

HO-254  
Jennings Chapel U. M. Church  
Woodbine  
Private

Date - 1853

Jennings Chapel U. M. Church faces west on the east side of Jennings Chapel Road, just south of its intersection with Florence Road. It is a three bay wide, three bay deep, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with aluminum siding) structure, with a gabled tin roof, enclosed entrance porch, which extends forward to form a simple, frame portico, supported by four doric columns, mounted on square cement piles, which are supported by a stone and cement foundation and approached by three wide, poured in place, concrete steps. The central entrance is a double, open bible and cross paneled, rectangular, entrance door, flanked by rectangular double-hung windows with one-over-one lights. A single fan light is centered into the A, formed by the gabled roof, while a second floor, double-hung window, with one-over-one lights, rests on either side of the gabled roof of the entrance porch.

The original chapel features a one story high, semi-conical roofed apse on its east wall with three Roman arched leaden paned windows. Snow birds decorate the roof line of each of the building's three sections. A nineteenth century Sunday School wing was added to its south wall and one further addition to its south wall.

The Jennings Chapel U. M. Church of Woodbine, Howard County, Maryland, is one of its earliest Methodist Churches, established in 1853. Distinction attaching from age is expanded upon by its leadership role as a social focal point for the leaders of this community. In addition, the pattern of enlargement by increments over an extended period of time is significant for two reasons: it reflects a common practice in the building history of the United States, and it mirrors the evolution of this particular area, from the mid-nineteenth century through to the present day.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-254  
 Woodbine Quadrangle  
 District 4  
 MAGI# 1402545508

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Jennings Chapel U.M. Church

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

2551 Jennings Chapel Road

(N.E. Side about 0.3 Miles south  
 of Florence Road)

CITY, TOWN

Woodbine

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

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 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

Trustees of Jennings Chapel U.M. Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

2551 Jennings Chapel Road

CITY, TOWN

Woodbine, Maryland

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

21797

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Tax Map 13 p. 69  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 292 and 14  
 Folio #: 513 144

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 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**

Jennings Chapel U.M. Church faces west on the east side of Jennings Chapel Road, just south of its intersection with Florence Road. It is a three bay wide, three bay deep, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with aluminum siding) structure, with a gabled tin roof, enclosed entrance porch, which extends forward to form a simple, frame portico, supported by four doric columns, mounted on square cement piles, which are supported by a stone and cement foundation and approached by three wide, poured in place, concrete steps. The central entrance is a double, open bible and cross paneled, rectangular, entrance door, flanked by rectangular double-hung windows with one-over-one lights. A single fan light is centered into the A, formed by the gabled roof, while a second floor, double-hung window, with one-over-one lights, rests on either side of the gabled roof of the entrance porch.

Three first floor, rectangular, double-hung windows, with one-over-one, painted lights, rest in the north wall of the chapel, while only one can be seen on the south wall. This is due to the construction of an early, one story high, four bay wide, south wing, whose gabled roof runs north-south and intersects with the gable roof of the main structure. A rectangular entrance is set into the north bay of the west wall. A further south addition extends from this south wall. It is a four bay wide, three bay deep one story high, frame (covered with aluminum siding) building, with gabled roof running north-south. Rectangular entrances, with three horizontal lights in the upper portion of each door, rest in the central bay of the south wall and the third bay of the west wall. Fenestration is rectangular, double-hung with two-over-two lights.

The original chapel features a one story high, semi-conical roofed apse on its east wall with three Roman arched leaden paned windows. Snow birds decorate the roof line of each of the building's three sections.

**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 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      1853      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Jennings Chapel U. M. Church of Woodbine, Howard County, Maryland, is one of its earliest Methodist Churches, established in 1853.<sup>1</sup> Distinction attaching from age is expanded upon by its leadership role as a social focal point for the leaders of this community.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the pattern of enlargement by increments over an extended period of time is significant for two reasons: it reflects a common practice in the building history of the United States,<sup>3</sup> and it mirrors the evolution of this particular area, from the mid-nineteenth century through to the present day.<sup>4</sup>

History and Support

1. In 1853 John and Margaret Meredith, James A. Meredith and James and Catherine Baxley conveyed one (1) and three (3) square perches of land, which was part of two tracts of land called, "Small Piece" and "Fredericksburg", to the Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church. Interestingly enough, the deed, which stated the purpose of the conveyance was "to erect a Church or House of Public Worship of Almighty God for the use and occupancy of the ministers and membership of the Methodist Protestant Church", added further discretionary powers to the Trustees to "permit the use of said Church or House of Worship to the ministers of other Protestant denominations when not used or occupied by the ministers or membership of the . . . Methodist Protestant Church.

