

HO-384

## Gaines A.M.E. 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](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 02-07-2013***

HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church  
7134 Montgomery Road, Elkridge  
Surveyed by: Kristin Hill  
April 2003

## **ADDENDUM**

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### Section 3. Owner of Property

African Methodist Episcopal Church  
7134 Montgomery Road  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

But the parcel with the cemetery and old African American school is different from the parcel with the church. The owner of this parcel is unknown and currently in dispute.

### Section 4. Location of Legal Description

Howard County Courthouse  
Ellicott City  
Liber 26, Folio 97 and Liber 60, Folio 288  
Tax Map 38, Parcel 768 (church) and Parcel 93 (cemetery and old school)

### Section 7. Description

Included on the original inventory form for Gaines A.M.E. Church was a one-paragraph description of an earlier building that was supposedly an 1860's African American church/school. That building is about to be torn down, and so a visit was made to the site to record the building in more detail and hopefully determine if it was an early church/school. Unfortunately, years of neglect had finally taken their toll and the only wall still vertical was the front wall. The roof had collapsed taking out the second floor and the side and rear walls leaned at a 45 degree angle. Given the current condition of the building, only a very basic investigation could be made and a photo taken to record its last days.

The two story frame building was one room wide and two rooms deep with a front gabled roof, and faced northeast on the southwest side of Montgomery Road. It is located only about 50 yards from Gaines A.M.E. church and is surrounded by an overgrown African American graveyard with some marked and many unmarked graves. In its final days, the building was covered with brick patterned asphalt shingles over wooden German siding. There was a central door on the first story of the front façade, but any additional fenestration on the other facades is now a mystery. According to the original inventory form, the building was four bays deep. It sat on a partial stone foundation and had some sort of central brick chimney which, at the time of the investigation, had collapsed into the building. The interior of the structure was plastered over circular sawn lath. Framing timbers were also circular sawn, and the building was constructed with fully machine made cut nails.

Construction techniques and building technology are consistent with a construction date any time between 1865 and 1900. Given the deed cited in the original form which dates to 1866 and the fact that a "school house" is noted on the 1878 Hopkins

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7134 Montgomery Road, Elkridge  
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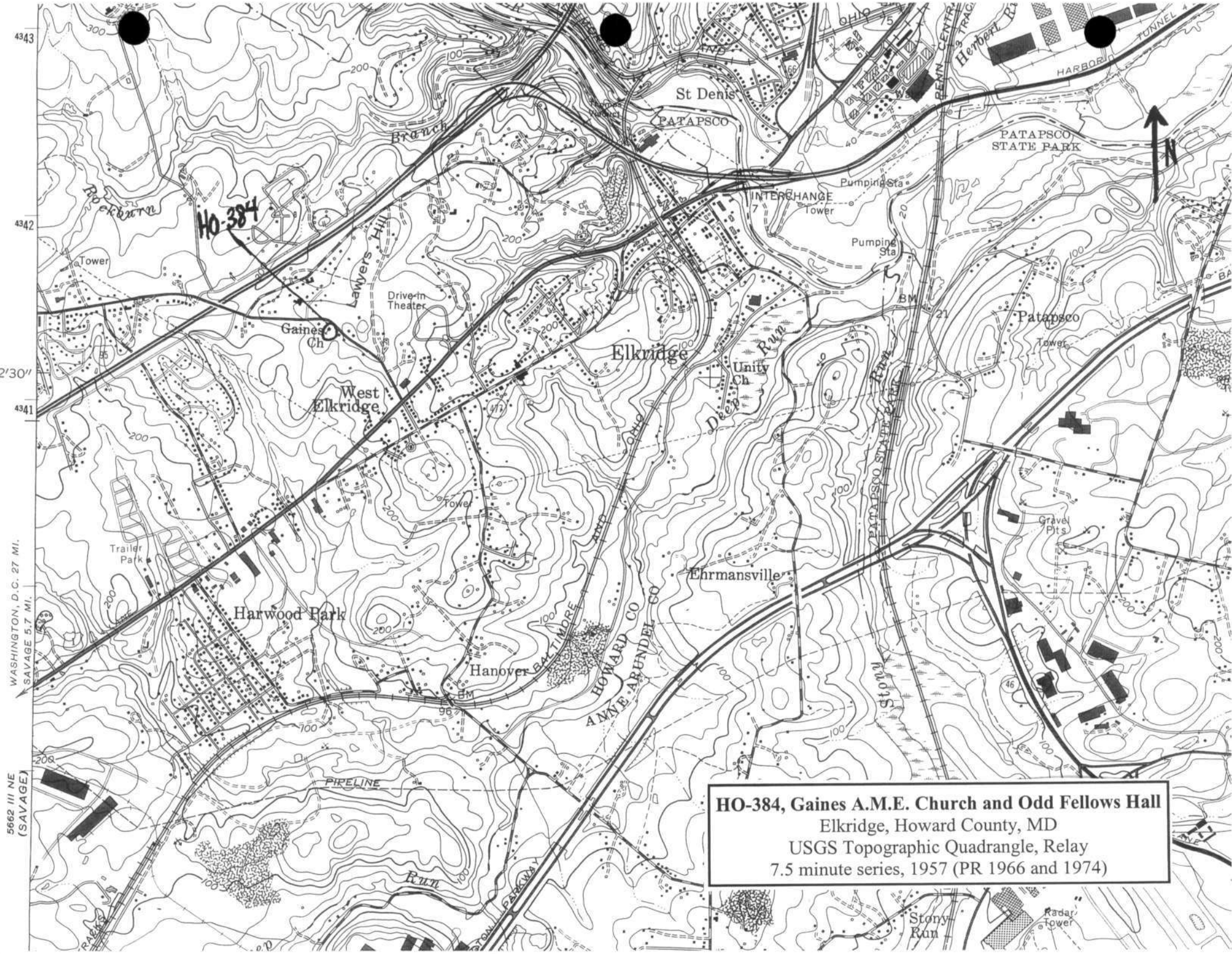
## ADDENDUM

