deed is a new one written for 119 acres. The original deed specified "100 acres" without the usual "more or less".

When the present deed is plotted and compared with 1766, 19/387 the addit ional acreage appears to include the land on which the church is built.

UNION M.E.CHURCH

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Year: 1735 Vol: 14 Page: 138

From: Thomas Ashcroft & Susannah (formerly Hopkins) Price: L & A

To: Edward Hopkins (son of Wm. Hopkins & Susannah)

Notes: This deed is one of a series of three deeds in which part of the 476 acres transferred by Edward Elliott to William Hopkins and Elliott's daughter Susannah is given to Hopkins' two sons John and Edward and to Susannah and Thomas Ascroft's son, Thomas Ashcroft, jr.

It is very difficult to determine the exact locations of these deeds, but at this time, the deed here cited would seem to have included the church property.

Year: 1704 Vol: 9 Page: 262

From: Edward Elliott Price: L & A

To: William Hopkins and wife Susanna (nee Elliott)

Notes: This deed transferrs Elliotts "now dwelling plantation" and 476 acres to his daughter and her husband. No meets & bounds and no tracts named.

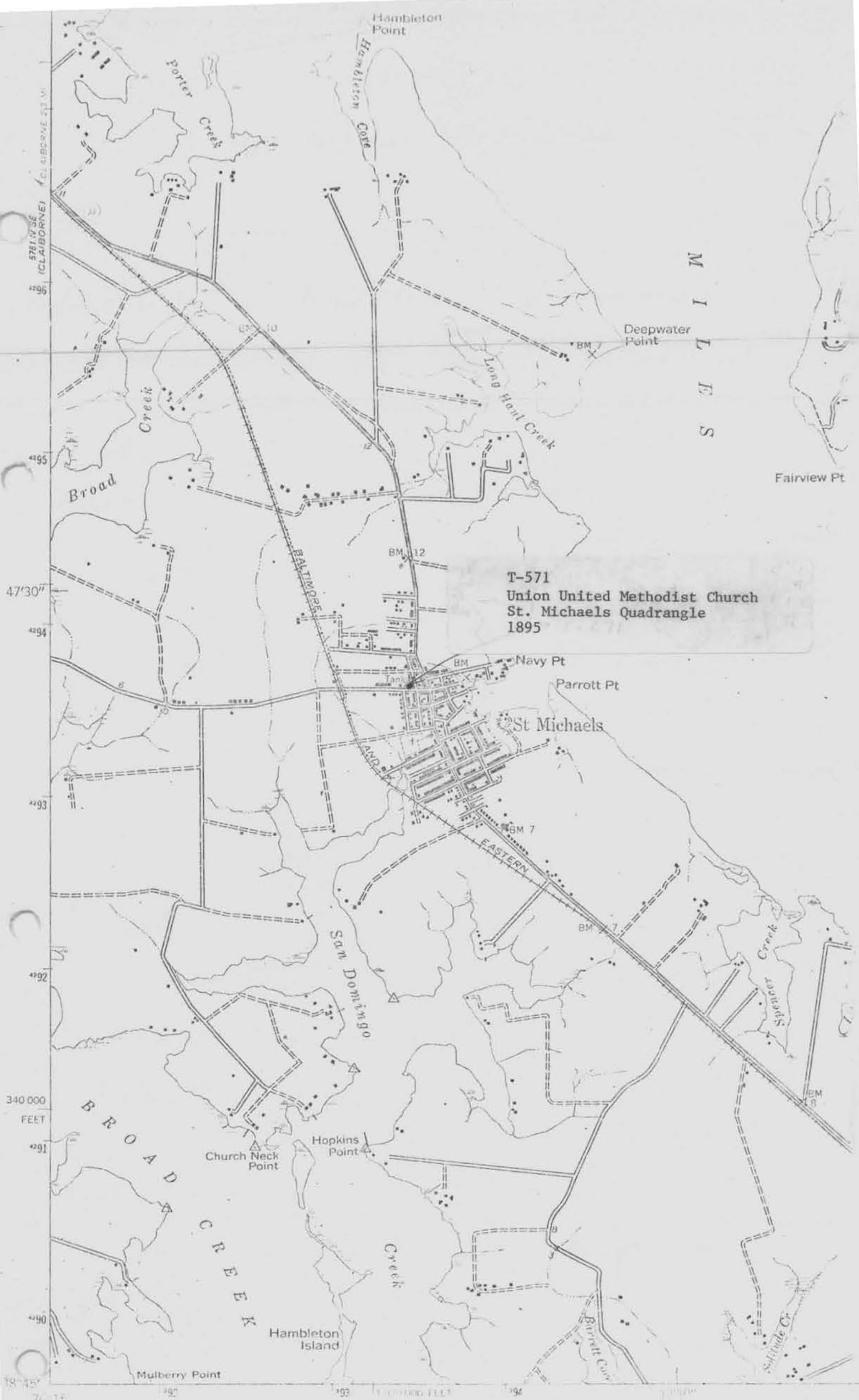
Year: 1695 Vol: C#3 Page: 213

From: Land Office Price:

To: Edward Ellett (Elliott)

but

Notes: The patent is not difficult to read, when plotted it cannot be fitted to any of the physical features on the map of the area, particularly when adjacent tracts referred-to in the patent are considered. These adjacent tracts, especially Beach and Stopper can be definitely located. I have seen a reference (which I cannot find) which states that Elliott had a resurvey made which combined all of his land, and which may be included under "Chance". I will follow this up but do not think further time is justified, particularly when it would appear the building was erected in the 1890s!



T-571
 Union United Methodist Church
 St. Michaels Quadrangle
 1895

M I L E S



UNION METHODIST CHURCH T-571
St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland
Interior
8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer
NEG/MD. Historical Trust



UNION METHODIST CHURCH

T-571

St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland

Southeast Elevation

8/85, Paul Touart, Photographer

NEG/MD. Historical Trust