

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Free Methodist Church of Spencerville Inventory Number: M:15-118

Address: 2100 Spencerville Road (MD 198) 15930 Good Hope Road Historic district: yes no

City: Spencerville Zip Code: 20868-0089 County: Montgomery

USGS Quadrangle(s): Beltsville

Property Owner: Free Methodist Church Tax Account ID Number: 05-00259738

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): P240 Tax Map Number: KS22

Project: MD 28-198 Agency: MD SHA

Agency Prepared By: URS Group, Inc.

Preparer's Name: Brian Clevon Date Prepared: 2/20/2015

Documentation is presented in: N/A

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes no Listed: yes no

Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Free Methodist Church of Spencerville at 2100 Spencerville Road (MD 198) is a one-story high Colonial Revival Church with a residential parsonage located behind the church (2024 Spencerville Road) (Figure 1-1). The church was originally built in 1905, moved north 75 feet away from the road and rebuilt in 1954, and then expanded in 1964. The parsonage was completed in 1966. The church and parsonage are set back from the road 140 feet and 250 feet, respectively, on a large grassy lot. The lot is accessed by two driveways with parking areas around the sides and rear of the church and a drop off lane in front of the church. The boundary for the 8.45 acre inventoried property is bound by parcel numbers P195, P240, and P246, as shown on Figure 1-2.

The Free Methodist Church of Spencerville was organized in 1899 by the Rev. A.G. Miller with 16 charter members. The original church was built in 1905 by the church members who cut the oak trees and sawed logs to create building components. At the time, the Rev. J.W. Tamblyn was the pastor and served the church together with three others on the circuit. The Golden Anniversary was celebrated in 1949 (MCHS 1964; MMHS n.d.).

On May 30, 1952, ground was broken on a new foundation and basement. The three-bay-wide and four-bay-deep, front gable church was then moved north 75 feet onto the new foundation. On October 24, 1954 the corner stone was laid. A bible used by

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
MHT Comments:	
<u>Jim Faulkner</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>6/5/2015</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, National Register Program	<u>6/8/15</u> Date

Rev. Albert Sergeant and a copper tube containing a history of the church and a list of contributors to the church remodeling was placed behind the stone. Five Sunday school rooms, a recreation room, and kitchen were built in the new basement. New heating and lighting systems were installed and the interior was remodeled to give more space to the sanctuary. A new front entrance, belfry, and brick veneer were added.

The one-bay front entrance has a double vertical board, wood doors with strap hinges in a gothic arch. The front entrance opens onto a concrete stoop with concrete steps and brick walls with concrete caps topped with metal railings. The belfry has two square tiers topped with a pyramidal steeple. Windows are one-over-one-light, double-hung, wood-sash units with stained glass with Roman arch details. Round wood-sash wheel windows are located in the front gables of the sanctuary and the front entrance vestibule. Two separate gable-roof additions were attached to the rear. The first addition is full width while the second is two-thirds the width of the sanctuary rear addition. Both contain one-over-one-light, double-hung, wood-sash windows and replacement doors. A tall brick chimney is located on the west elevation of the rear addition. Dedication services were held December 4, 1954 with Bishop M.D. Ormston presiding (MCHS 1954).

The church was soon expanded with a large side ell on the west (left) elevation. George Grauel, a member of the congregation and carpenter took responsibility for the work. He drew detailed plans for the church in 1962 and then took a year off work to supervise the construction. He even provided the lumber; trees were cut from the same 20-acre plot of land as the oaks for the original structure 59 years prior when the land was owned by his father-in-law. Logs for the expansion were cut in the winter of 1962-1963 and sawed the following July and August. Ground breaking ceremonies were held on May 19, 1963, but excavation did not begin until August 1, 1963. Construction continued throughout the year, largely by volunteer labor, except for specified contracts by local builders and contractors.

The new sanctuary accommodated 300 people and Sunday school facilities in the basement provided for even greater capacity. The new six-bay-long by three-bay-deep addition has a truncated hipped roof with roof railings, one-over-one-light, double-hung, wood-sash units with stained glass that match the 1954 structure, and an off-center front entrance with double-wood doors with strap hinges topped by a transom window with Roman arch stained glass transom window. The entrance opens onto a concrete stoop with concrete steps and brick walls with concrete caps topped with metal railings. Dedication services for the expanded church were held on October 11, 1964 with Conference Superintendent Rev. James N. Diddle presiding. Construction of the parsonage at 2024 Spencerville Road began the following year and was completed in 1966 (MCHS 1964; MMHS n.d.; SDAT 2014).

The parsonage is a long, three-bay-wide by two-bay-deep Ranch house with hipped roof. The house has a common bond brick veneer. The center bay of the façade (south) has an off-centered main entry with a four-panel wood door with fanlight. The center bay also contains a large picture window consisting of a central fixed pane flanked by one-over-one-light, double-hung, wood-sash units. The picture window is then followed by single and paired one-over-one-light, double-hung, wood-sash windows.

