

HO-240

## McKendree Methodist Church (Sharon Mission Baptist Church)

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

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***Last Updated: 05-03-2004***

HO-240

McKendree Methodist Church  
West Friendship  
Private

1886

The McKendree Methodist Church, which now houses the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church, faces west on the southeast corner of McKendree Road and Route 144. It is an eight bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) Gothic, frame (covered with aluminum siding) church, resting on a granite block foundation, with one bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, intersecting gable roof (running east-west) frame (covered with aluminum siding) east and west transepts and a one bay wide, one bay deep, tall, square, gable roofed (running east-west) entrance-bell tower, placed one bay north of the west transept.

The building features three large, tripartite, gothic arched, double-hung, stained glass windows, holding seven-over-nine lights, similar to other windows featured on the east and west walls of the main building block. Three nine light, diamond shaped windows fill in the large gothic arch above the three windows, all of which is encased in a gothic arched archvolt, underlined by a projecting sill. These windows appear on the north and south walls of the main building block and on the west wall of the west transept. Above these windows are found triangular, seven light, stained glass windows. A one bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with aluminum siding) apse, resting on a granite block foundation, is centered on the east wall of the east transept. It holds a beautiful central, triangular, seven light, stained glass window, similar to the others. A four bay wide, two bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) white brick (laid in running bond) Sunday School addition, resting on a cinder block, full foundation (faced with brick), extends east from the north side of the churches' east wall. The main building block holds three consecutive interior, tripartite doors which divide the nave from another Sunday School area. They are surmounted by five light, segmental arched transoms.

Eight wide granite steps, flanked by an iron railing, lead to the double, rectangular entrance door, surmounted by a seven light, gothic arched, stained glass transom, centered into the north wall of the entrance-bell tower. A seven-over-nine light, gothic arched window is centered into its west wall. Circular windows appear on its upper south, west, north and east walls.

The interior features three gothic arched, open bible and cross paneled doors, encased within fluted, wooden, gothic arched, archvolts. Similarly designed window frames are found throughout the interior of the church and entrance vestibule, as well as wide, random width floors and beaded, three foot high, wainscotting, which runs around the interior perimeter of the nave, its apse, the Sunday School area, and the entrance-bell tower.

Built on land deeded to McKendree by Seth Warfield, it now houses the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church.



# 7 DESCRIPTION

HO-240

District 3

Sykesville Quad

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

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

The McKendree Methodist Church, which now houses the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church, faces west on the southeast corner of McKendree Road and Route 144. It is an eight bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) Gothic, frame (covered with aluminum siding) Church, resting on a granite block foundation, with one bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, intersecting gable roof (running east-west) frame (covered with aluminum siding) east and west transepts and a one bay wide, one bay deep, tall, square, gable roofed (running east-west) entrance-bell tower, placed one bay north of the west transept.

A square, brick chimney, terminated with corbeled brick is placed on the north side of a one bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame apse, resting on a granite block foundation, which is placed in the center of the east wall of the east transept. Another tall, square brick chimney is placed on the east side of a large, tripartite window, on the main building block's north wall.

The building features three of these large, tripartite, gothic arched, stained glass windows, holding seven-over-nine lights, similar to other windows featured on the east and west walls of the main building block. Three, nine light, diamond shaped windows fill in the large gothic arch above the three windows, all of which are encased in a gothic arched archvolt, underlined by a projecting sill. These windows appear on the north and south walls of the main building block and on the west wall of the west transept. Above these windows are found triangular, seven light, stained glass windows. Both the east walls of the east transept and its apse hold similar windows. A four bay wide, two bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running east-west) white brick (laid in running bond) Sunday School addition, resting on a full cinder block foundation (faced with brick) extends east from the north side of the church's east wall. It holds a first floor, rectangular entrance in the west bay of its south wall, approached by five brick steps, flanked by an iron railing. An additional rectangular, foundation entrance is placed in the east bay of this same wall. Four one light foundation windows rest beneath four one-over-one light, rectangular windows on its north wall. Its east wall holds two similar foundation and first floor windows.