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map in this location, it seems likely that this building was constructed between 1866 and 1878 specifically as a school and/or church building for the African American community as was specified in the deed. The earliest graves in the cemetery probably also date to this period. The neglect and demolition of this building and the surrounding cemetery is a great loss to the post-Civil War history of the African-American community and Howard County as a whole

### Section 11. Form Prepared by

Kristin H. Hill, Architectural Historian  
Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
410-313-4335  
April 2003



HO-384

**HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church and Odd Fellows Hall**  
ElkrIDGE, Howard County, MD  
USGS Topographic Quadrangle, Relay  
7.5 minute series, 1957 (PR 1966 and 1974)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 27 MI.  
SAVAGE 5.7 MI.

5662 III NE  
(SAVAGE)

4343

4342

2'30"

4341

208



HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church + Odd Fellows Lodge

Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill, 6/03

Negative at MDSHPD

29 21+01 NNNNN 531

NE elevation, Odd Fellows Lodge

1 of 4



HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church + Odd Fellows Lodge

Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill, 6/03

Negative at MDSHP 21+01 NNNNN 531

NE elevation, Odd Fellows Lodge

2 of 4



HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church + Odd Fellows Lodge

Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill 6/03

Negative at MOSHPO 20-21+02 NNNNN 531

West elevation, Odd Fellows Lodge, showing collapsed  
wall + roof

3 of 4



HO-384, Gaines A.M.E. Church + Odd Fellows Lodge

Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill, 6/03

27 21+01 NNNNN 531

Negative at MDSHPD

West elevation, Odd Fellows Lodge.

4 of 4

HO - 384  
Gaines A. M. E. Church  
Elkridge  
Private

1893

Gaines A. M. E. Church faces south on the west side of Montgomery Road, just south of its intersection with Route 95. It is a one bay wide, three bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame (covered with asbestos shingles) Romanesque church, resting on a stone foundation, with one story high, one bay deep, frame, enclosed, entrance porch, whose roof begins as a gable, but terminates in a central, tall, square, frame (covered with asbestos shingles), tent-roofed steeple, crowned by a cross. A one-story high, semi-conical roofed, semi-octagonal, frame (covered with asbestos shingles), apse, resting on a brick and cinder block foundation, is placed on the center of its north wall.