2. The Trustees of Jennings Chapel U. M. Church reflected the leadership and large property owners of the area. Probably the most renowned among them was Albert G. Warfield, who in 1838 built Oakdale and four years later married Margaret Gassaway Watkins of "Walnut Grove". Their son, Edwin, later became Governor of Maryland and lived in Oakdale. In 1870 he, Albert G. Warfield, served as School Commissioner and must well have been influential in helping to plan and build the Old Florence School in 1872. Another trustee, John Hood Owings, became the Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1888. See title search for complete list of the trustees.

3. Jennings Chapel U. M. Church reflects the common practice of enlarging by increments, featuring the original frame building block, with its later nineteenth century extension to today's brick addition.

4. A sign board in front of the Church mirrors its evolution from the mid-nineteenth century to today by directing the passerby to pray for the release of the U. S. hostages in Iran, addressing a current twentieth century situation, although its roots go deep into Howard County's nineteenth century families.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

HO - 254  
Woodbine Quad.  
District 4

Interview with Ms. Gwen Warfield of the Clerk's Office in Ellicott City, Maryland, parishioner of Jennings' Chapel U. M. Church

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.37 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 292 Folio 513  
Liber 14 Folio 144

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 DATE  
Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section  
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE  
3450 Court House Drive  
CITY OR TOWN STATE  
Ellicott City 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

HO 254  
1402544508

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Jennings Chapel United Methodist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: North side of Jennings Chapel Road about 0.3 mi

CITY OR TOWN: near Florence south of Florence Road

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Howard

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<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 type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi	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
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: Trustees of Jennings Chapel Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER: Jennings Chapel Road

CITY OR TOWN: Woodbine STATE: Md

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

p. 13  
69

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	<i>Added to</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This frame clapboard country church, quite plain in plan and detail and having no steeple or belfry, is one-story high except for a balcony lighted by two windows in the south end wall of the main section (Section A in sketch below). Facing south ~~the entrance is through~~ <sup>the south</sup> end wall. Rectangular, 3 bays by 3, a portico is almost entirely enclosed at the south end to shelter a new entry-way. ~~The pitched-roof ridge line runs north-south~~ Section B lies to the east, ~~it is~~ oblong ~~the roofline remains~~ 4 bays long. its pitched roof ridge line runs east-west. Windows are rectangular, done in Tiffany glass. The roof is of tin.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

