

WI-140

1923

Friendship Methodist Church

Allen vicinity

Public worship

The Friendship Methodist Church prominently stands in the center of a historic black community identified on area maps as the "Ferry Road Settlement." Built in 1923, the imposing frame building was built on an ambitious scale with a cruciform or cross-shaped plan and a two-story entrance tower. Dominating two of the four elevations are tripartite Palladian style windows. The sash feature colored glass panes fitted around the perimeter of an opaque and dimpled center glass panel. Distinguishing the center sash is a round headed arch top window. The upper gable on three elevations has a diamond-shaped window also featuring colored glass perimeter panes. The asymmetrical design of Friendship Church is not uncommon for rarely sited black churches, but very few were designed with a cruciform plan.

This congregation traces its organization back to 1864 with the aid of community leaders Samuel Solomon, Jacob Cottman, and Aaron Gale. The construction of the first church followed shortly thereafter and its location is documented by the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, which indicates the site of a "Col'd Ch" on the road between "Upper Trappe" (now the village of Allen) and the Upper Ferry crossing of the Wicomico River. Stretched along the road in the immediate vicinity of the church were slightly more than a dozen dwellings.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Friendship Methodist Episcopal Church

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-140

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s):     Architecture  
  Religion
  
2. Geographic Orientation:       Eastern Shore
  
3. Chronological/Development Period(s):   Industrial-Urban Dominance  
  1870-1930
  
4. Resource Type(s):             Church  
  Church hall  
  Cemetery

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-140

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Friendship Methodist Episocopal Church

and/or common Friendship United Methodist Church

## 2. Location

street & number Upper Ferry Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Allen  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 Friendship United Methodist Church

street & number Upper Ferry Road telephone no.:

city, town Allen state and zip code MD 21810

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

Friendship Methodist Episcopal Church, currently known as Friendship Methodist Church, is located on the east side of Upper Ferry Road northeast of the village of Allen in a community identified as the Ferry Road Settlement in Wicomico County, Maryland. The cruciform shaped frame church faces southwest with the principal gable roof oriented on an northeast/southwest axis. Subordinate roofs of the cross wings are oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Built in 1923, the cruciform-shaped building is supported on a rusticated concrete block foundation, and the exterior is sheathed with aluminum siding. The steeply pitched gable roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. Rising in the southwest corner of the cruciform plan is a two-story entrance tower.

The southwest (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with the two-story entrance tower juxtaposed against a gable end of the church. The double door entrance is filled with replacement doors, but the pointed arch transom retains colored glass perimeter panes that surround a pebbled glass triangular center pane. The second floor of the tower is pierced by a double-hung sash window, and the sash features colored glass perimeter panes as well. Capping the tower is a low pyramidal roof. The gable end of the church is defined by a tripartite Palladian window with an arched center sash flanked by rectangular double-hung sash windows. Each sash is distinguished by colored glass perimeter panes. Fixed in the upper gable is diamond-shaped window with the colored glass panes set in the perimeter of the window. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave, and the soffits are open. The undecorated ends of the rafter feet are exposed. A later shed addition has been attached to the northwest corner of the cruciform plan.

The southeast side of the cruciform plan is defined by a Palladian style tripartite window featuring an arched center window. Colored glass panes distinguish the perimeter of each window sash. Fixed in the upper gable is a diamond shaped window of colored glass panes.

The northeast (rear) wall is the least elaborate of the four elevations with a pair of rectangular windows lighting the sanctuary. Colored glass panes are fitted around the perimeter of each sash. Attached to the southeast corner of the cruciform plan is another shed roofed addition that dates from the mid twentieth century.

Extending from the northwest side of the main block is the fourth arm of the cruciform plan. A series of four adjoining colored glass windows are joined by a diamond window in the upper gable. Piercing each side of the north wing is a single colored glass window. A single flue, concrete block flue rises against the east wall of this wing.

