

WA-I-190

Miller's 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) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 03-12-2004

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Miller's Church				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Miller's Church Road, Route 5				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<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: Miller's Mennonite Church				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 5				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): original not recorded				
additions 145/461, 308/628				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: 308/628				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

Miller's Mennonite Church is located on the east side of Miller's Church Road, about 1/2 mile south of the Leitersburg-State Line Road in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated on sloping ground and faces north.

The church building is a one-story brick structure six bays in length and three bays wide. Additions with lower roof levels are attached at each gable end of the main section.

Foundations of the central portion of the building are of coursed local fieldstones. The end sections rest on concrete block foundations. The brick walls display all stretcher bonding at all elevations. Decorative trim includes segmental arches of brick over all windows.

Windows appear to have been spaced evenly in the walls. Those which could be observed contain six-over-six light double-hung sashes held within narrow frames under low arches. Openings in the main section are flanked by louvered shutters.

The roof is of slate and extends beyond the end walls. The eaves are treated simply with plain boxing. Small brick chimneys with several courses of corbeling at their tops are located inside each gable end.

The church is in excellent condition with cornerstones showing rebuilding dates in 1926 and 1968. Adjacent to the church is a large cemetery plot.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Miller's Mennonite Church lies in its association with early religious activity in Washington County and secondarily in its architecture.

The original Miller's Church as described in Herbert C. Bell's History of Leitersburg District, was a stone structure measuring 40 by 30 feet which was built in 1835. This stone building was replaced by the present structure in 1926.

The origin of the congregation of Miller's Mennonite Church springs from the early days of settlement in Washington County. According to historians of the Mennonite Church, Samuel Bachtel, born in 1732 was serving as a minister in 1770. Bell's History reports that an early Mennonite church stands on the farm near the village of Security in Washington County, which was the home of the Bachtel family. The 18th century stone building, now in deteriorated condition is described fully in form WA-I-114. The church on the Bachtel farm was in use until 1835 when the stone Miller's Church building was erected. On March 25th of that year, Christian Shank, Jacob Miller and John Strite entered into a contract with Joseph Cookston for the construction of the stone church on Jacob Miller's Farm.¹

¹Herbert C. Bell, History of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg: Herbert C. Bell (1908), p. 138.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District, Leitersburg, Md.:
Herbert C. Bell, 1908.
Williams, T. J. C., History of Washington Co., Hagerstown: Mail Publishing
Co., 1906.

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: 2 acres

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Washington County Historical Sites Survey DATE: September, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland

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

Significance of this property is:
National State Local

Signature _____



WR-1 195

11.10.

W. W. W. W.

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY