

WI-284  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
Nanticoke  
Public worship

1924

Secluded on a quiet side street and shaded by mature hardwoods, the Asbury United Methodist Church is a prominent architectural and historical landmark in the African-American district of the village of Nanticoke. The impressive single-story tee-shaped frame church is supported by a raised concrete block foundation that gives the tall, gable-roofed structure added presence. Fixed in the southeast corner of the concrete block foundation is a polished granite datestone that documents the year of construction in 1924 and the pastor at the time, Reverend C. B. Miles. The Methodist Episcopal congregation financed a sizable tee-shaped frame church with a pair of corner entrance towers filling the inside corners of the tee. The gable front wall of the church are distinguished by a generous number of colored glass windows. The center windows are topped by a round arched window of colored glass as well.

The Asbury church is a prominent fixture in this largely black district of the village of Nanticoke, which developed primarily between 1880 and 1920, the years of the most significant oyster harvests on Tangier South and Chesapeake Bay tributaries.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Asbury United Methodist Church

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-284

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

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-284

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common Asbury United Methodist Church

## 2. Location

street & number SW corner of Hickman Lane and Nutter Road  not for publication

city, town Nanticoke  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 Asbury United Methodist Church

street & number c/o Reverend Anna McIntosh telephone no.:

city, town Nanticoke state and zip code MD 21840

## 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

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WI-284

<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.

The Asbury United Methodist Church is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Hickman Lane and Nutter Road in the community of Nanticoke, Wicomico County, Maryland. The large single-story frame church faces east with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1924, the large tee-shaped main block is supported on a raised rusticated concrete block foundation, and the exterior is sheathed with a layer of asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a single story, hip roofed section.

The east (main) facade is dominated by the large gable-front elevation of the gable-front facade, which is flanked by two-story entrance towers that fill the inside corners. The rusticated concrete block foundation has reddish pink mortar, and a polished granite datestone is fixed in the southeast corner. The stone is inscribed "Asbury M. E. Church, Erected 1924, Rev. C. B. Miles, Pastor." Piercing the gable front wall is a series of colored glass windows. The center window is executed in a tripartite composition with a round arch colored glass panel above. Single width window openings with segmental arched are located to each side. Fixed in the upper gable is a round arched louvered vent. The edge of the roof is finished with an extended eave, exposed rafter ends and simple brackets the mark the bottom corners of the roof. Located on the south and north side of the tee are two-story towers with double door entrances topped by round arched colored glass transoms. The second floor of each tower is defined by round arched windows with clear glass panes. The top of the southeast tower is finished with low, square-topped, corner finials and a sloping gable parapet between.

The north side is a gabled elevation with a center round arched colored glass window flanked by single-pane sash of colored glass. Rectangular three-pane windows pierce the foundation wall. The gable end is finished with an extended eave and open soffits. Marking the upper wall surfaces is a round arched louvered vent. The south gable end is finished in a similar fashion.

The west (rear) wall of the main block is largely covered by a single-story hip roofed section that was built at the same time as the tee-shaped main block. The west side of this section is defined by a series of small paired or single colored glass windows. A single-flue brick chimney rises through the roof.

The interior was not seen.

# 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 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 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**                      1924                      **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.

Secluded on a quiet side street and shaded by mature hardwoods, the Asbury United Methodist Church is a prominent architectural and historical landmark in the African-American district of the village of Nanticoke. The impressive single-story tee-shaped frame church is supported by a raised concrete block foundation that gives the tall, gable-roofed structure added presence. Fixed in the southeast corner of the concrete block foundation is a polished granite datestone that documents the year of construction in 1924 and the pastor at the time, Reverend C. B. Miles. The Methodist Episcopal congregation financed a sizable tee-shaped frame church with a pair of corner entrance towers filling the inside corners of the tee. The gable front wall of the church are distinguished by a generous number of colored glass windows. The center windows are topped by a round arched window of colored glass as well.

The Asbury church is a prominent fixture in this largely black district of the village of Nanticoke, which developed primarily between 1880 and 1920, the years of the most significant oyster harvests on Tangier South and Chesapeake Bay tributaries.

The church qualifies for listing in *Category B*.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-284

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A            
 Zone Easting Northing

B            
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	7/16/96
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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.