Roman-arched, double-hung windows feature a cross motif, while the rectangular, double-paneled entrance door is surmounted by a stained glass fan light inscribed, "Gaines A. M. . Church", Founded in August, 1893, The Church was rededicated March, 1971, the Reverend W. J. Dunlap, pastor.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO - 384  
Relay Quad.  
Dist. 1  
MAGI # H03844608

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Gaines A.M.E. Church

AND/OR COMMON

Listed as Grimes Colored Church

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Montgomery Road (MD 103)

CITY, TOWN Elkridge

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Howard

**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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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 Gaines A.M.E. Church

Telephone #: 796-8530

STREET & NUMBER Montgomery Road

CITY, TOWN Elkridge, Maryland \_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 26  
Folio #: 97  
Tax Map 38 p. 768

STREET & NUMBER Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN Ellicott City

STATE Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE 1978-1979

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN 21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Gaines A. M. E. Church faces south on the west side of Montgomery Road, just south of its intersection with Route 95. It is a one bay wide, three bay deep, one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) frame (covered with asbestos shingles) Romanesque church, resting on a stone foundation, with one story high, one bay deep, frame, enclosed, entrance porch, whose roof begins as a gable, but terminates in a central, tall, square, frame (covered with asbestos shingles), tent-roofed steeple, crowned by a cross. A one-story high, semiconical roofed, semi-octagonal, frame, (covered with asbestos shingles), aspe, resting on a brick and cinder block foundation, is placed on the center of its north wall.

Roman-arched, double-hung windows feature a cross motif, while the rectangular, double-paneled entrance door is surmounted by a stained glass fan light inscribed, "Gaines A. M. E. Church". Founded in August, 1893, the Church was rededicated March, 1971, the Reverend W. J. Dunlap, pastor.

Southwest of the 1893 church building stands another one bay wide, four bay deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame covered with asbestos tile, building with central cross-paneled, rectangular, east entrance, believed to be the earlier church-school house building of the 1860's.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**HO - 384  
Relay Qua  
District I

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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" 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 Date: 1881

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Gaines A. M. E. Church is significant to the black history of Howard County and the State of Maryland and architecturally noteworthy as an example of a simple frame Romanesque Revival Church of the nineteenth century. Its history at this site began on November 12, 1866, when James W. Tyson and his wife, Elizabeth of Baltimore County deeded this small tract of land to the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Elk Ridge Landing for one dollar. It was part of a tract called Rockburn and was deeded "together with the buildings and improvements thereupn erected, made or being".....

The following interesting provision is found in the old deed conveying the property to the church:

...provided that if the grantee herein named shall use the land conveyed or any part thereof, or shall voluntarily permit the same to be used for any other purpose than for the purposes of a church and school house under the management and direction of persons of African descent and such other purposes (if any) as a church or school house belonging to the African Methodist Episcopal Church is generally used for or if the said grantee shall sell, convey, lease or mortgage the said land, or any part thereof, or shall for the period of five (5) consecutive years fail to use the same for the purposes of a church, then this deed shall be void....."

A building is noted in this general location on the 1860 Martinnet Map (Please see Attachment 4) belonging to James Tyson, who initially conveyed the property to the A. M. E. Church of Elkridge Landing, while the 1878 Hopkin's Atlas indicates a school house at this location.

The two story high, one bay wide, four bay deep, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with asbestos tile) building lying southwest of the present church is probably the Church-School House building of 1866.

The cornerstone of the present white frame Romanesque Revival Church stems from 1881, which date is noted on its cornerstone when rededicated in 1971. Residents of Lawyers Hill recall listening to the singing voices coming from Gaines A. M. E. Church on warm summer Wednesday evenings, when its congregation met for mid-week prayer and praise. Such memories lend a particular enchantment to an already colorful area.

The buildings on this site are therefore important to Howard County through their association with the County's black religious history and architecturally represent mid-nineteenth century Howard County vernacular architecture, as well as the late nineteenth century Romanesque Revival.

As such, Gaines A. M. E. Church should be recommended for inclusion to any local historic landmark legislation the Citizens of Howard County may initiate, as well as the State Critical Areas Program and the National Register of Historic Places.