### THE ENTRANCE BELL TOWER

Eight wide granite steps, flanked by an iron railing lead to the double rectangular, entrance door, surmounted by a seven light, gothic arched, stained glass transom, centered into the north wall of the entrance bell-tower. It features a copper door knob. A seven-over-nine light, gothic arched window is centered into its west wall. A circular window rests in its south wall. Two gothic arched, open bible and cross paneled, interior

entrance doors, encased within fluted, wooden, gothic arched archevolts, are placed in its east wall. That on the north side leads to a Sunday School room. That on the south side leads into the main church. These interior doors feature white China door knobs and both of these doors are identical, matching a door, located on the east wall. The interior of the entrance vestibule features three feet high, beaded wainscotting and wide, fluted chairrail. This same wainscotting is found running around the perimeter of the main church-nave area, the apse and the Sunday School area. A finely wrought copper door knob for the outside door is another interesting feature. Extremely fine woodwork is exemplified in the fluted, gothic arched, window frames and deep wooden sills, and the fluted, gothic arched archevolt, in which the main entrance door is encased.

#### THE MAIN CHURCH

On entering the church, the transepts are seen to actually compose the main body or nave of the church. Three aisles of pews are found facing east. The large, tripartite, stained glass west and south windows are particularly noteworthy and flood the nave area with color. A dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit, is featured on the south window, and the cross and crown, symbol of the Resurrected Christ, is featured on the west window.

The exterior, rectangular apse becomes a gothic arched, interior space for the pulpit area, with three handsome, carved bishop's chairs placed on its east wall, and a finely carved pulpit centered in front. A low alter rail borders the west side of this area.

The north wall of the main church holds three, large tripartite doors, separated and flanked by square posts, decorated with fluted pilasters, and surmounted by large five light, segmental arched transoms. These three tripartite entrance doors span the entire width of the church's main building, creating a Sunday School area on the north and a nave on the south. The transepts then become a part of the nave area, creating additional depth. This unique and creative arrangement is noteworthy for in the gothic tradition, the nave occupies the main building block.

The building is presently owned and occupied by the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church. It is in the finest condition, recently experiencing a fire, from which it has totally recovered.

**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 checked="" 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            circa 1886                            BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McKendree Methodist Church, now housing the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church, is significant both architecturally and historically to the West Friendship-Cooksville area of Howard County.

Architecturally, it is notable as an exceptionally fine example of the Gothic Revival Style, featuring an exterior cruciform plan with an innovative interior plan and exceptionally fine south and west, tripartite, stained glass windows. This granite block foundation is also notable, exemplifying the fine stone work found in Howard County.

Originally, the McKendree Methodist Church stood south of the present church, on the east side of McKendree Road, as designated on the Hopkin's Atlas of 1878. This Church burned and was rebuilt on the present site.

Historically, this building dates back to October 9, 1886 when Seth H. Warfield deeded 3.80 acres of the larger tract of land to the Trustees of the M.E. Church for The Patapsco Circuit and McKendree Appointment. The Trustees at the time were Caleb Sheets, E.E. Shipley, W.G. Musgrove, E.T. Frizzell, and L.M. Shipley. The deed contained the following stipulation: "In Trust, that said premises shall be used, kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of Divine Worship, for the use of the Ministry and membership of the M.E. Church in the U.S.A."

For many years McKendree was on the same circuit as St. James Methodist Church and the Lisbon Methodist Church. Since their church membership declined, pressure occurred to combine the congregations.

On June 3, 1956, McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church and the St. James Methodist Episcopal Church merged. This merger was noted in the deed to the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church as follows: "Whereas, the said Patapsco "Charge" or "Circuit" was recently rearranged by action of The Quarterly Conference with the consent of the District Superintendent together with the consent of the membership of the said McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church and The St. James Circuit M.E. Church and approved by the respective Trustees of said Churches, and, as part of the

said rearrangement as aforesaid, the two churches were merged effective as of June 3, 1956. . ."

