

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **SEP 25 1986**

date entered **FEB 18 1987**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Marshallton United Methodist Church

and/or common Marshallton United Methodist Church

2. Location

street & number 1105 Stanton Road not for publication

city, town Marshallton vicinity of

state Delaware code 10 county New Castle code 003

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>NA</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Marshallton United Methodist Church

street & number 1105 Stanton Road

city, town Marshallton vicinity of state Delaware 19808

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. New Castle County Recorder of Deeds

street & number 800 French Street

city, town Wilmington state Delaware

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title DE Cultural Resource Survey N-10916 has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Bureau of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

city, town Dover state Delaware

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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

Marshallton United Methodist Church, a frame building dating to 1886, is located on Stanton Road a hundred feet east of Old Capitol Trail (once the main road from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C.) in Marshallton, Delaware, at that time a small isolated mill and farming community, named in honor of John Marshall, the founder of the rolling mill there. The church is bordered on the east by the old Cranston mansion, (It was the home of Edwin J. Cranston from whom the first piece of land was bought to build the church.) on the south by Stanton Road, on the west and north by large parking areas. The original portion of the building a one-room 30-foot by 50-foot center-aisle plan topped by a gable roof, 30 feet at the peak, was built on a foundation of "Brandywine Granite", a commonly found local building stone. In 1922, a 30-foot by 45-foot gabled addition was added on the east side of the original building and the interior altered by placement of the altar at the east end in an alcove. At the same time, Gothic arched commemorative stained glass windows and a bell tower were added. The bell tower is 11-foot square by 36-foot high with a flat floor surmounted with a balustrade. The bell is mounted beneath the roof which is supported on each side by three 4-foot Gothic arches with balustrades along the base. The original bell was placed in 1924 but cracked in 1929. Three years later it was replaced with a 40" bell purchased from Sears, Roebuck & Co. for \$95.00.

Between 1949 and 1957 a three-story brick educational building and fellow-ship hall was erected to the north and rear of the original building. The original building and the 1922 addition retains a considerable degree of integrity and is in excellent repair. Both inside and outside, the original building as altered in 1922 is of a style often called Carpenter or Country Gothic. The main entrance is in the bell tower and consists of two oak doors with leaded panels surmounted by a pointed Gothic arch which contains a stained glass window and the name of the church, Marshallton M.E. Church, as of that time. All of the exterior windows, which were installed May 5, 1922, are pointed Gothic arch, except on the west side where the tops are square, and are stained glass. The stained glass was put in the original windows on the west side. The main windows contain commemorative panels.

Upon entry into the vestibule within the bell tower, there is a new Gothic arch containing a cross Circa 1924, and plaques of memorial and donated items. Upon turning left, one enters the narthex and into the original building with the main commemorative stained glass windows to the left, the entrance to the balcony at the rear of the sanctuary to the right. The original Mission had a stencil on the walls, some of the original stencil is still above today's ceiling.

The sanctuary when built in 1922 had pressed tin on the ceiling and walls down to the chair rail. This was removed in 1945. In 1922 there were 3 rows of pews with 2 aisles; in 1945 the pews were placed with

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 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1886 1922 1949	Builder/Architect	Unknown Unknown Canterra Construction Co.
-----------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	---

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Marshallton United Methodist Church is significant for its architecture, for its importance in local history, and for its social relationship to the surrounding community. Constructed in 1886 and added to in 1922, this church is a well preserved seample of Carpenter or Country Gothic. Situated in a small isolated mill community of Marshallton and surrounded by farms, Marshallton United Methodist Church was an important facet to the local area. It is being nominated to the National Register on the basis of Criterion C, architectural significance. Since its significance rests primarily upon its architectural characteristics, it is being nominated as an exception to the rule that does not allow properties owned by religious institutions to be considered eligible.

Architecturally, Marshallton United Methodist Church's gabled frame construction is typical of rural areas in Delaware. The alterations made to the building in 1922, and subsequently, carry out the Gothic style popular in the latter part of the 19th century and the early part of the 20th century.