HO - 384  
Relay Quad.  
Dist. I

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records of Howard County, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 38

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 26 Folio 97

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

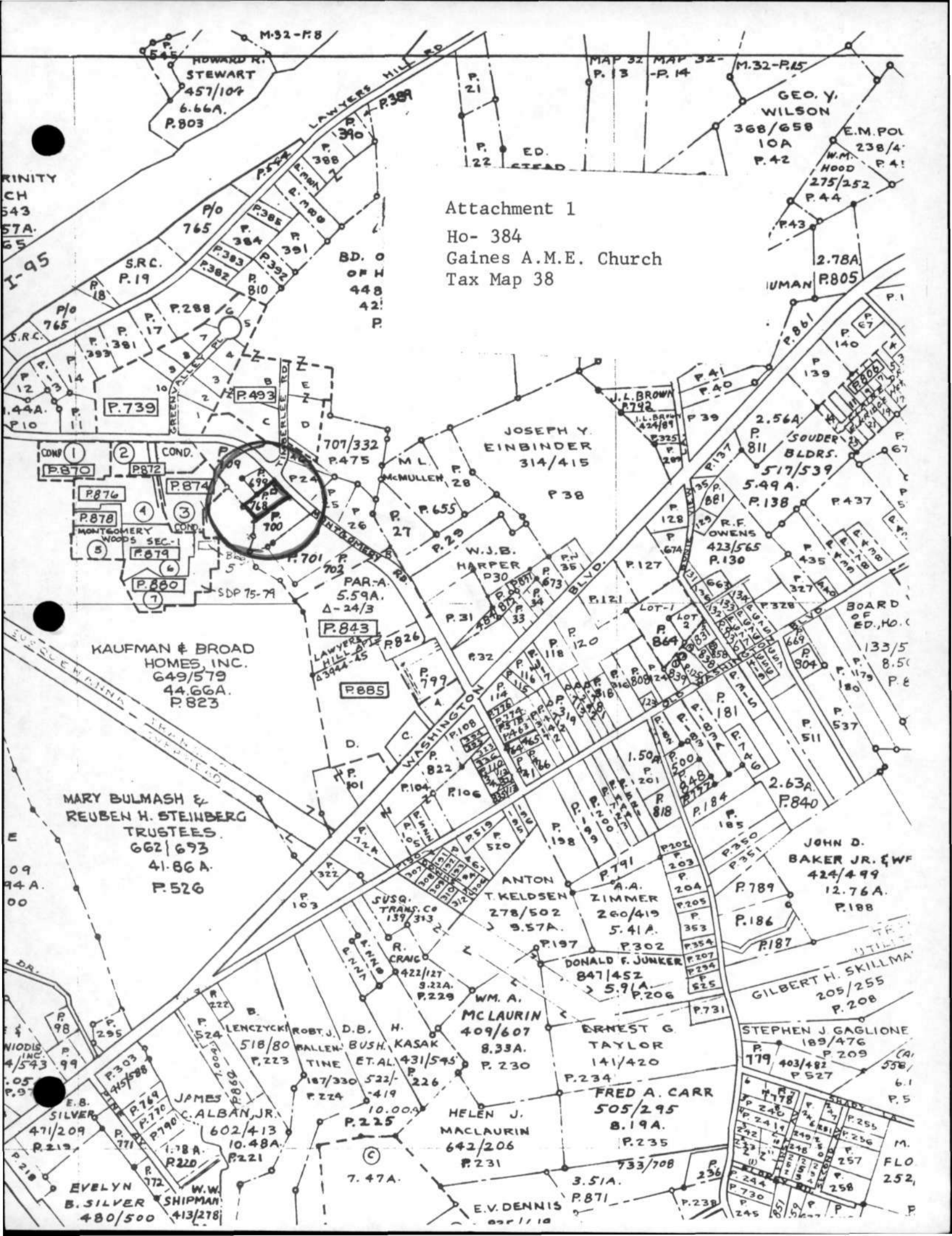
STATE

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, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



Attachment 1  
 Ho- 384  
 Gaines A.M.E. Church  
 Tax Map 38

HOWARD R. STEWART  
 457/104  
 6.66A.  
 P.803

GEO. Y. WILSON  
 368/658  
 10A  
 P.42

COND. ①  
 P.870

COND. ②  
 P.872

COND. ③  
 P.874

COND. ④  
 P.876

COND. ⑤  
 P.878

COND. ⑥  
 P.879

COND. ⑦  
 P.880

JOSEPH Y. EINBINDER  
 314/415  
 P.38

KAUFMAN & BROAD  
 HOMES, INC.  
 649/579  
 44.66A.  
 P.823

MARY BULMASH &  
 REUBEN H. STEINBERG  
 TRUSTEES.  
 662/693  
 41.86A.  
 P.526

P.843

P.885

ANTON T. KELSDEN  
 278/502  
 9.57A.