At the time of this merger, Winfield Robb was president of the Trustees of the McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church. Other trustees were George W. Robb, Daisy McCracken, Herbert Musgrove, Sr., and Earl Horman. An interesting explanation of the procedure, which a congregation must undertake, in order to sell a church and its property, occurred in the deed to the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church as follows:

"property belonging to a charge may be mortgaged or sold and conveyed by the Board of Trustees, but only with the written consent of the district superintendent and the preacher in charge, and with the authorization of the Quarterly Conference by a majority of those present and voting at a meeting of the Quarterly Conference; providing that not less than ten days notice of such meeting and proposed action shall have been given from the pulpit of the charge. . ."

On October 16, 1956, the Trustees of McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church sold the property to the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church, whose trustees were Hormon Reed, Jessie Winkles, Stephen Lee and Louis Cook.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.80 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 15

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 290 Folio 293

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

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



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TITLE SEARCH

HO-240

McKENDREE M.E. CHURCH

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Acres</u>
16 Oct. '56	290	293	Trustees of McKendree Methodist Episcopal	3rd part Sharon Missionary Baptist Church	3.80 A.
				2nd part Trustees of the St. James Circuit M.E. Church	for \$6,000
9 Oct. 1886	LJW51	256	Seth H. Warfield	Trustees of M.E. Church for Patapsco Circuit & McKendree Appointment	3.8025 A. \$382.46