The Methodist Church of Marshallton is the outgrowth of several conditions which existed in the area about the year 1880. At that time, number of people living in Marshallton worked in the Kiamensi woolen mill on Red Clay Creek located a short distance to the east between Marshallton and Stanton, a small village about one and a half miles away. As there was no public transportation, many of these people walked to and from work. Since they were well acquated, although living in different communities, the people of Marshallton started attending religious meetings held in Stanton. Later, a church was built in Stanton, and in Marshallton a Sunday School was started by a Civil War veteran, Mr. Chatham. Three men (George Bennett, William A. Mullin and Richard H. Williams) interested in the welfare of the Marshallton community and particularly of the children, purchased about one-quarter acre of ground from Edwin J. Cranston and wife in 1886 in the name of hte Trustees of Marshallton Union Sabboth School. Monies were then raised in the community for construction of the Marshallton Union Chapel in 1886, which was subsequently deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1888.

Since only one other church was later constructed in the community of Marshallton and since Marshallton was rather isolated, five miles from the larger population center of Wilington and eight miles from the

9. Major Bibliographical References

Peninsula Journal Conference Minutes 1885-1888, page 75; Recorder of Deeds, New Castle County, 800 French St., Wilmington, DE 19801; Evening Journal, Saturday, June 10, 1961, page 21; Sharp's History of Delaware 1609-1888, Vol. 2, pages 925 & 927 & 938; Minutes from Official Board & Trustees' Meetings 1917-1985; Unpublished histories 1922, 1942, 1975 of Marshallton United Methodist Church

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6.50 1.32

Quadrangle name Newark East

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	8	4	4	5	2	4	0	4	3	9	7	7	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Bounded on north by Stanton Road, west by property of George Kirchdoerfer and J. Elton Smith, south by Red Clay Creek and east by property of Mrs. Ernest Samworth. Map from Recorder of Deeds.

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

state NA code NA county NA code NA

state NA code NA county NA code NA

11. Form Prepared By

name/title M. Elizabeth Ford, Church Historian (Edited by Valerie Cesna)

Marshallton United Methodist Church

organization (New Castle County Dept. of Planning) date April 30, 1986

23 Mt. Airy Drive (302)656-3532

street & number (2701 Capitol Trail) telephone (302)366-7780

city or town Wilmington (Newark) state Delaware

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Henry R. Kern / SHPO date 9/23/1986

For NPS use only

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

Patrick Andrews date 2/18/87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

9/24/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

a center aisle and 2 smaller side aisles. About one-third more pews were reproduced and added.

The interior of the sanctuary, renovated in 1985, is painted off white with a slightly darker shade trim and dark oak pews and woodwork, and is arranged with a single middle aisle and two smaller side aisles with twelve rows of ten foot long Gothic style oak pews on either side. Under the balcony are an additional four rows of pews. At the front of the sanctuary, oak risers across the width of the church delineate each of three levels ascending from the main floor, with the altar centered on the highest level in an alcove nine feet wide, twelve feet high and five feet deep. Centered over the altar in a new recessed Gothic arch is a suspended new oaken cross four feet high with a brass center insert and side lit so that upon entering into the sanctuary the new lighted cross is the focus of attention. To aid in that focus, new oak pilasters in a Gothic style are on either side of the front of the alcove supporting an oaken screen of nine Gothic arches which conceals the organ speakers. On the second level on either side are two old choir stalls of oak with Gothic arches and paneling. On either side of the sanctuary, between four old Gothic arched commemorative stained glass windows, are new pairs of convex shields of the apostles. A massive oak chair rail (replaced the similar old rail) surrounding the entire sanctuary tends to aid in focusing attention on the cross, as do the antique white walls and ceiling, the subdued rose colored new wall-to-wall carpeting and the dark finish of the oaken woodwork. The sanctuary is lighted by two rows of new hanging Gothic style fixtures.

The exterior is white and originally was wood German siding and was covered in 1945 with aluminum siding same size (eight inch) as the original. In 1982 the stained glass windows were covered with Lexan.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

9/25/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

town of Newark, the importance of the Marshallton Methodist Church cannot be over-emphasized relative to the well-being of the community, for it provided a focus for both religion and recreation, drawing together a wide range of people with varying backgrounds.

Over the next 35 years the Village of Marshallton grew. By the 1920's there was a thriving pigeon industry shipping squabs, packed in ice, to Philadelphia and New York City, several slaughter houses and a silk mill. The village by that time had acquired a three story brick lodge hall, a new school, a savings and loan company, a real estate company, a lumber and coal yard, three grocery stores, a notion store, a general store, a barber shop and a Baltimore and Ohio Railroad station as well as an improved road system. Expansion of the community and, hence, the congregation, necessitated a larger church and Sunday School. In July 1922, the cornerstone of the addition was laid. On November 26, 1922, the new addition was dedicated and Marshallton Methodist Church is still serving the community (and a greatly expanded area due to numerous housing developments) as a place for social and Christian growth.