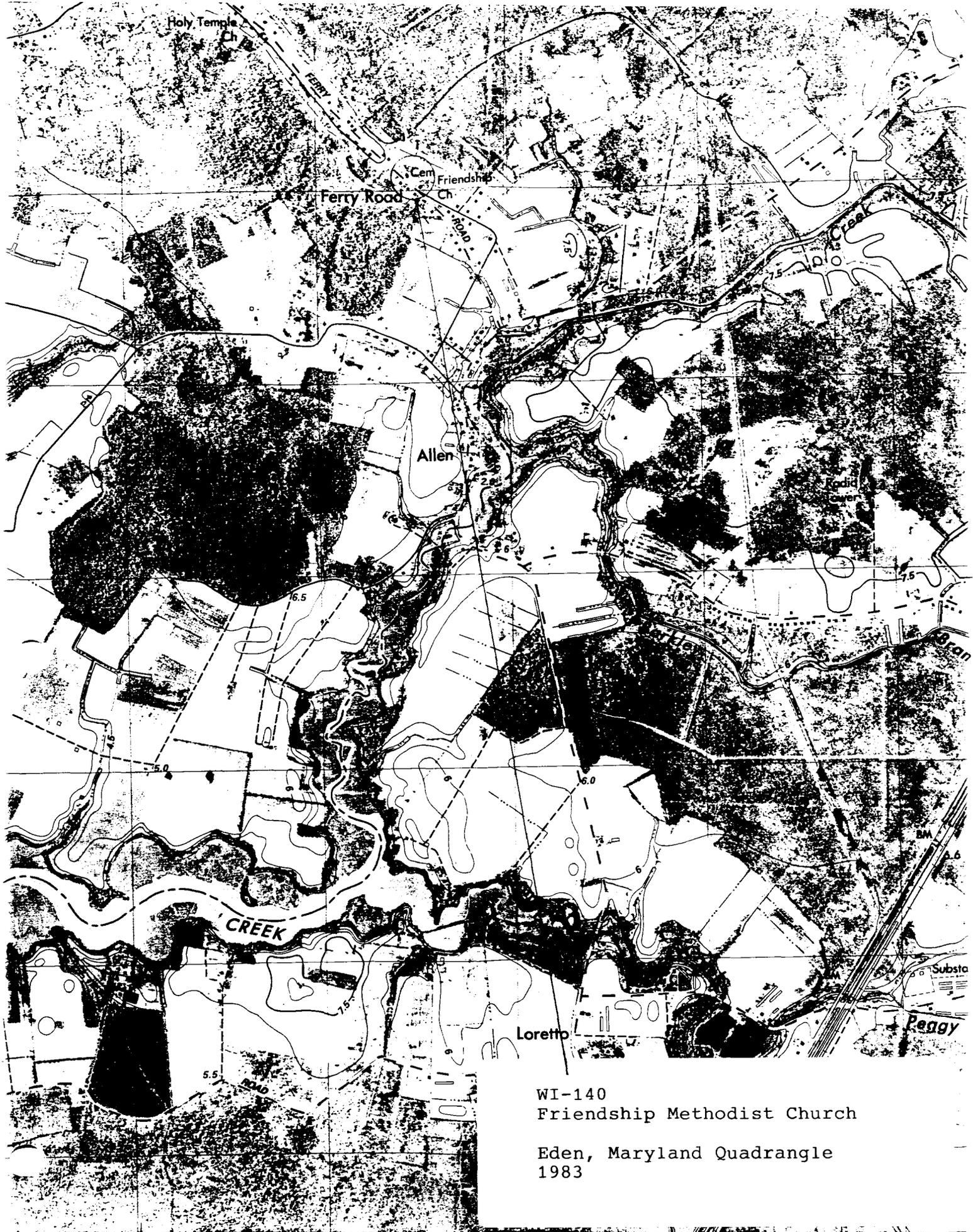
The interior was not seen. On the northwest side of the church is a nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery.

Standing on the west side of Upper Ferry Road is a single-story, ell-shaped frame structure that is used as the church hall. Supported on a low brick foundation, the exterior is covered with asbestos shingles, and the steeply pitched roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles.









WI-140  
 Friendship Methodist Church  
 Eden, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1983

42'30"

'39

(PRINCESS ANNE)  
 5860 II NW

PRINCESS ANNE 6-4-11  
 PROCOMOXE CITY 2-1-11

40'

'42

SCALE 1:24 000

METERS

WI-140

Wicomico - 140  
Friendship ME Church  
Upper Ferry Rd.  
Fruitland, MD 21826

1882, 1928

Access:Public

The present Fruitland ME Church stands 20' from the east side of Upper Ferry Rd. in a black area west of Fruitland called Allen. It faces west and was built in 1928. It was built on the site of an older black chapel that dated from 1882. Blacks in this area were engaged for some years in the packing industry. With the decline of that industry many blacks moved or took jobs in Salisbury. The cemetery is located on the west side of the property.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Friendship ME Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Upper Ferry Road (RT 304)

CITY, TOWN Fruitland VICINITY OF Allen CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT First

STATE Maryland COUNTY Wicomico

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Trustees, Friendship ME Church  
C/O Rev. William T. Wallace, Sr. Telephone #: 742-9042

STREET & NUMBER Anderson St.

