

PH00 14940

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Maryland
COUNTY:	Anne Arundel
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 25 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
84 Franklin Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

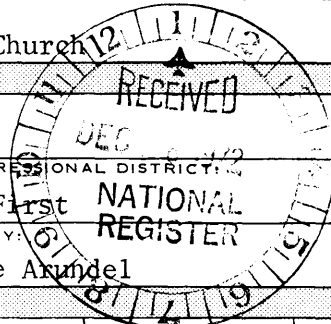
STATE:  
Maryland

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

COUNTY:  
Anne Arundel

CODE:  
24

CODE:  
003



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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:  
Anne Arundel County

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Arundel Center

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Anne Arundel County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Church Circle

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic Annapolis Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  
 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:  
St. John's College Campus

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE:  
Maryland

CODE:  
24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Anne Arundel

ENTRY NUMBER: JAN 25 1973

DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

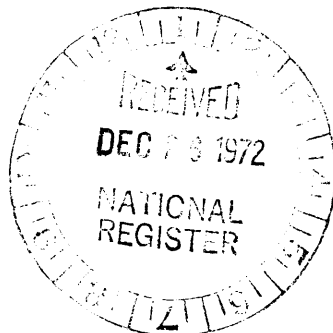
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mount Moriah Church is an exceptional example of small scale Victorian Gothic Ecclesiastical architecture, and is an important contribution to the architectural collection of Annapolis. Two and one-half stories in height, the Church is constructed in the typical auditorium plan, with the Church proper on the second floor and a school and meeting room on the ground floor. The exterior walls are of finely detailed brick work laid in American bond, with three belt courses, brownstone impost blocks and crow stepped gable ends, all capped with a metal cornice with wood finial at the ridge of the roof. Gothic arched and lancet windows with molded wood geometric tracery decorate the front facade at the second floor level, with tall double hung windows flanking the massive arched double entrance door. All of the front windows are glazed with stained glass of good quality and are of the period 1874 when it is believed the church was remodeled. The windows in the side walls are framed with stained glass.

The interior of the first floor has been considerably altered, but four slender cast iron columns remain, as does some door and window trim and two paneled transom lit doors. The stairs leading to the second floor are original to the 1874 period, with decorative cut-outs in the stair walls, beaded paneling and two good stained glass windows. The church itself is almost entirely of the 1874 period, with exceptional curved golden oak pews, golden oak paneling, altar furniture and rail, and the slender cast iron columns with crocket caps. The cornice is sheet metal as are the full length ribs simulating exposed ceiling beams typical of the period. The walls and ceiling are stucco over brick and are in need of waterproofing and repainting. The three sided overhanging balcony which surrounds the nave is of the 1874 era.

The interior of the second floor of Mt. Moriah is an excellent example, in basically good condition, of the period and should be retained as is. The exterior is in need of some masonry (mainly pointing) and window frame and cornice repair, but is of high architectural quality, and is an excellent example of its period and plays an important visual role on Franklin Street because of its immediate proximity to the County Courthouse. Mt. Moriah is one of Annapolis' hidden architectural treasures, is of paramount importance in black history, and should be preserved at all costs.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

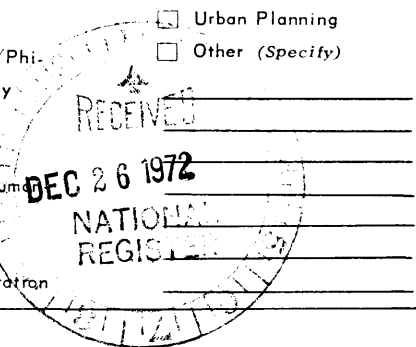
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" 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

The Church has occupied a unique place in the life of black Americans, especially the independent black churches. It was the first institution created by "free persons of color." As blacks were barred from most areas of American life, the Church provided the spiritual and moral leadership and the social, civic and cultural services that sustained the black community. Mt. Moriah's congregation dates back to 1803 and possibly as early as 1799. It was founded by free blacks trying to get a foothold in American society and to be useful citizens. Its building is a Maryland historic treasure. Built in 1874, Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church is the only building in the Historic District of Annapolis with both black historic significance and architectural distinction. Mt. Moriah is the appropriate place for a museum of Afro-American history and culture in the City of Annapolis.