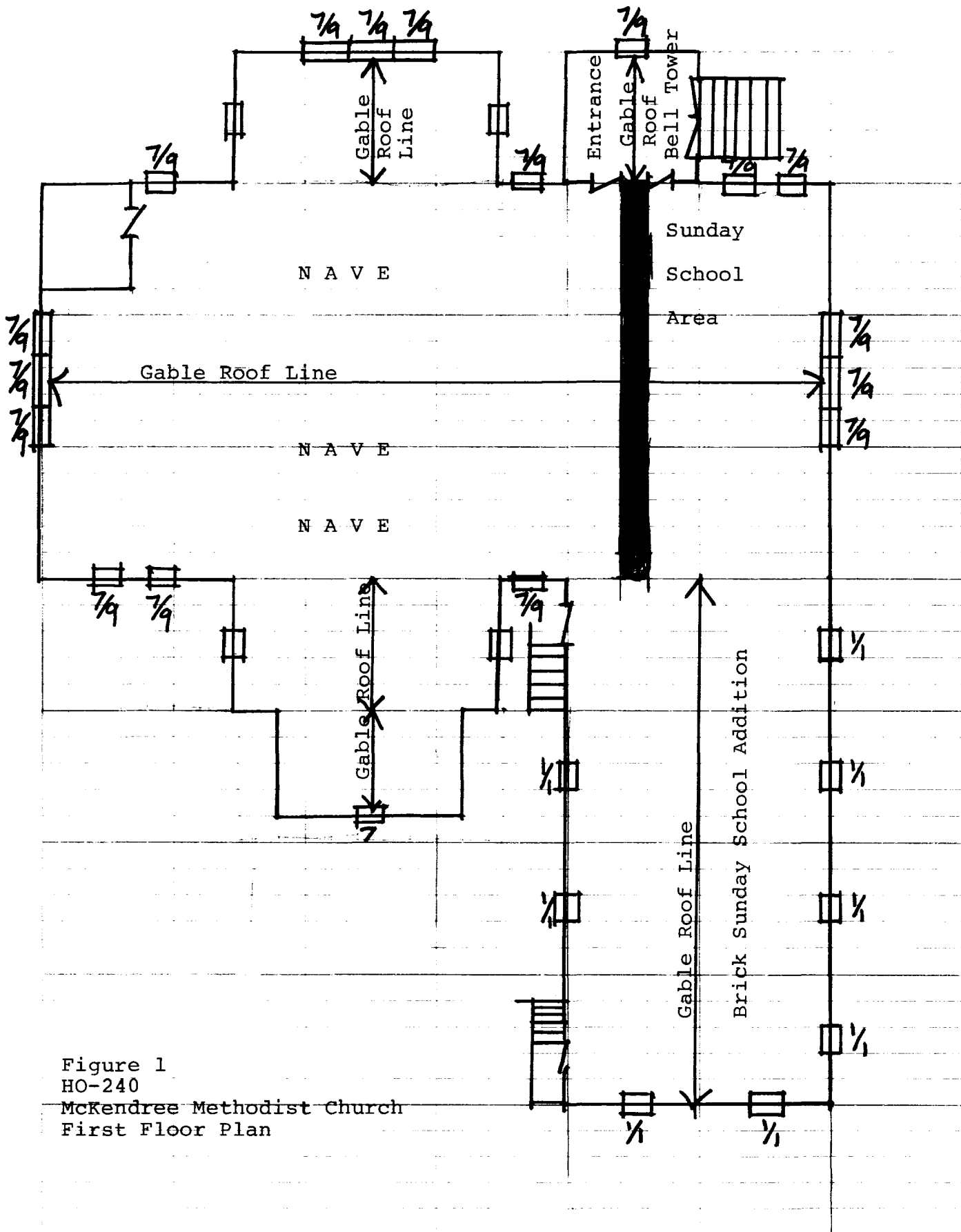
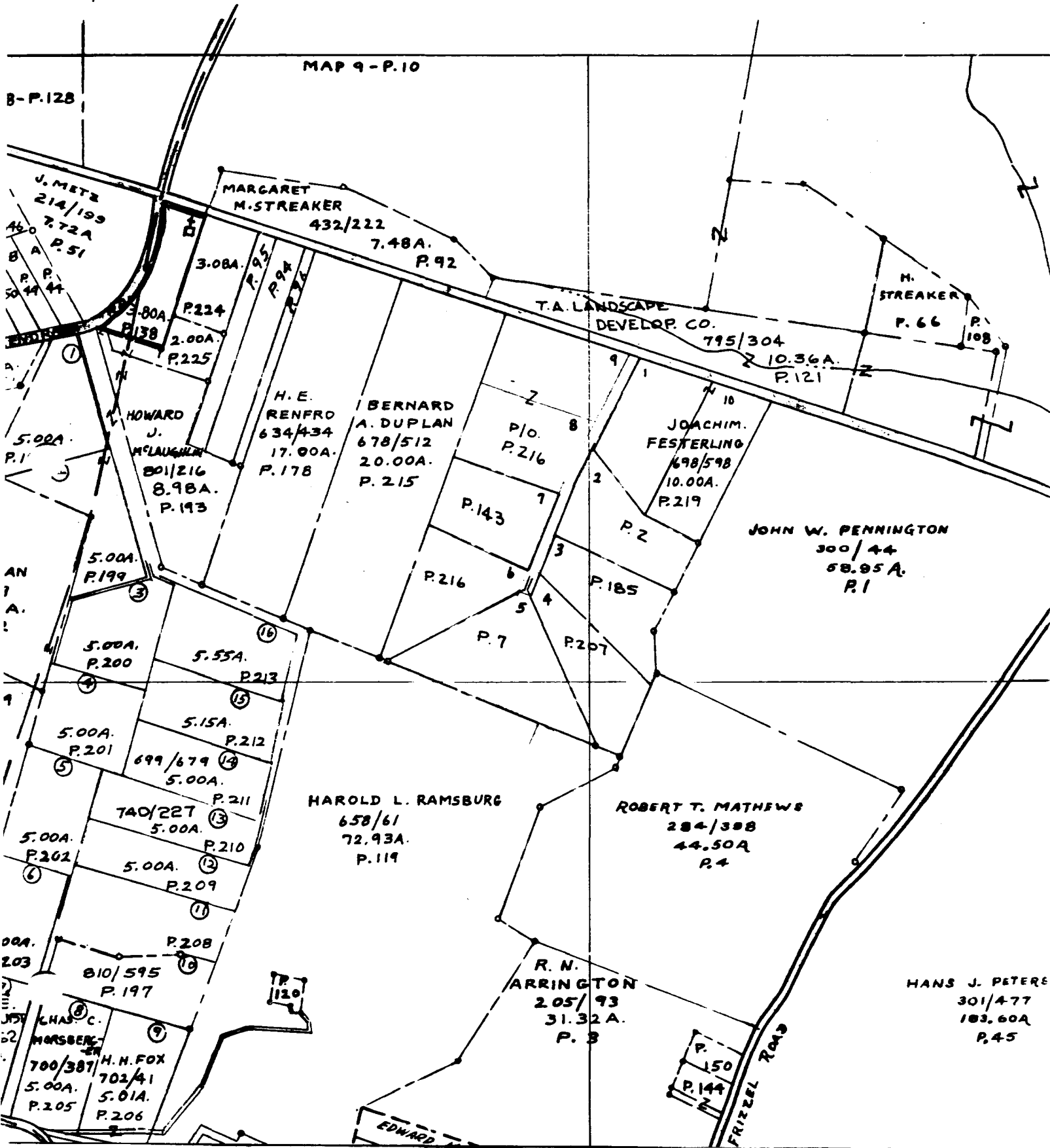