A.A. ZIMMER  
 260/419  
 5.41A.

JOHN D. BAKER JR. & W.F.  
 424/499  
 12.76A.  
 P.188

W.M. A. MCLAURIN  
 409/607  
 8.33A.  
 P.230

ERNEST G. TAYLOR  
 141/420  
 P.234

FRED A. CARR  
 505/295  
 8.19A.  
 P.235

HELEN J. MCLAURIN  
 642/206  
 P.231

W. W. SHIPMAN  
 413/278

E.V. DENNIS

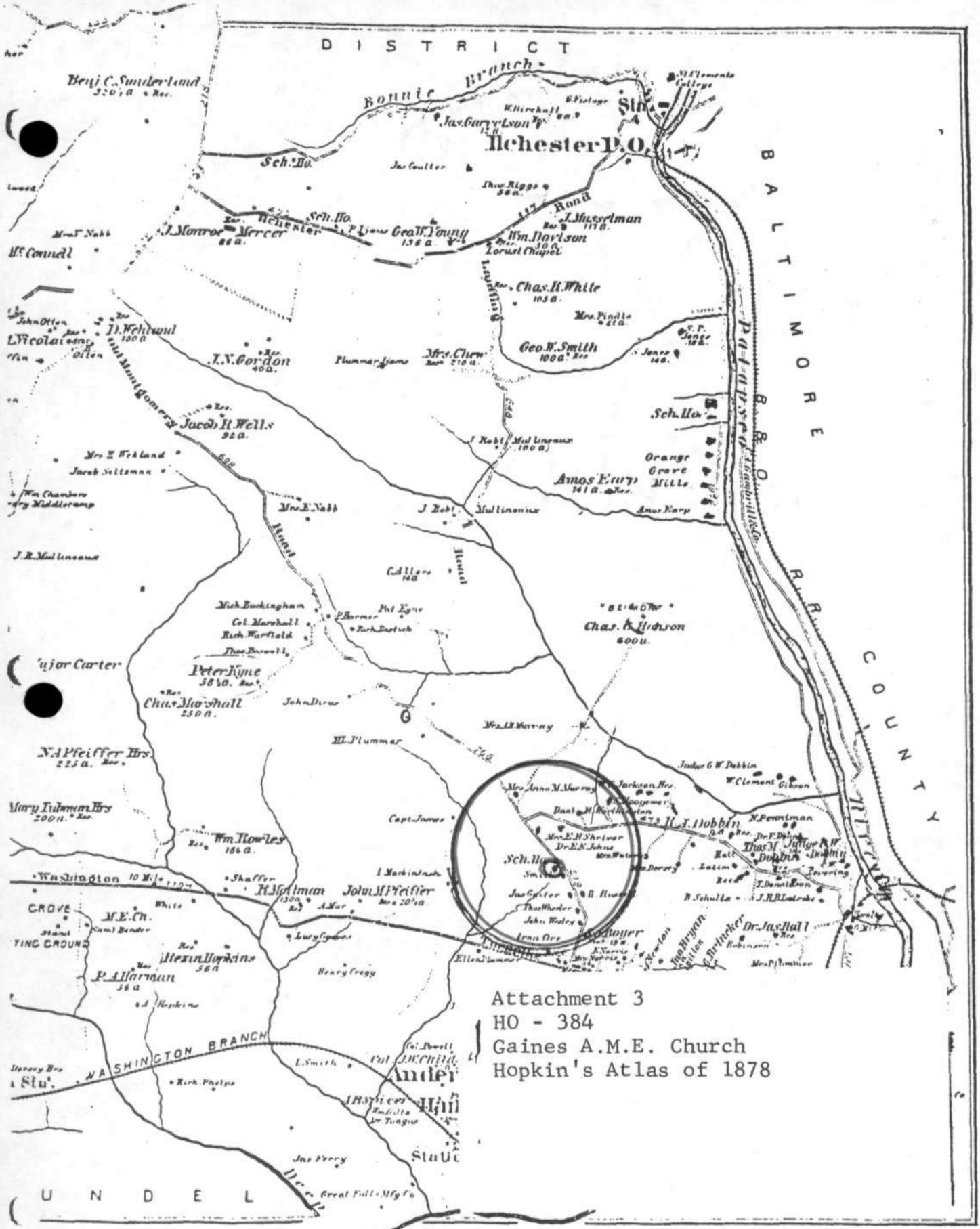
STEPHEN J. GAGLIONE  
 189/476  
 P.209

GILBERT H. SKILLMAN  
 205/255  
 P.208

FLORENCE  
 252

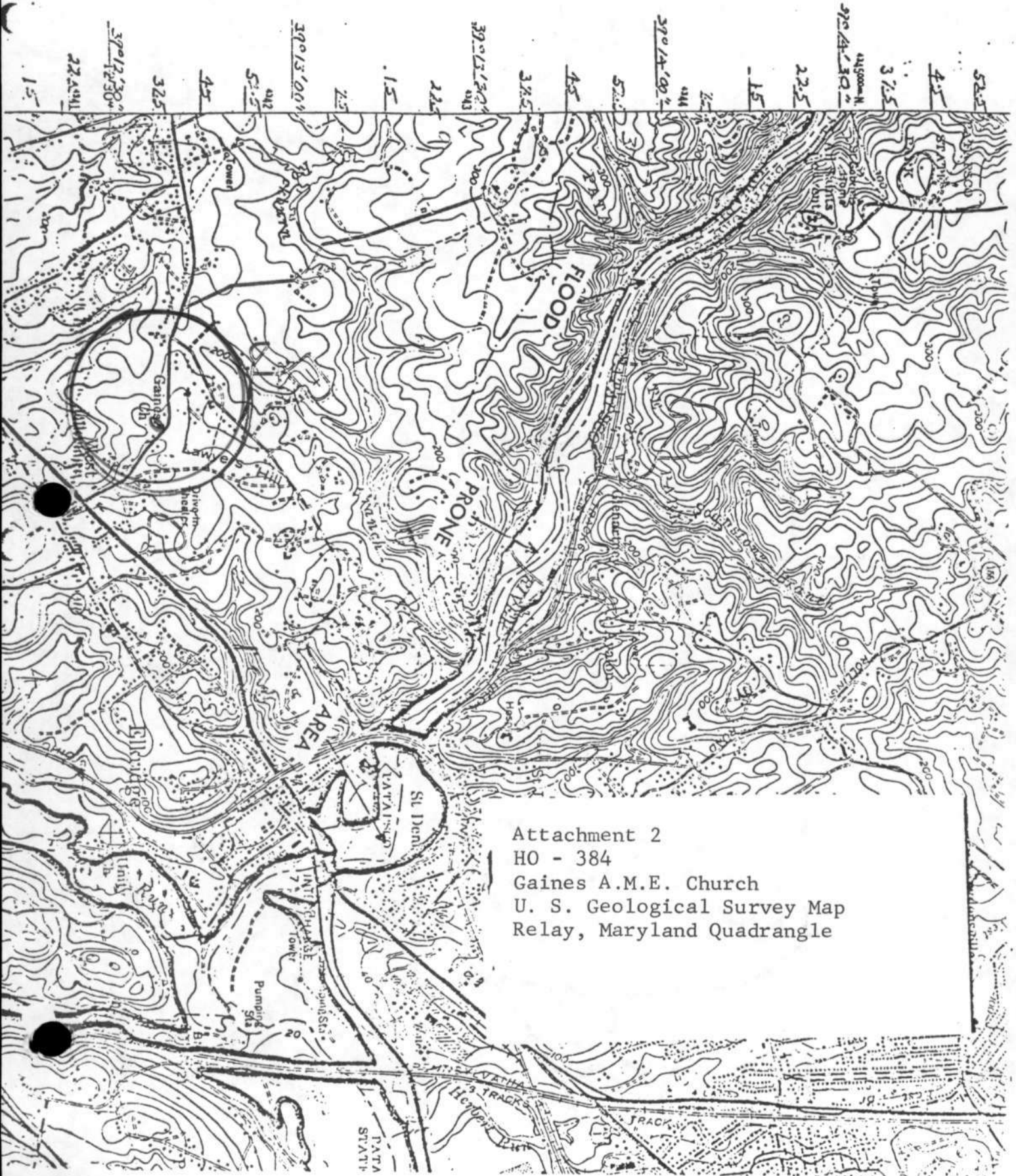
Attachment 4  
HO - 384  
Gaines A.M.E. Church  
Martennet Map of 1860