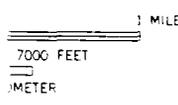
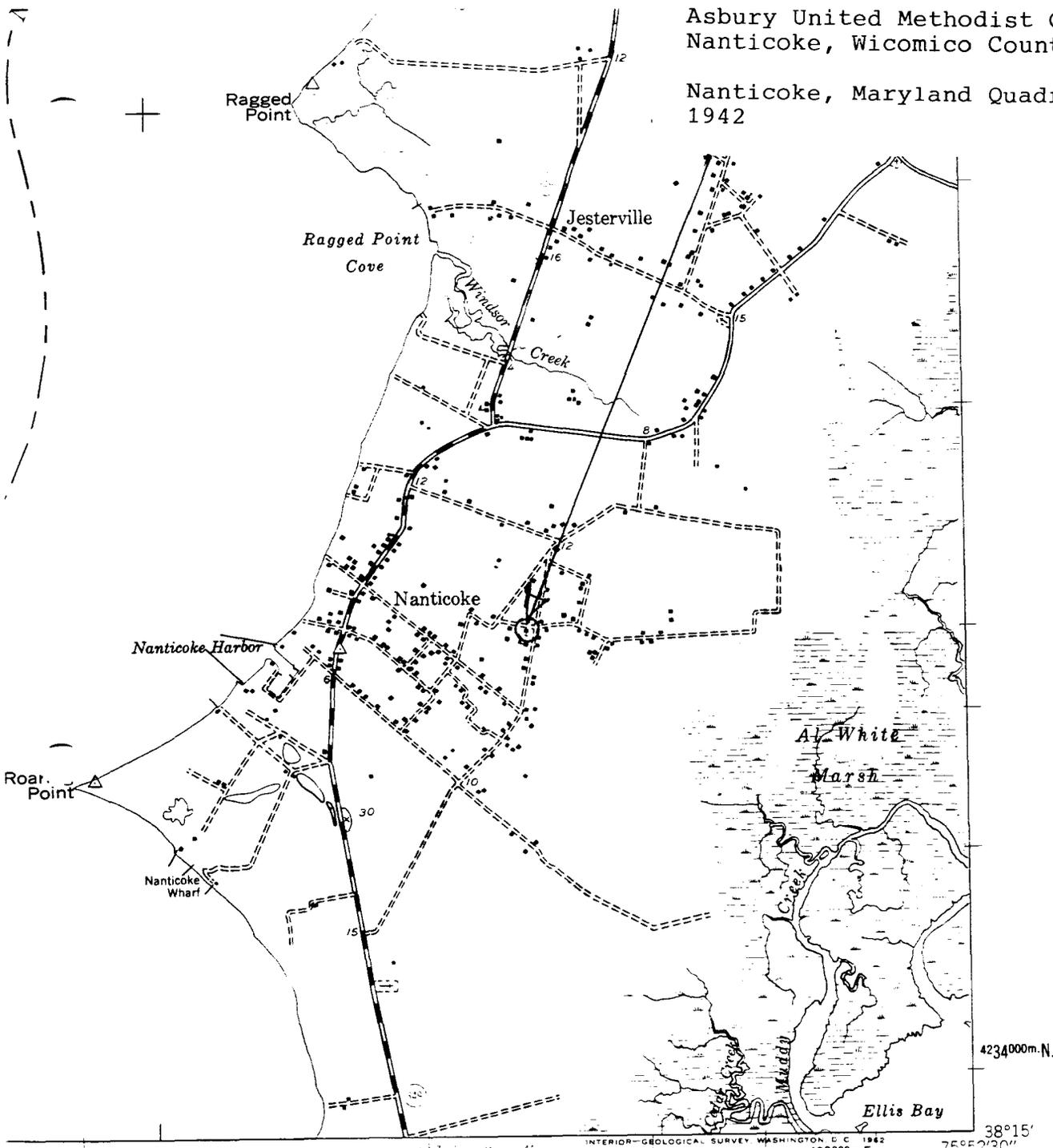
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
 Shaw House  
 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
 DHCP/DHCD  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
 614-7600

WI-284  
 Asbury United Methodist Church  
 Nanticoke, Wicomico County, Maryland

Nanticoke, Maryland Quadrangle  
 1942



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
 Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
 State Route



NANTICOKE, MD.  
 SW/4 NANTICOKE 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3815-W7552.5/7.5