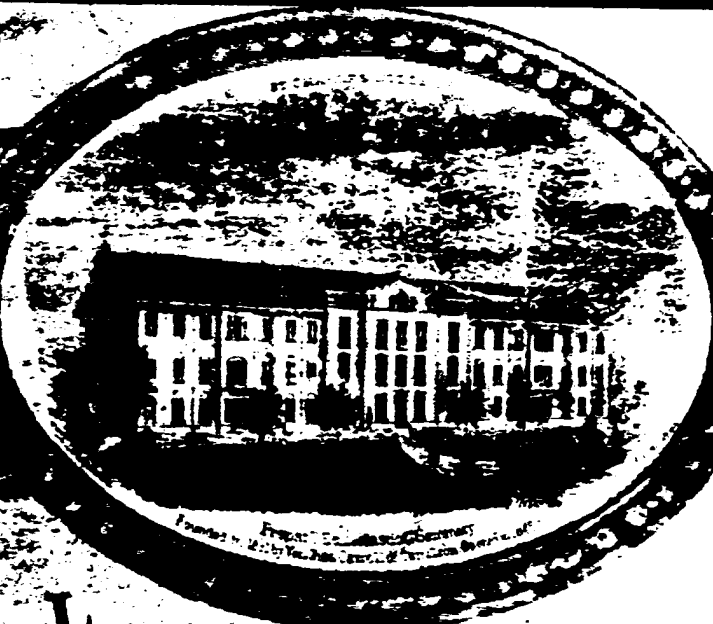