The land on which Mt. Moriah Church stands was purchased June 18, 1874, from John H. Smith, John C. Smith and Harriet Smith by the Trustees of the "African Methodist Episcopal Church in United States of America" for the express purpose of building on it a "house of worship." For the sum of \$450.00 Henry Cooper, James Boardley, John W. Hall, Charles T. Harris and Loudon Pinkney, Trustees of the African Methodist Church, became owners of the lot fronting 60 feet on Doctor Street (now Franklin) with an 80 foot depth. The present church structure, whose architect is unknown, was probably begun the year of its purchase, although the title Mt. Moriah was not used until 1876. The land itself, was originally part of Stoddert's Lot #59, one of the Glebe lands given to St. Anne's Parish and leased by the Parish to Daniel Dulany I, until 1810, when the leasehold expired. Seven years later Thomas Brown, the next lessee, assigned the residue of this lease term to John Shaw. A lot of ground which was a part of this property on Doctor Street in the rear of the present Anne Arundel County Courthouse was purchased by Charity Foulks. Left By Charity to her granddaughter, Elizabeth Foulks Smith, wife of John H. Smith and mother of John C. Smith and Harriet Smith. A part of the property was later sold by John H. Smith and his children to the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Research is not complete on the chronological history of the congregation. Some attempt at forming a church may possibly have begun in 1799, but not until 1803 was the first African Methodist Episcopal Church of Annapolis established. The members probably worshipped at the time in

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records and Wills, Anne Arundel County Courthouse and Hall of Records, Annapolis

Maryland Gazette, October 7, 1831

Embry, R. A., History of Mt. Moriah AME Church

[see continuation sheet]

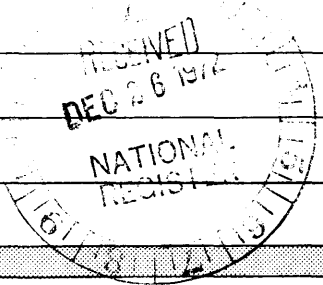
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	0 ' "	0 ' "		38° 58' 37"	76° 29' 39"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/3 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Russell Wright, AIP, and Phoebe Jacobsen

ORGANIZATION: Historic Annapolis, Inc. DATE: October 6, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
18 Pinkney Street

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Orlando Ridout IV  
Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer  
for Maryland

Date October 6, 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert H. Utley  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/25/73

ATTEST: Wm J. [Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 1-23-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Maryland	
COUNTY	Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

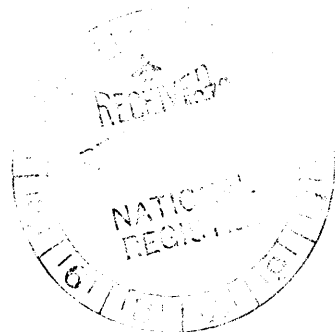
a building on the outskirts of town, not far from the present Mt. Moriah. In 1816 the congregation became an associate of the General Conference of African Methodist Episcopal Bethel Church and continued to function as a congregation of that conference until after the turmoil of the Virginia Insurrection in the early 1830's. By 1840 there was but one African congregation and church in Annapolis, and that was under the aegis of the white Methodist Episcopal Church. There are indications that the "Bethel" constituents splintered, some joining the Methodist Episcopal congregations, some continuing to meet in private homes, as part of the original Bethel Congregation, and some becoming affiliates of the African Methodist Episcopal Union Church. In any event, the congregation bought land in 1850 near the present edifice. Here they constructed their frame church, which was later removed to Camp Parole, on the outskirts of Annapolis. The site of the present Mt. Moriah was legally acquired in 1874, the Parole mission in 1876 and the Mt. Moriah parsonage in 1884.

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Wright, James M., The Free Negro in Maryland, 1634-1860, New York: 1921

Calvary United Methodist Church, Annapolis Station, Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1826-1846

Buckley, J. M., History of Methodism, Vol. I & II, New York: 1898

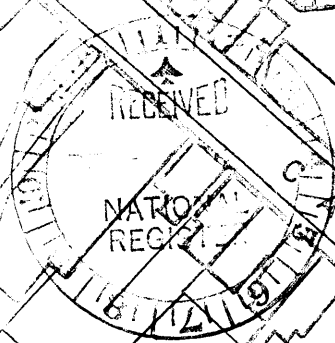
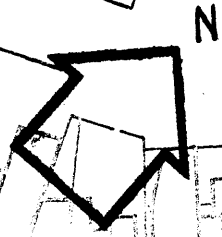


38° 58' 48"

HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS, INC., ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY  
LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE MAP  
Scale: 1: 1200  
1970

76° 29' 48"

76° 29' 38"