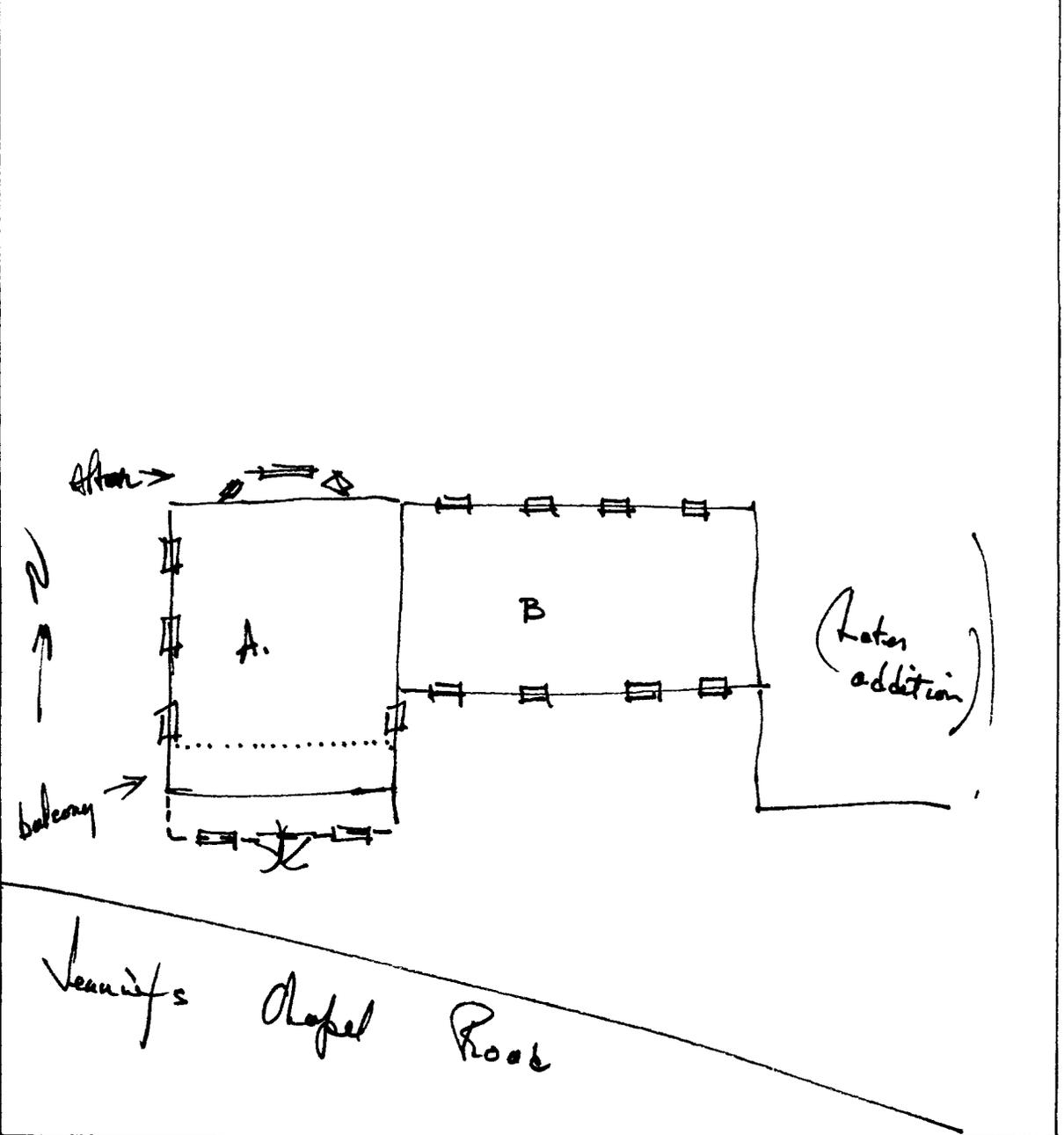
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

[Empty space for 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				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreege Justification:

[Empty space for Acreege Justification]

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

STATE:	COUNTY:

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **JEAN S. EWING**

ORGANIZATION: **MARLAND HISTORICAL TRUST** DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NUMBER: **1235 RIVA ROAD**

CITY OR TOWN: **MARLAND** STATE: **MD**

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

Significance of this property is:

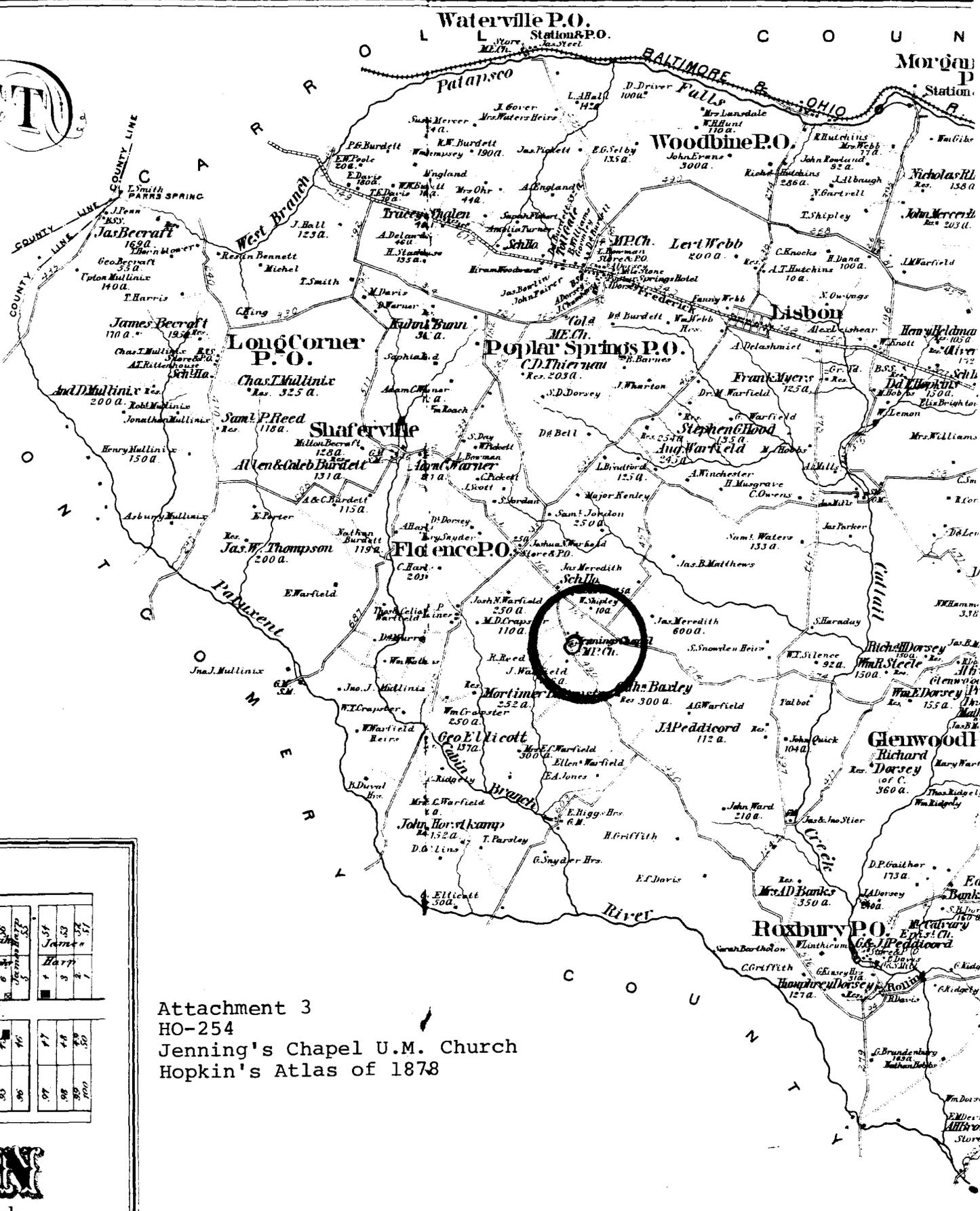
National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Waterville P.O. Station & P.O.



ALLEY	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
ALLEY	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
ALLEY	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
ALLEY	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
ALLEY	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
ALLEY	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
ALLEY	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
ALLEY	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
ALLEY	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98
ALLEY	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09

Attachment 3  
HO-254  
Jenning's Chapel U.M. Church  
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878