Figure 1  
 HO-240  
 McKendree Methodist Church  
 First Floor Plan

Attachment 1  
J-240  
McKendree Methodist Church  
Tax Map 15





Attachment 4  
 HO-240  
 The McKendree M.E. Church  
 Martennet Map of 1860

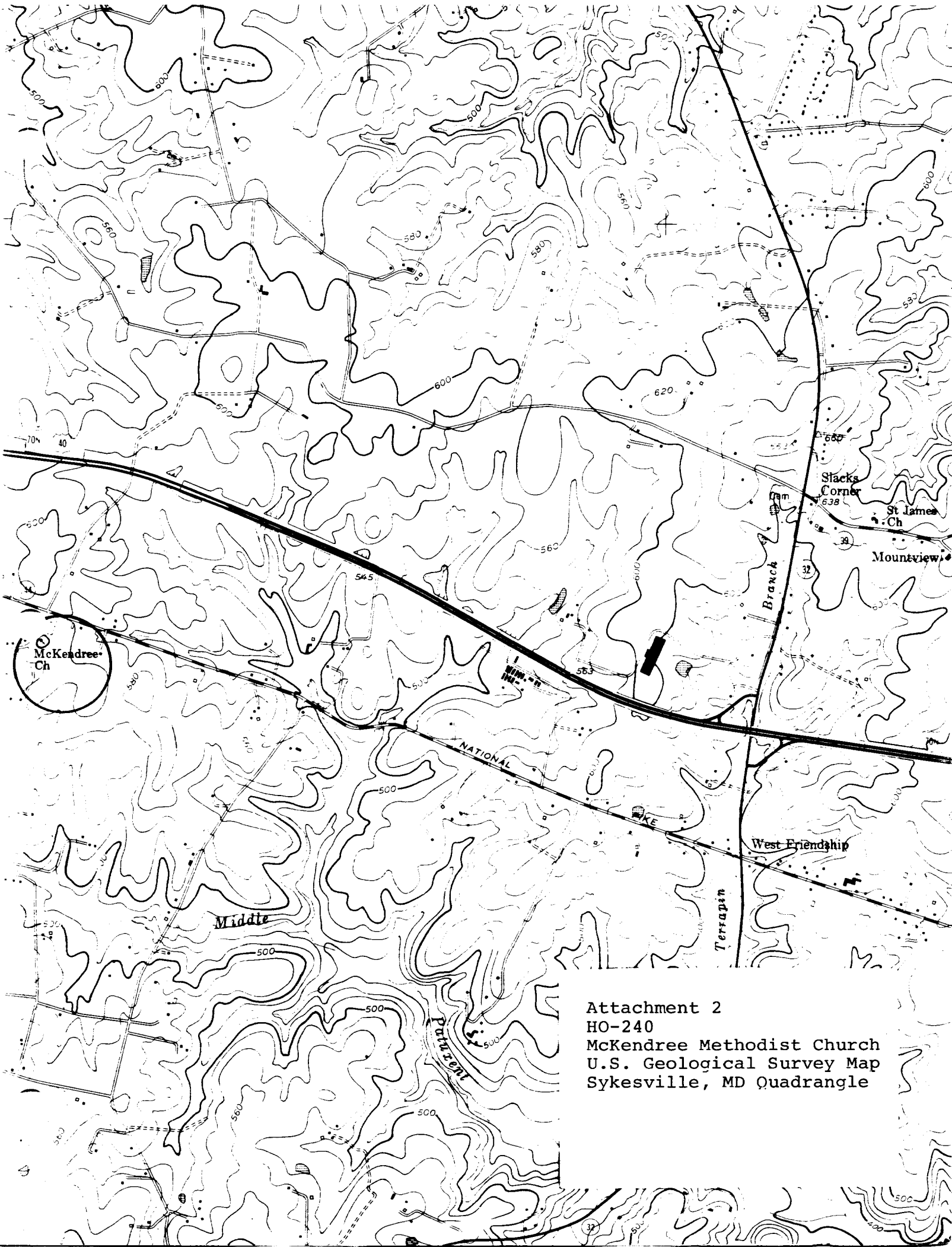
Waterville P.O.  
Station & P.O.  
L. Store  
ME. Ch. Jas. Steel

C O U N T Y



Attachment 3  
 HO-240  
 McKendree Methodist Church  
 Hopkin's Atlas of 1878

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1878 by E. M. Hopkins, in U.S.



Attachment 2  
HO-240  
McKendree Methodist Church  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Sykesville, MD Quadrangle

H0-240  
McKendree Church  
Cemetery

Jennifer K. Cosham  
April 16, 2004  
Digital color photo on file at MHT



HO-240  
McKendree Church  
Cemetery

Jennifer K. Cosham  
April 16, 2004  
Digital color photo on file at MHT







Name: HO-240  
McKendree Church  
Location: S. E. corner of McKendree Road and Route 144  
West Friendship, Maryland  
Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.  
Date of Photograph: March, 1980  
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust  
View: West  
Photographer looking: East  
Photograph number: 1 of 1