1942

QUEST







WI-204

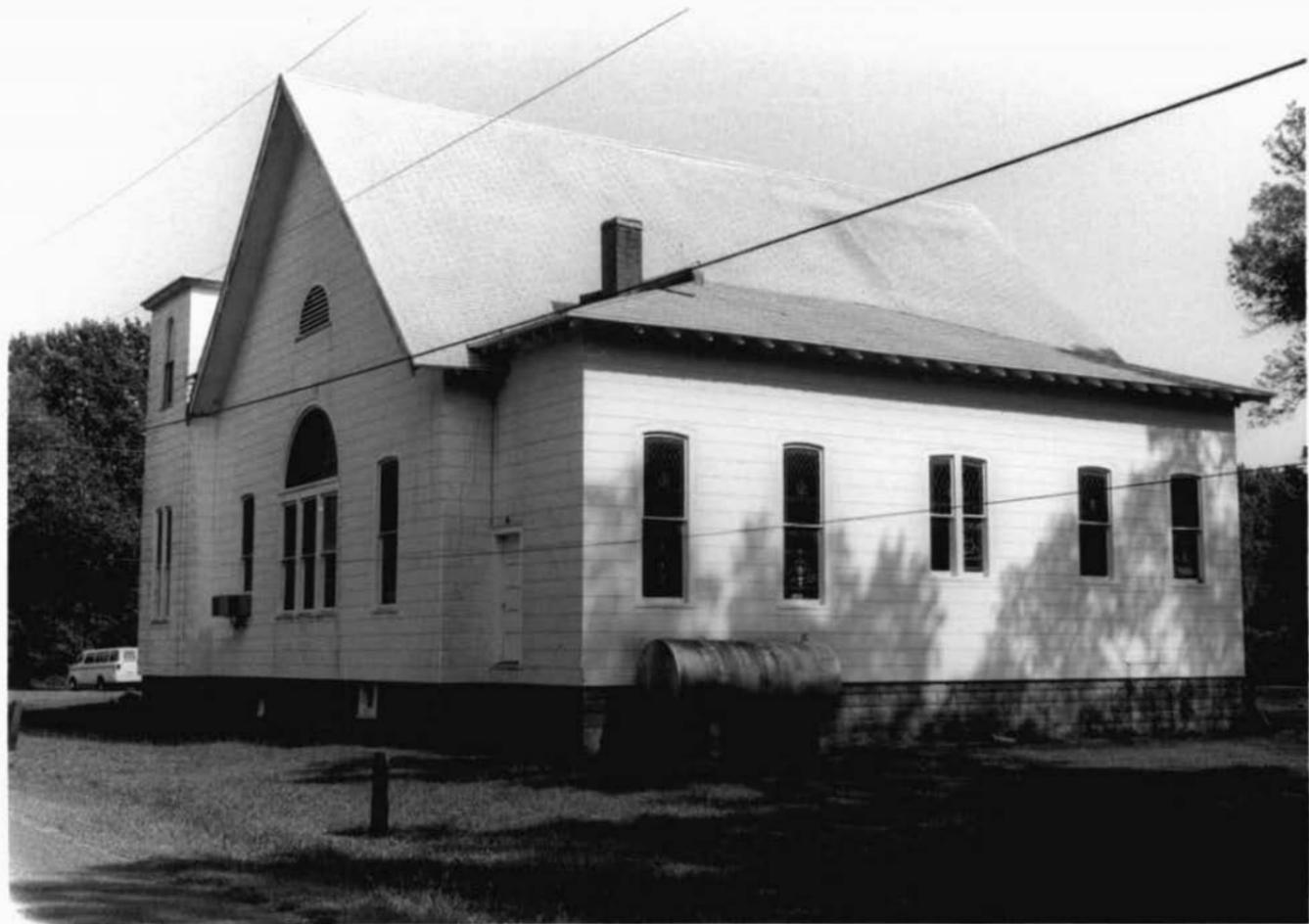
As soon as the new measure - (CARE -

MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS, COMMUNITY -

SOUTH WEST - (CARE -

1/96, Panel Toward, progress -

Historical Trust



WI-284

Asbury United Methodist Church

NANTUCKET, NICKERBOUR C., ILL.

NORMAN - ELEGANT

196, Paul Toussaint, President

NEG. / 196-198-30000-1000