

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

1. Name Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel

2. Planning Area/Site Number 10/70

3. MNCPPC Atlas Reference Map 1

4. Address Route 109 - Comus, Maryland

Coord: D-4

5. Classification Summary

Category building
 Ownership private
 Public Acquisition N.A.
 Status occupied
 Accessible yes, restricted
 Present use religious
 Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Federal State X County X Local
 Historical Sites Inventory 1976

6. Date 1861

7. Original Owner: Trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church of the Mountain Chapel

8. Apparent Condition

a. good

c. original site

b. unaltered

9. Description: The Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel sits on a bluff facing south. Constructed of locally fired brick laid up in common bond, this 2 bay by 4 bay structure has 2 symmetrically placed south doors. Before each door are three concentric brick steps. All windows are covered by tall green louvered wooden shutters. There is another door, identical to the two south doors, at the southwest corner. Each door and window is surmounted by a simple molded lintel. Near the apex of the south gable is a marble plaque which reads: S.L. Mountain Chapel 1861. The adjacent burying ground is surrounded by chain link. Behind the chapel, outside the fence, are approximately 12 graves of the Holland family.

10. Significance: The land upon which this chapel sits has been consecrated for church use since the late 18th century. A Methodist congregation used a chapel on the site throughout the first half of the 19th century. By 1860, however, the church trustees decided to replace the old chapel and Barnesville carpenter, William T. Hilton, was contracted to erect the new chapel which was completed in 1861. Materials for the building were obtained locally: wood was cut nearby; the bricks were molded and fired on adjacent property; and slate for the roof was obtained from Slate Quarry Road. For years after its construction it was the most imposing church in the area. The chapel was used by the Methodist congregation until 1938 when the trustees sold it to the owner of adjoining property. In recent years the chapel has once again been used as a church, as one of the United Council of Community Churches. The adjoining cemetery, consecrated in 1788, contains about 75 stones, many marked with the names of old families in the area.

11. Date researched and researcher Fall 1978

Mark Walston

12. Compiler Gail Rothrock

13. Date Compiled 12/78

Candy Reed - Architectural Description
 14. Designation Approval

15. 0.868 Acre

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 10/70

MAGI #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 109

CITY, TOWN

Comus

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Francis Johnston

Telephone #: 972-8577

STREET & NUMBER

24200 Old Hundred Road

CITY, TOWN

Dickerson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20753

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3738

Folio #: 293

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

M-NCPPC Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

6700 Needwood Road

CITY, TOWN

Derwood

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

M:10-70

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel sits on a bluff on the west side of Route 109 facing south. Built on a fieldstone foundation, this small chapel is constructed of locally fired brick laid up in common bond. This two bay by four bay structure has two symmetrical wooden paneled doors, each surmounted by a three light transom window on the south (front) facade. Above each door is a second story window with louvered shutters. On the west and east elevations are tall window openings covered by wooden louvered shutters. At the southwest corner of the west wall a third doorway leads into the chapel. This is identical to the two doors on the south facade. Each door and window is surmounted by a wooden lintel with a simple triangular design. Near the apex of the gable on the south facade is a marble plaque which read: S.L. Mountain Chapel 1861.

The adjacent burying ground is surrounded by a chain link fence. It contains about 75 (mostly 19th century) stones, boxwood, trees, and some iron fencing demarking family sites. Behind the chapel, outside the fence, are approximately 12 graves of the Holland family.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 1861

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William T. Hilton

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The land upon which this chapel sits has been consecrated for divine services from the late 18th century. On August 25, 1788, Thomas Morton of Montgomery County, granted unto John Clark, Godfrey Waters, Samuel Hobbs, Basil Soper, Joseph Jones, John Wilson and John Bennet, as trustees, one acre of land.

"...for the Express purpose and intent of building a Preaching house thereon for the use of the people Call'd methodists..."

"to have and enjoy the said premises, whereon a house is Builded and known By the Sugarloaf Chappell, to preach or expound, God's holy Word therein, provided always, that the said persons preach no other doctrine than is Contained in Mr. Westley's Notes on the new Testament and his four Volumes of Sermons, and upon further trust and Confidence that said Trustees for the time Being shall permit a school to be kept for the Education of Youth when necessary in said house by such a Teacher as shall be approved off by said Trustees..."

The chapel was used by the congregation throughout the first half of the 19th century. When the church was incorporated, the trustees, meeting in the chapel on November 11, 1856 to draw up the act of incorporation, referred to the building as "...the church called by the name of the Mountain Chapel...being the place ordinarily used for public meeting of said church." (2)

By the year 1860, however, the trustees of the church decided to replace the old chapel. A deed confirming the ownership of the one acre lot by the "trustees of the Methodist Epsicopal Church of the Mountain Chapel" was executed by Nathaniel Holland, owner of the surrounding lands, on July 30, 1860. (3) William T. Hilton was contracted to erect the new chapel, which was completed in 1861. Materials for the building were obtained locally; wood was cut nearby, the bricks were molded and fired on adjacent property, and slate for the roof was obtained on Slate Quarry Road, in the valley of Bennett Creek two miles away.

The chapel was used by the Methodist congregation until 1938, when, the voting male members of the church being reduced to three persons, the trustees decided to sell it to George Otis Holland, owner of adjoining property. (4) In recent years the chapel has once again come into use as a church, this time as a member of the United Council of Community Churches. (see attachment sheet A)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .868 acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Candy Reed - Architectural Description

Mark Walston

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Box 87, Stronghold

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Dickerson

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, State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 257-1438~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
Box 87, Stronghold
Dickerson, MD 20783
301-451-9260

M: 10/70

MAGI#

-Attachment Sheet A

The graveyard was consecrated in 1788 and terms of access to it were spelled out in various deeds and leases on the church property. It contains about 75 markers with the names of many families with a long history of settlement in the area.

FOOTNOTES

1. Deed D/114, Mont. Co. Land Records
2. Act of Inc. JGH 5/567, Mont. Co. Land Records
3. Deed JGH 8/202, Mont. Co. Land Records
4. Deed 712/35, Mont. Co. Land Records

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

M: #10-70

100704608

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Sugarloaf Mountain Chapel					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: Hyattstown-Comus Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Hyattstown					
STATE: Maryland		COUNTY: Montgomery			
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: Francis N. Johnston					
STREET AND NUMBER: 3812 Leland Street					
CITY OR TOWN: Chevy Chase			STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region					
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission					
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue					
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building is of brick, laid up in common bond, with a gabled south facade. The double entrances have transom lights and panelled jambs. Above each door is a window. Along the sidewalls are four 9/6 double hung sash (on the west side wall, the south bay is another door). The rear facade has no apse but two 9/6 double hung sash. The lintels over both doors and windows are a low pediment with a hood moulding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"S.L. Mountain Chapel - 1861" in panel in gable end.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 23 Apr 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NAME SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN CHAPEL

M: #10-70

LOCATION RT 109 HYATTSTOWN - COMUS, Md.

EACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 4/23/74 M DWYER