After 1922, Marshallton began to grow with numerous new homes built as well as commercial and industrial businesses along the new Route 2 (Kirkwood Highway) as the main thoroughfare from Wilmington to Newark, Delaware.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

1/7/87

date entered

Continuation sheet

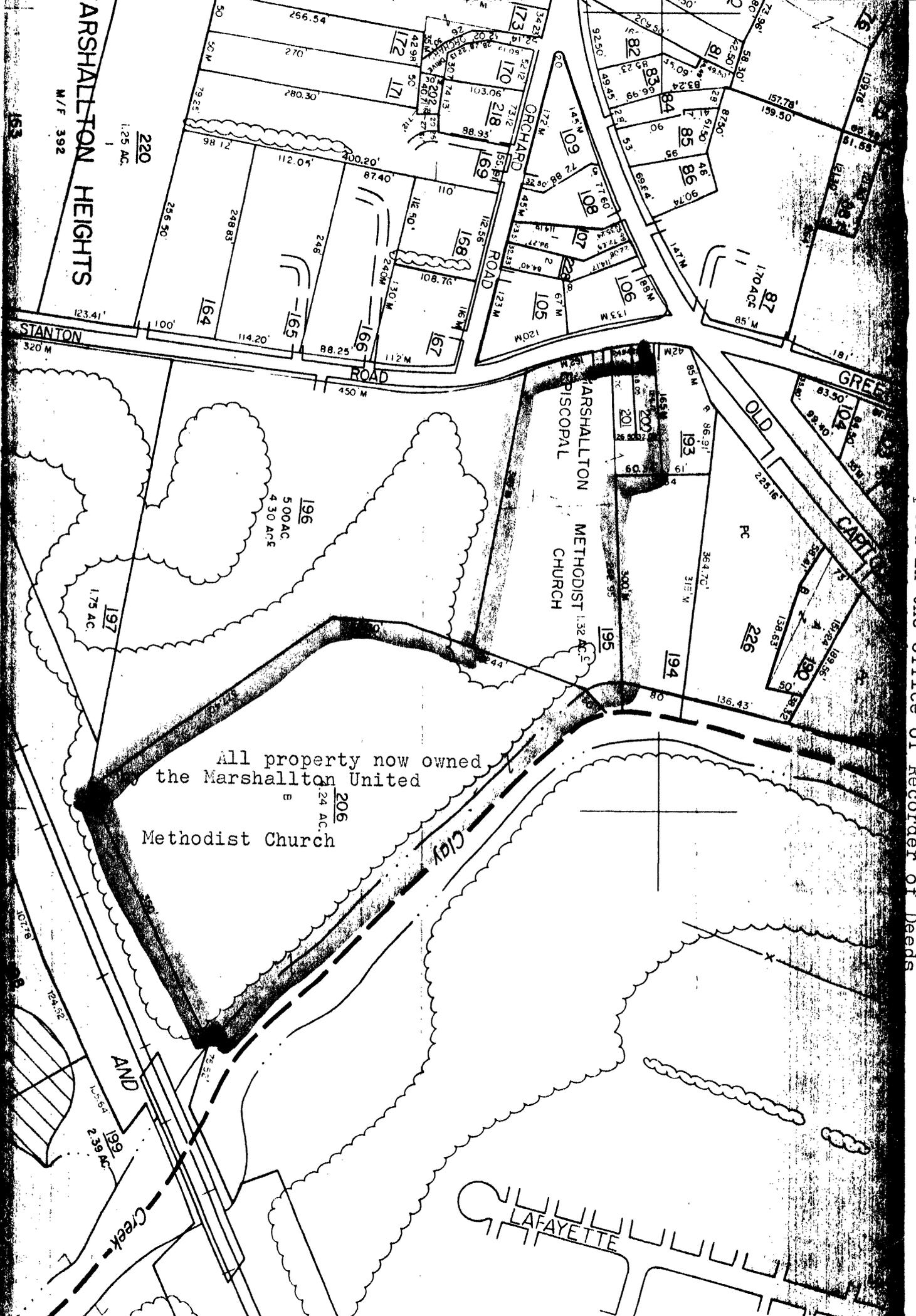
Item number 10

Page 1

N-10,916 Marshallton United Methodist Church
Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the legal parcel on which the building is situated. This boundary is indicated on the attached sketch map which is referenced: New Castle County Property Tax Map, 1986; Parcel Number 08-045.10-195. Adjacent parcels containing additional parking lots and open space have not been included.

