

Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory

ID: 136

Name: St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Alternate name:

Address: 19620 Blocktown, White Ground Rd.
AL

Town: Boys *Black area of Boys*

ADC Map Page 17 Grid 62

Type
 Religious
 Family
 Private
 Other

Association
 Free black
 Enslaved
 Ethnic
 Prehistoric

Setting Rural Urban Suburban Forested Other

Condition Excellent Good Fair Poor

Negative Impacts (vandalism, dumping, neglect, encroachment, etc) _____

Approximate no. of burials 130+ Date range of burials 1877-present

Description (markers, materials, arrangement, landscaping, fence, paths and roads, etc.)

*A lot of unmarked graves. 3 trees (2 are evergreen)
3 plots outlined with iron pipes. Only one has a marker.
No paths or roads. Well kept. Remnant of old wire in
back right corner*

Surveyor(s) Anne & Janet Survey date Dec 4, 2004
Photographer _____ Date _____ Photo no. _____

Current owner _____
Address/Phone No. _____

Historic Status Locational Atlas ID _____ National Register
 Master Plan ID _____ Other _____

UTM _____

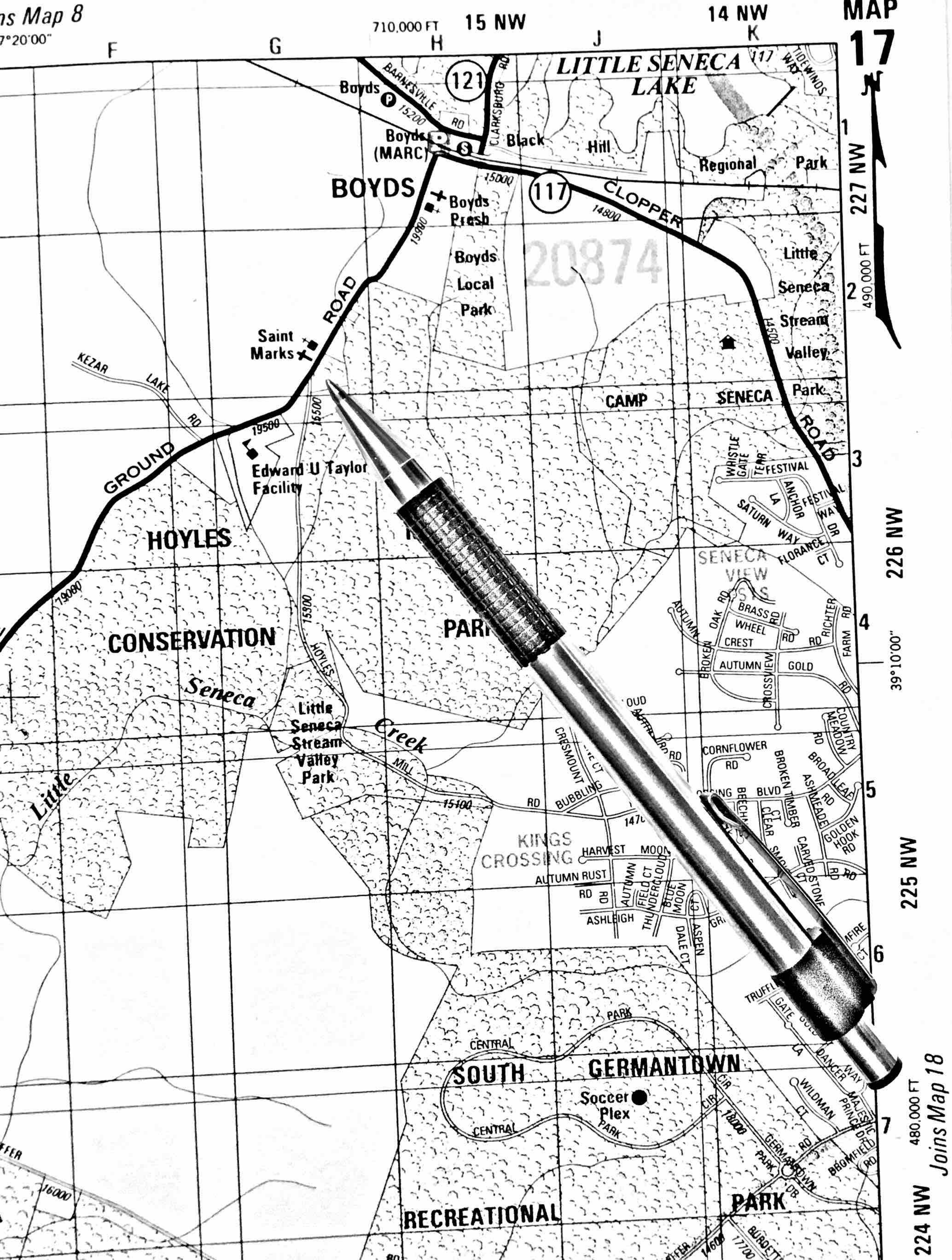
Additional sources of information:

136
ST. MARK'S UMC CEMETERY
19620 WHITE GROUND ROAD
BOYDS (BLACKTOWN)

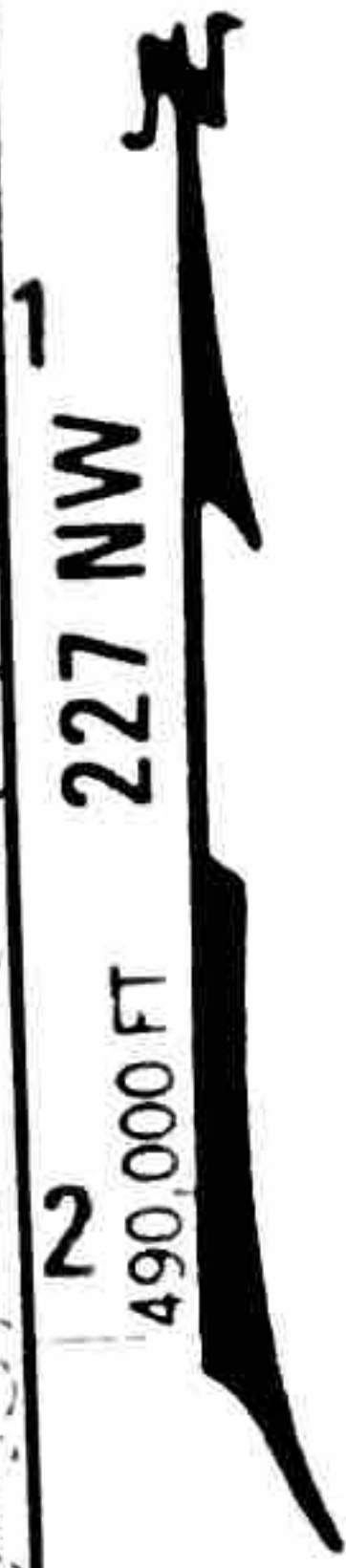
52
49
131

**MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CEMETERY AT BOYDS,
WHITE OAK CHAPEL**
Directions: Route 121 South, through Boyds, left on White Ground Road,
church and cemetery on right. [A.D.C. Map: Montgomery, page 12, grid
coordinates D-9.] Condition of cemetery: Well kept, original church blew
down in 1892. Active cemetery. Earliest known death: 1890. Most recent
death: Present. In 1936, Addison Duffin reported the church never kept
records. Date transcribed: 1982. Location of transcribed records:
Montgomery County Historical Society Library, 42 West Middle Lane,
Rockville, Maryland 20850. Comments: Over 57 marked graves, African-
American congregation, 1st building stood about 20 feet back of present
one.