CITY, TOWN Fruitland VICINITY OF STATE, zip code MD, 21826

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Wicomico County Courthouse Liber #: FMS 1  
Folio #: 177

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Salisbury STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE N/A

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

WI-140

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<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 <u>1928</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The present Friendship ME Church stands 20' from the east side of Upper Ferry Road in a black area west of Fruitland called Allen. It 80' across the front and 60' in depth. It rests on a concrete block foundation. It was built in 1928 on the site of the old chapel. I have included photographs.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

WI-140

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 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 checked="" 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 1882-1928

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The present Friendship ME Church was built in 1928. It was built on the site of an older black chapel that stood on this site in 1882. The church is located in Allen a black community on the westside of Fruitland. Blacks in this area usually engaged in the local packing industry . When that industry declined most of the blacks in this area found jobs in Salisbury.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

WI-140

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Commission on Afro-American  
History & Culture

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

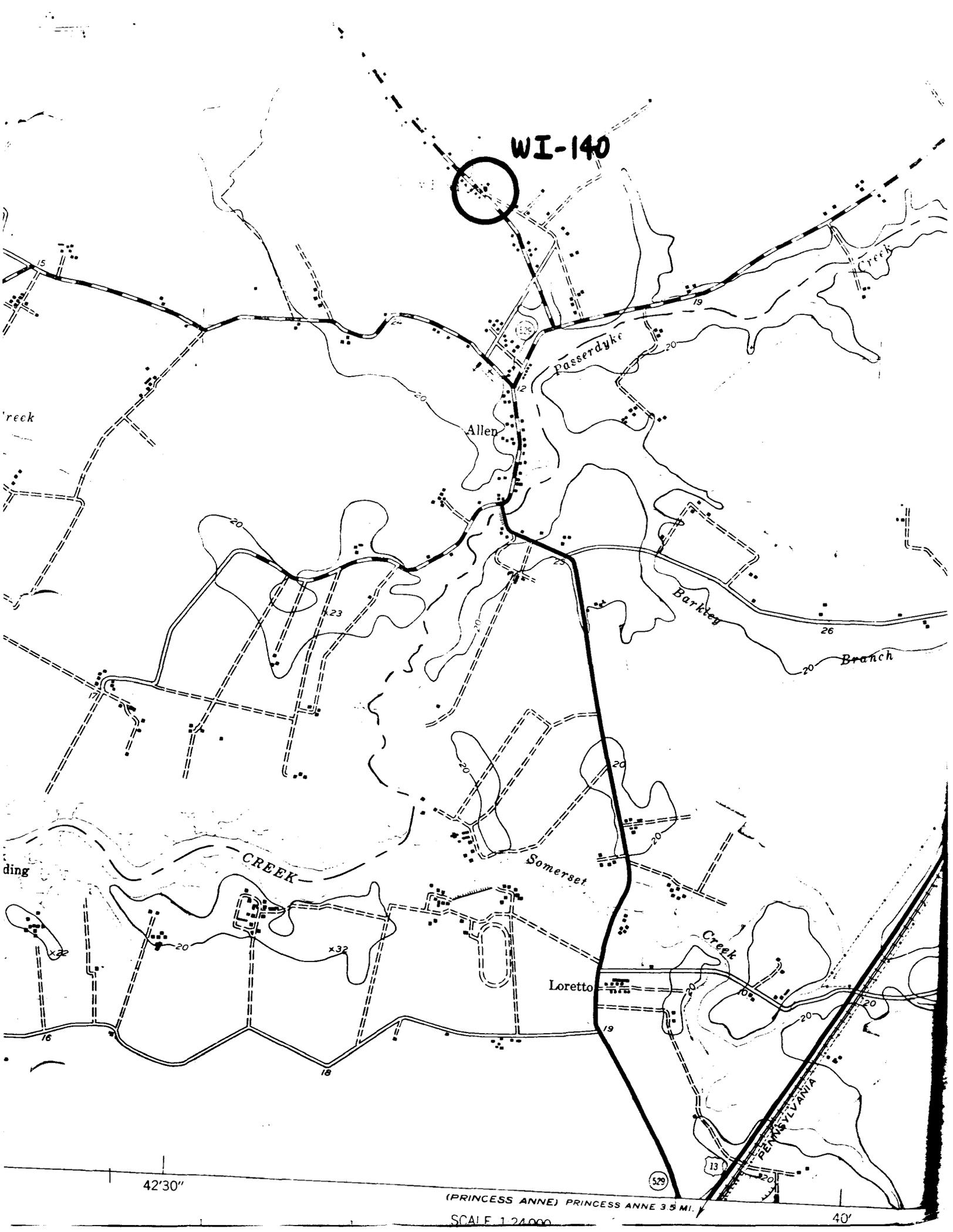
Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

WI-140



42'30"

(PRINCESS ANNE) PRINCESS ANNE 3.5 MI.

SCALE 1:24,000

40'



WI-140

Friendship M. E. Church

Friendland Ceramics Co.

Michael Høstford 2181



WI-140

Friendship with ...

Friendship ...

Michael Hosford 2/81