94

ORENCE

G. LAURENCE MOORE  
403/235  
250A.  
P.15

R.S  
CRANE  
582/45  
5.00A  
P.179

EFFIE POOLE, L/E  
497/529,532  
54.87A.  
P.22

Attachment I  
HO-254  
Jenning's Chapel U.M. Church  
Tax Map 13

N.  
4/  
1.0  
14

WARFIELD, III  
0/468  
1.88A.  
P.17

FLORENCE

J.L. THOMAS  
532/16  
RD. 5.13A.  
P.137

J.M. GORDON  
157/238  
12.75A.  
P.23

R. C. BENNETT  
496/750  
7.81A.  
P.64

5.34A.  
P.24

2.00A.  
P.75

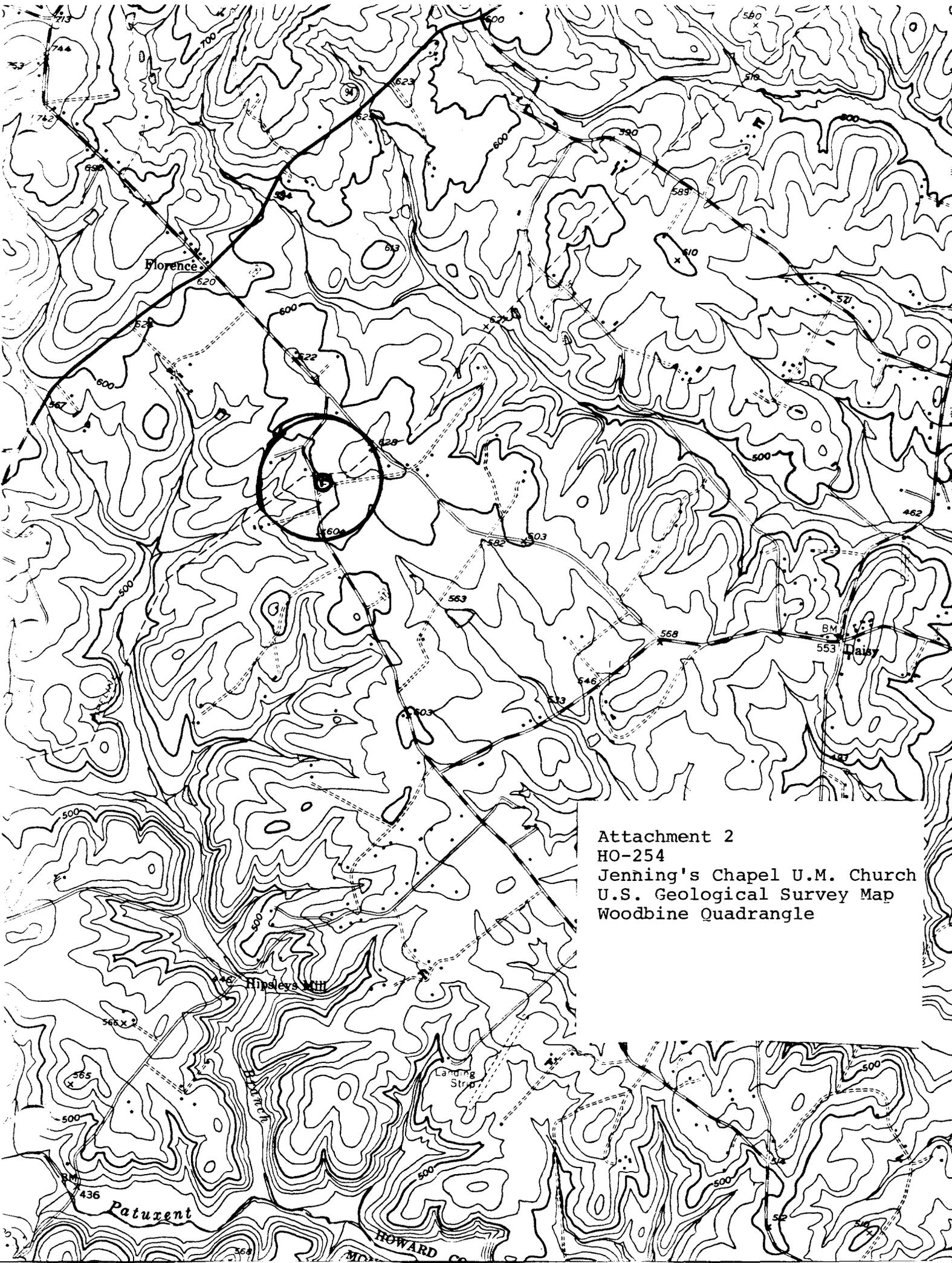
764/331  
3.80A  
P.295

ALBERT G WARFIELD  
598/273  
89.85A.  
P.134

P.303

JENNINGS

CEM



Attachment 2  
HO-254  
Jenning's Chapel U.M. Church  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Woodbine Quadrangle



HO 254

5700

Vennings Chapel 182 8/73



Name: HO-254  
Jennings Chapel U. M. Church  
Location: Jennings Chapel Road  
Woodbine, Maryland  
Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.  
Date of Photograph: May, 1980  
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust  
View: West  
Photographer looking: East  
Photograph number: 1 of 1