The west bay of the façade has similar paired windows while the east bay of the façade and the west (side) and rear (north) elevations have single windows. All the windows have brick sills and wood shutters with three raised square panel frames. The east (side) elevation contains two overhead garage doors, each with 4 rows of square panels, the second from top row containing glazed panels. The rear elevation has a single vinyl door accessing the garage and a central sliding glass door. The roof has a rear hipped roof, wood-sided elongated dormer and is sheathed with asphalt shingles. An off-center brick chimney is located north of the ridge.

Two modern buildings or structures have been added to the property. A gable roofed picnic shelter was added circa 1975 (NETR Online 2014). A cell phone tower added to the property in 2010 (Google Earth Pro 2013).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

The reconstruction date of 1954 indicates the church was built during the Modern Period of Suburbanization in Maryland, which extended from 1930 to 1960 (KCI 1999:B-16). The building was constructed following World War II, when returning soldiers were reentering the civilian work force and increasing the demand for single family housing. Following a brief period of contraction during the demilitarization of the economy, the American economy began to grow rapidly as peacetime consumer demand for goods continued to increase. The growing economy and government employment opportunities attracted more workers and increased the demand for housing in the suburban areas surrounding Baltimore and Washington D.C. The new suburbs resulted in new community assets, such as churches. This church represents a simple Colonial Revival church because it has a telescoping and balustrade wood steeple, oculus windows, simple ornamentation, and a traditional form (KCI 1999:D-61). This church was constructed in an unplanned suburban neighborhood with nearby dwellings featuring a variety of construction dates and building styles (KCI 1999:B-2).

The Free Methodist Church of Spencerville at 2100 Spencerville Road (MD 198) is not eligible for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This property is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A because it does not have an association with any historically significant events or broad patterns of history. Archival research does not indicate the property is associated with person(s) of historic significance and is not eligible under NRHP Criterion B. The property maintains integrity of location, but the commercialization of the nearby area and alterations to the property, including the cell phone tower have sacrificed integrity of setting. The church is not eligible under Criterion C for NRHP listing as an important example of an architecturally significant building type, period, or method of construction. Criterion D was not investigated as part of this study.

Bibliography

Google Earth Pro

2013 Google Earth Pro, version 7.1.2.2041.

Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC (NETR Online)

2014 HistoricAerials. <http://www.historicaerials.com/aerials.php?scale=2000&lon=-76.968315&lat=39.11784&year=2006>.

Marston Memorial Historical Center (MMHS) Vertical Files,

n.d. "A Brief History of the Church." Marston Memorial Historical Center, Free Methodist Church USA

Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS) Vertical Files,

1954 "Spencerville Church Lays Corner Stone," Star, November 11, 1954. Churches Miscellaneous, Free Methodist-Spencerville Free Methodist. Montgomery County Historical Society

1964 "Church Will Dedicate Its Remodeled Building," Sentinel, October 10, 1964. Churches Miscellaneous, Free Methodist-Spencerville Free Methodist. Montgomery County Historical Society

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended _____
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D	Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G
MHT Comments:	
_____	_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
_____	_____
Reviewer, National Register Program	Date

Cultural Resources Map



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Free Methodist Church of Spencerville (M:15-118)