136
ST. MARY'S LIME CEMETERY
19620 WHITE GROUND ROAD
BOYDS (BLACETOWN)



MAP 17



227 NW

226 NW

39°10'00"

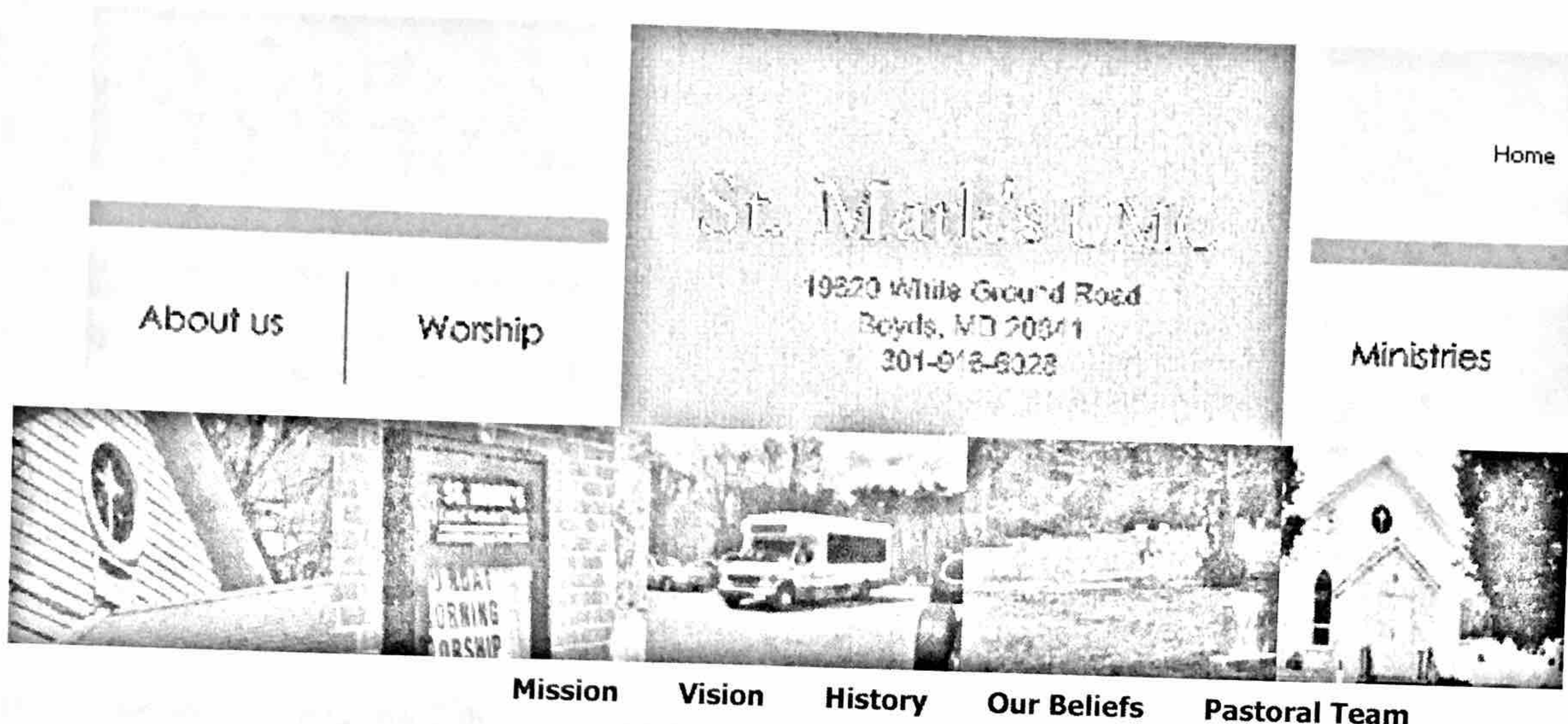
225 NW

224 NW

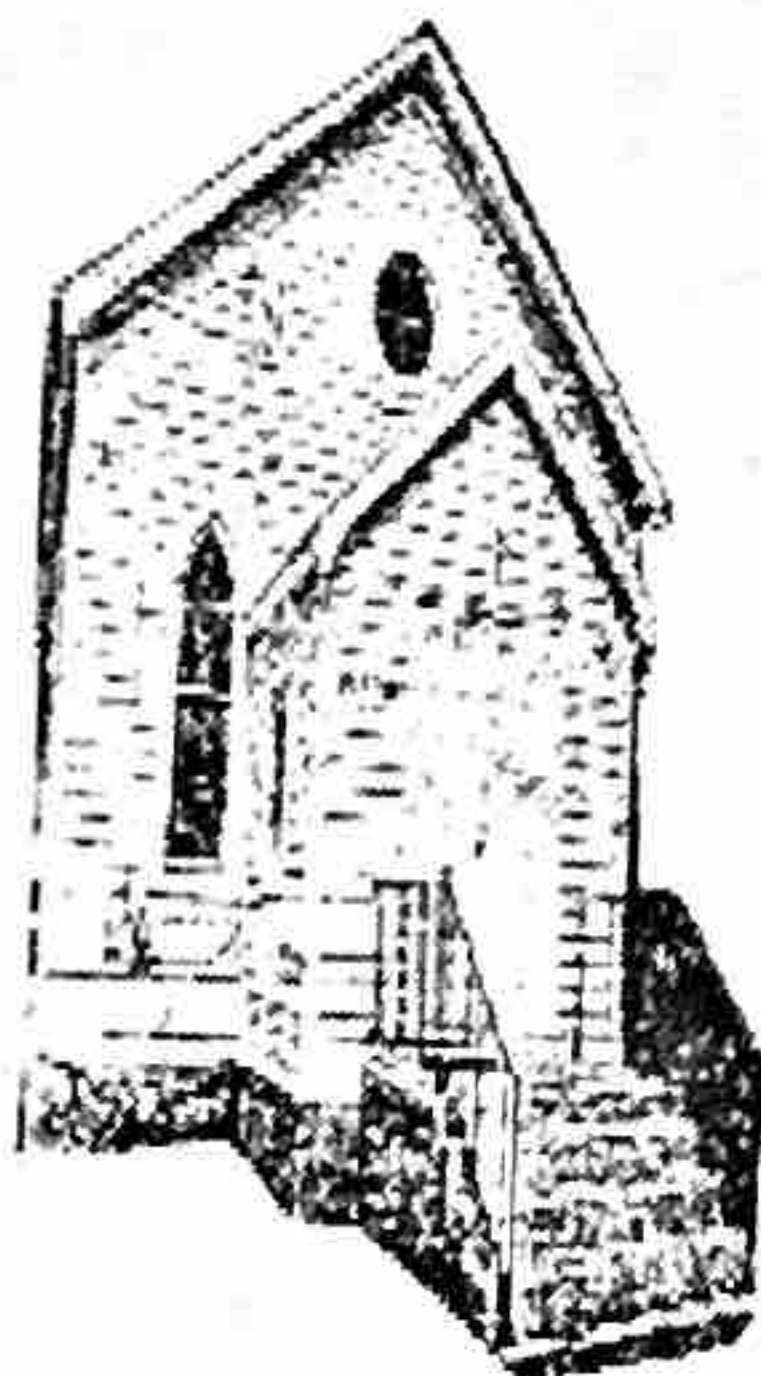
480,000 FT

Joins Map 18

136
 ST. MARKS LMC CEMETERY
 19620 WHITE GROUND ROAD
 BOYDS (BLOCTOWN)



History



destroyed in 1892.

During the late 1700s, wealthy planters migrated north to Boyd from the tidewater area bringing with them families, tenant farmers servants and slaves. When the slaves were freed (1864), they were allowed to build log cabins and live on the edges of the property they were able to purchase land. Thus, the beginning of the St. Mark's Community of Faith. Descendants of these families still live in the area and are active members of this church.

The original church, White Oak Chapel (1878), was one room, used as a school and chapel. Rev. W. Ryder served this "Pleasant View Rocky Hill Circuit" (1886-1889) including Francis Asbury in Germantown, John Wesley in Clarksburg, Montgomery Chapel in Hyattstown and White Oak Chapel in Boyd's. White Oak Chapel

In July of 1892, one acre of land was purchased from John and Dorothy DeLauder for the erection of a church. Rev. Benjamin Myers and the trustees solicited funds from members and residents and others. Rev. T. D. Richards, the first pastor of Boyd's Presbyterian Church, and his family were very generous. Also, James A. Boyd donated three-fourth acre of land. St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on September 24, 1893.