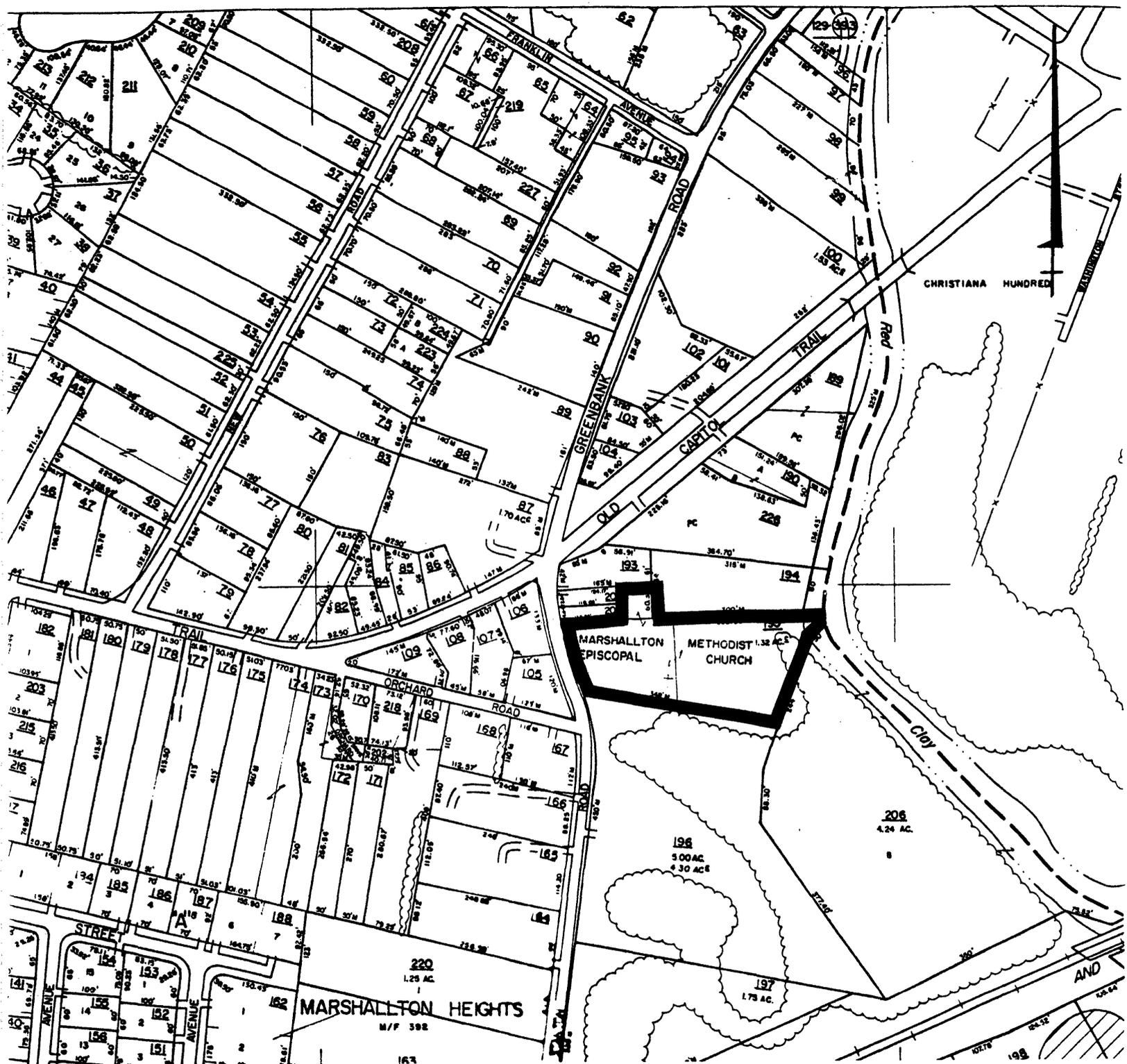
Acreage of Nominated Property: 1.32 Acres



All property now owned
 the Marshallton Methodist Church
 206
 1.24 AC
 Methodist Church

ARSHALLTON HEIGHTS
 M/F 392
 220
 1.25 AC

LAFAYETTE



N-10,916 Marshallton United Methodist Church
 New Castle County Property Tax Map, 1986
 Parcel Number 08-045.10-195
 Scale: 1 inch = 230 feet