2100 Spencerville Road

Montgomery County

USGS Beltsville Topo Quad

January 7, 2016

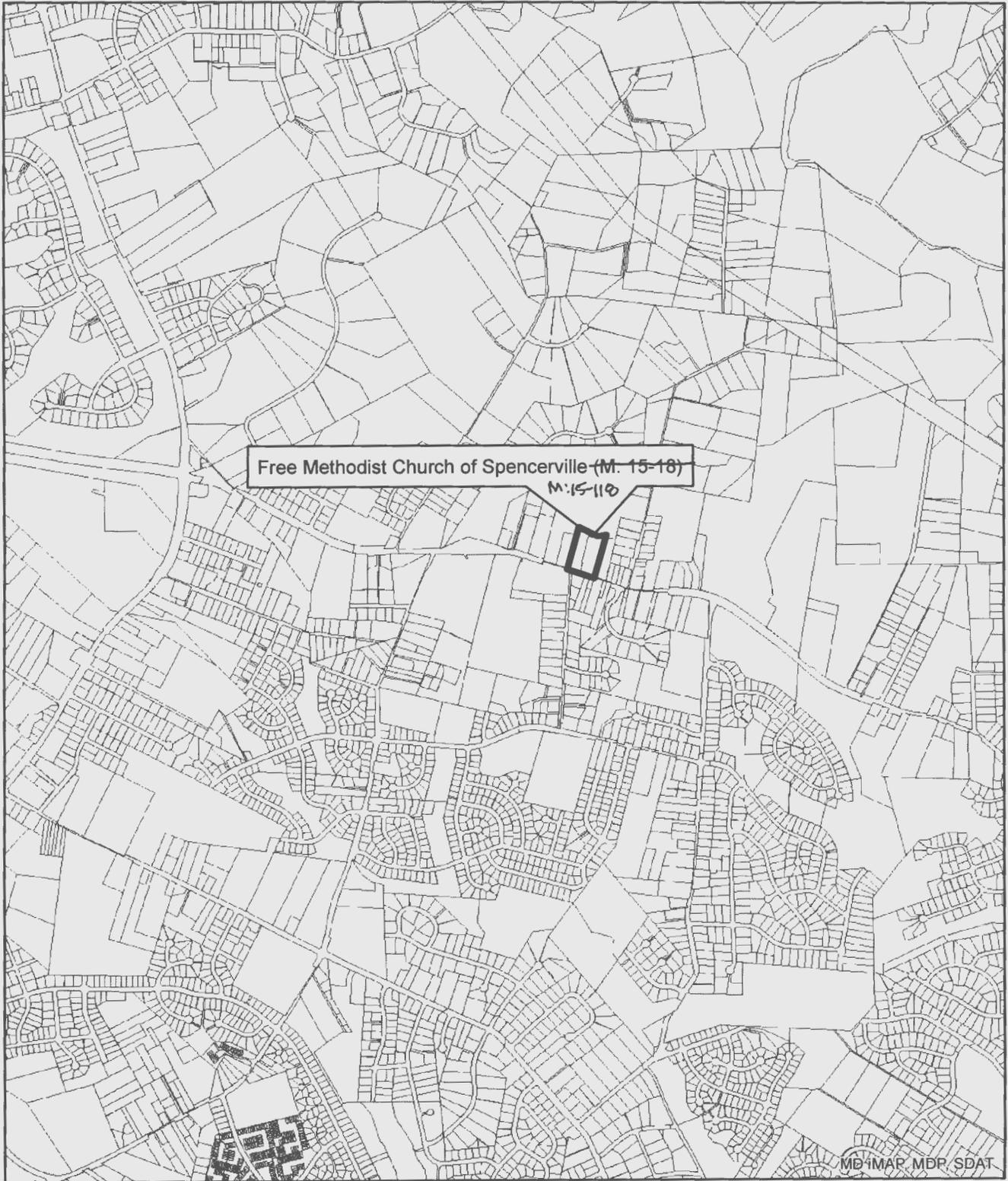
1:24,000

(M:15-118)

0 1,250 2,500 5,000 Feet



Cultural Resources Map



MD\IMAP.MDR.SDAT



Free Methodist Church of Spencerville (M: 15-18)
 2100 Spencerville Road
 Montgomery County
 Tax Map KS22, Parcel P240

M:15-118

January 7, 2016

1:24,000

0 1,250 2,500 5,000 Feet





CLIENT	Maryland State Highway Administration			
PROJ	MD 28/198 from MD 97 to I-95			
REVISION NO	0	DR BY	PAR	12/17/14
SCALE	n/a	CHK BY	JW	01/05/15
Q:\Projects\ENV\CRM\MD SHA\CRM Open-End Contract 2007-2012\BCS2010 02A Tasks\TO 27 MD 28-198E. Data\E:5 Graphics		PM	ME	01/16/15



TITLE	M:15-118 Free Methodist Church of Spencerville (M:15-118) Photo Key	
2100 Spencerville Road	PROJ NO	15804327
Montgomery County	FIGURE	2-1
USGS Beltsville Topo Quad		

Photo Log

M: 15-118

Free Methodist Church of Spencerville

Montgomery County, MD

Brian Clevon

11/04/2014

1. Free Methodist Church Property, Looking Northwest
2. Free Methodist Church Front Elevation, Looking North
3. Free Methodist Church Main Entrance, Looking North
4. Free Methodist Church, Looking North
5. Free Methodist Church, Looking West
6. Free Methodist Church, Looking Southwest
7. Free Methodist Church, Looking South
8. Free Methodist Church, Looking Southeast
9. Free Methodist Church, Looking East
10. Free Methodist Church, Looking Northeast
11. Free Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking North
12. Free Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking Northwest
13. Free Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking Southwest



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH OF SPENGERVILLE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH PROPERTY, LOOKING NW

1/13

Epson
Professional Paper

EPSON



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

FRONT ELEVATION, LOOKING NORTH

2/13

Epson
Professional Paper

EPSON

Epson
Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREEMETHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

MAIN ENTRANCE, LOOKING NORTH

3/13

Epson
Professional Paper

EPSON

EPSON



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVELAND

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH, LOOKING NORTH

4/13



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH, LOOKING WEST

S/13

Epson
Professional Paper

Epson
Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD STPO

CHURCH, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

6/15

Epson
Professional Paper

EPSON

Epson
Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH, LOOKING SOUTH

F/13

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Professional Paper

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Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

8/13



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHED

CHURCH, LOOKING EAST

9/13



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

CHURCH, LOOKING NORTHEAST

10/13

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EPSON

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Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MB SHPO

PARSONAGE, LOOKING NORTH

11/13

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Professional Paper

EPSON



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

PARSONAGE, LOOKING NORTHWEST

12/13

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Professional Paper

EPSON

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Professional Paper



M: 15-118

FREE METHODIST CHURCH of SPENCERVILLE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

B. CLEVEN

11/04/2014

MD SHPO

PARSONAGE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

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