In 1895, Boyd's Negro School was built, and students moved from the church. In 1899, under the pastorate of Rev. Daniel Wheeler, a parsonage was constructed on the church acreage and remained in use until 1968 when it was rented. Ministers roomed with the trustee, Addison Duffin and his wife, Cecelia, until the parsonage was built.



Later, additions to the sanctuary were stained glass windows, the erection of the dining hall (1940), a vestry addition, cushioned folding chairs, the erection of an outside bulletin board (1966) and Glenn Shorb donated one-half acre of land to square off the back boundary of the cemetery. One of our members, Rev. H. Carlton Talley, "cleared" this additional acreage.

Many dedicated pastors served at St. Mark's. The longest pastorate was the late Rev. C.E. Smallwood (1940-1953).

Under the pastorate of Rev. Evan Young (1990), a Capital Improvement Fund was established with the vision of inside restroom facilities and other major renovations to the sanctuary grounds. July 5, 1992, St. Mark's again stepped out on faith when the "Charge" was abolished and St. Mark's chose to become a "station church." Asbury and John Wesley

United Methodist Churches became a joint charge. The first appointment to the "new" Boyds Charge was Rev. Jane Wood Jenkins, the first female pastor in the history of St. Mark's. Under the pastorate of Rev. Jenkins (1993), St. Mark's held Centennial Celebrations with the entire Boyd's community, beginning with a Gospel Program at the Boyd's Presbyterian Church, a parade the following day with representatives from other churches and communities, and culminating with the worship services at St. Mark's with many politicians and our own Rev. Donald S. Stewart, District Superintendent, as guest speaker. Also, we celebrated completion of the renovation project in September of 1995.

In July 1998, Rev. Clarence Parks was assigned to St. Mark's. He was very popular and worked diligently to establish bible study at 9:45 prior to 11:00 a.m. worship. Under Rev. Parks' pastorate, the trustees completed the installation of new stained glass windows, central air/heat to the sanctuary and the construction of sidewalks around the building. New pews were also purchased.

In June of 1999, on a routine clean up day of the building and grounds, some church history was unearthed in a tin can - a 'Time Capsule' that had been placed in the rafters behind the cornerstone when the church was dedicated in 1893. This can contained Rev. Myers' Bible Worship Book, Rev. Richard's coins and listings of contributors toward the erection of St. Mark's. Copies of these discoveries were documented, preserved and displayed. A celebration was held and a New Time Capsule was planted. (Bronze plaque is on side wall of the building)

In July of 2003, our present Pastor, Rev. Timothy B. Warner, his wife Paula, his daughter Jordan, and his son, Benjamin, joined the St. Mark's Church family. During the short term of Pastor Warner's leadership thus far, St. Mark's has been able to complete the purchase of 1.5 acres of land adjacent to the church, begin a Shalom Zone in Boyds, established regular meetings and bible studies, revitalized the Sunday School, and has begun to do prophetic ministry with the Montgomery County Correctional Facility in Clarksburg through Onesimus Inc. a non-profit corporation designed to shepherd those re-entering the community from prison into personal community wholeness. Minister Mackessa Holt joined St. Mark's as Youth Minister early in 2004, and under her leadership the ministry to young people is a hallmark of the life of St. Mark's. Having established itself as a tithing church, St. Mark's has grown to a point where it has a second worship experience, to accommodate its rapid growth. Its new attitude towards money has enabled the purchase of a new 20-passenger bus to help facilitate its many ministries. "Eyes have not seen, ears have not heard, nor has it entered into the hearts of men what God has in store for St. Mark's."

We gratefully acknowledge and appreciate our present and former pastors, our laity, our officers, members, and friends who have served this church so tirelessly and faithfully during our 127-year history. Thank God for each of you!

~A short history of past homecoming services held at St. Mark's U.M.C.~

In October 1941, Homecoming services began at St. Mark's, under the pastorate of Rev. Smallwood. The late Sister Martha Carter was the first chairperson of this activity. The intent was to encourage those members who had left the church community to COME HOME! The success of this event prompted the church to make it an annual service. The first guest speakers were the Rev. Robinson of Seneca and the late Rev. Davis, Sr. of Rockville. We have been blessed with many successful Homecomings.