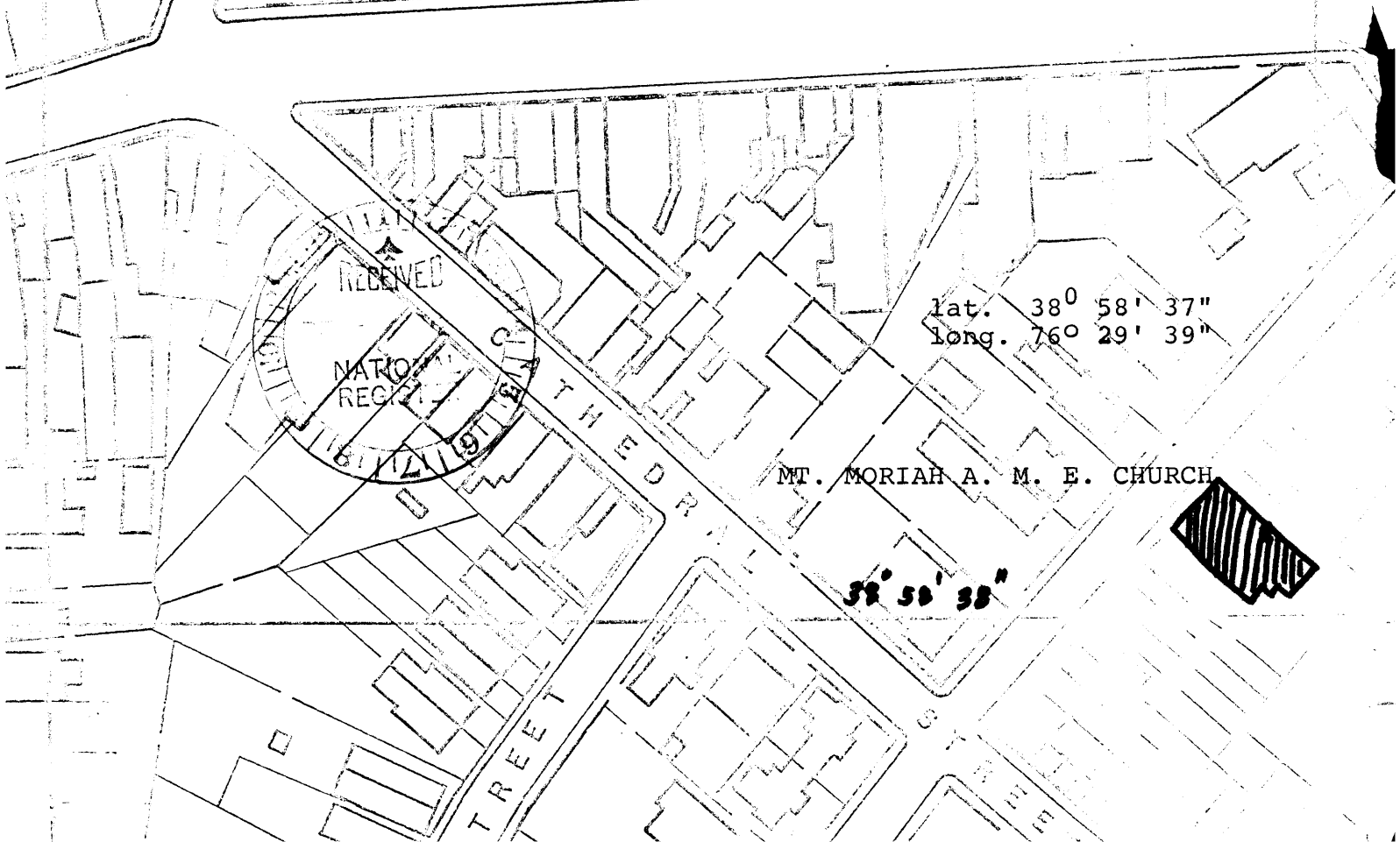


lat. 38° 58' 37"  
long. 76° 29' 39"

MT. MORIAH A. M. E. CHURCH



38° 58' 38"



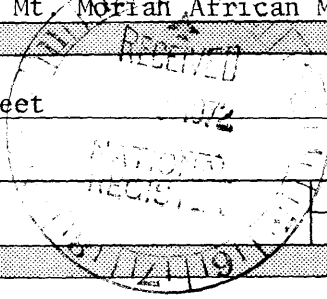
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Maryland
COUNTY	Anne Arundel
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 1975	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mt. Moriah African Methodist Episcopal Church			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
84 Franklin Street			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Annapolis			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maryland	24	Anne Arundel County	003
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
Historic Annapolis Architectural Survey Longitude & Latitude Map			
SCALE: 1:1200			
DATE: 1970			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ANNAPOLIS QUADRANGLE  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale: 1: 24 000  
1953

DE