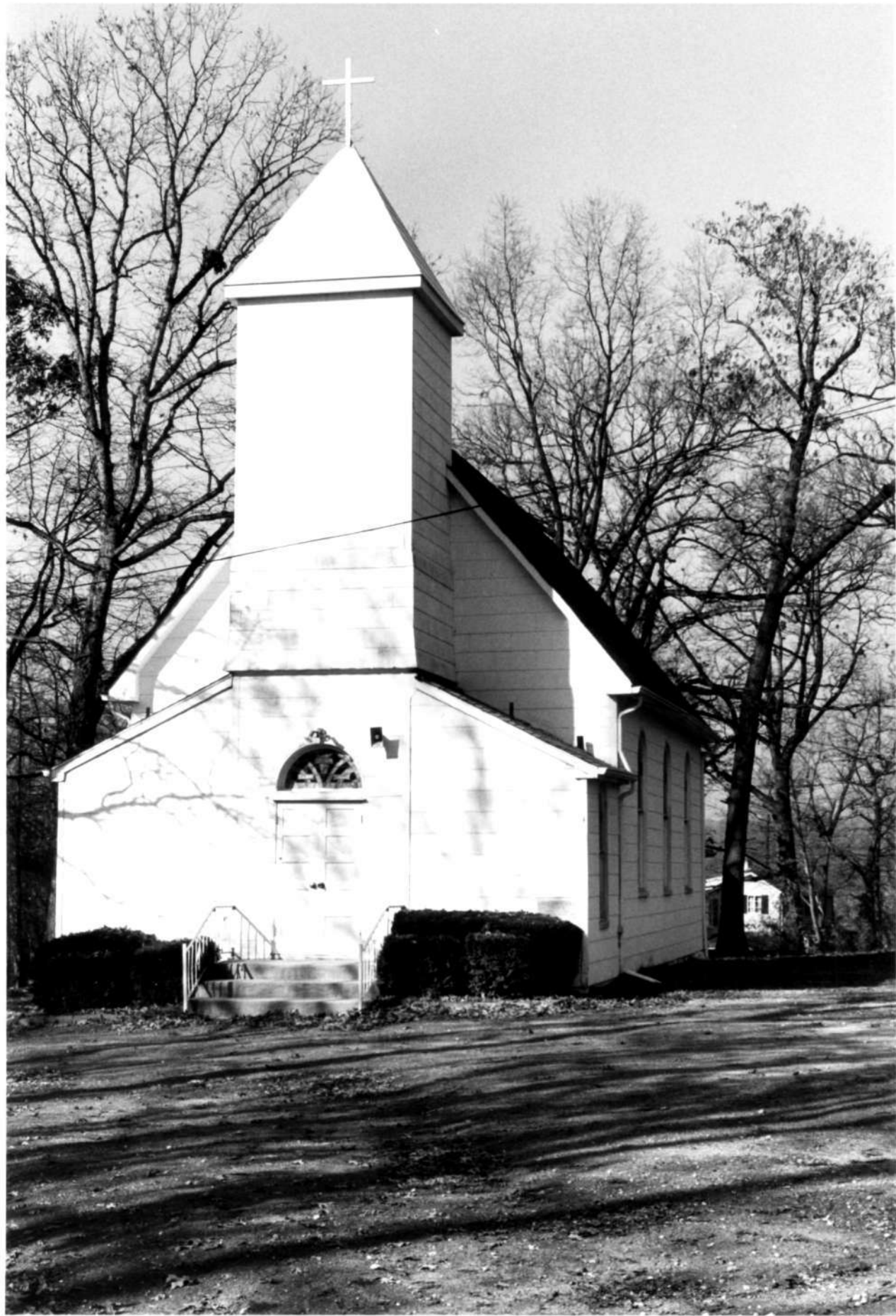


Attachment 3  
 HO - 384  
 Gaines A.M.E. Church  
 Hopkin's Atlas of 1878

2  
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9  
10



Attachment 2  
HO - 384  
Gaines A.M.E. Church  
U. S. Geological Survey Map  
Relay, Maryland Quadrangle



HO-384  
GAINES A.M.E. CHURCH  
SOUTH

~~HO-419~~  
~~OLD GAINES CHURCH RECTORY~~  
~~WEST~~

NOV '79  
CLEORA B. THOMPSON AICP