

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. W0-103

Magi No. 2401035608

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic MAKEMIE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 103 West Market Street not for publication

city, town Snow Hill vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church

street & number 103 West Market Street telephone no.:

city, town Snow Hill state and zip code MD 21863

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967 federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. W0-103

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Makemie Memorial Presbyterian church stands on the south side of West Market Street in the center of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The High Victorian Gothic brick church faces northwest, and a cemetery is located to the south and west of the building.

Designed by Philadelphia architect, Isaac Purcell and erected in 1888-89, the single-story stretcher bond brick church follows a cruciform plan roughly with two- and three-story entrance and bell towers filling the inside front corners. Attached to the back of the main block is a single-story wing that houses the Sunday School and service rooms. Asphalt shingles cover the main roof, while the towers are sheathed with a combination of slate and metal surfaces. A brick wall extends around the perimeter of the churchyard, and it was erected in memory of John Walter Smith, a prominent local businessman who served as governor of Maryland for four years and longer as a representative from Worcester County in the Maryland General Assembly.

The northwest (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with towers flanking a center Gothic arched colored glass window. The rusticated red stone foundation and sandstone arches that highlight the doors and windows contrast with the smooth brick walls. Above the center window a decorative brick corbelling accentuates the gable end. Flanking the center gable is a three-story tower to the north and a two-story tower to the south. The corners of both towers are marked by buttresses that extend to a second story level. On the north face of each tower between the buttresses are Gothic arched, double-door openings. The first floor elevation of each tower is marked by double or single Gothic arched, colored glass windows, while the second floor is pierced by tri-partite windows of colored glass. The south, two-story tower is capped by a short octagonal spire with corner pinnacles topped by intricately shaped finials. The ribs, a mid-section, and the spire top are covered with metal. There is a delicate iron cresting that distinguishes the spire. The north, three-story tower is marked by large Gothic arched openings on each face of the belfry, and a taller octagonal spire rises with metal ribs and a decorative metal finial. Likewise metal sheathed pinnacles highlight each corner.

The northeast and southwest sides are similar with the gable end filled with a Gothic arched colored glass window. Smaller segmental arched windows and side doors fill the adjacent bays. The back end (southeast) of the main block is covered fully by the rear hip roof wing which is lighted by an assortment of single or paired windows.

The sanctuary occupies a tee-shaped space created by the cruciform shaped main block with an exposed hammerbeam truss roof. The two central columns that carry a pair of trusses are cast iron. The pews are arranged in a semi-circular plan with the raised altar along the south wall. The wall surfaces combine narrow, beaded board wainscoting and plaster. The sanctuary ceiling is decorated wooden ornament and tri-foil cut out designs mark the arched braces. The church furniture and chandeliers carry Gothic inspired designs. Double door, Gothic arched openings with colored glass transoms in a few cases mark the various doorways.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-103

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 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		

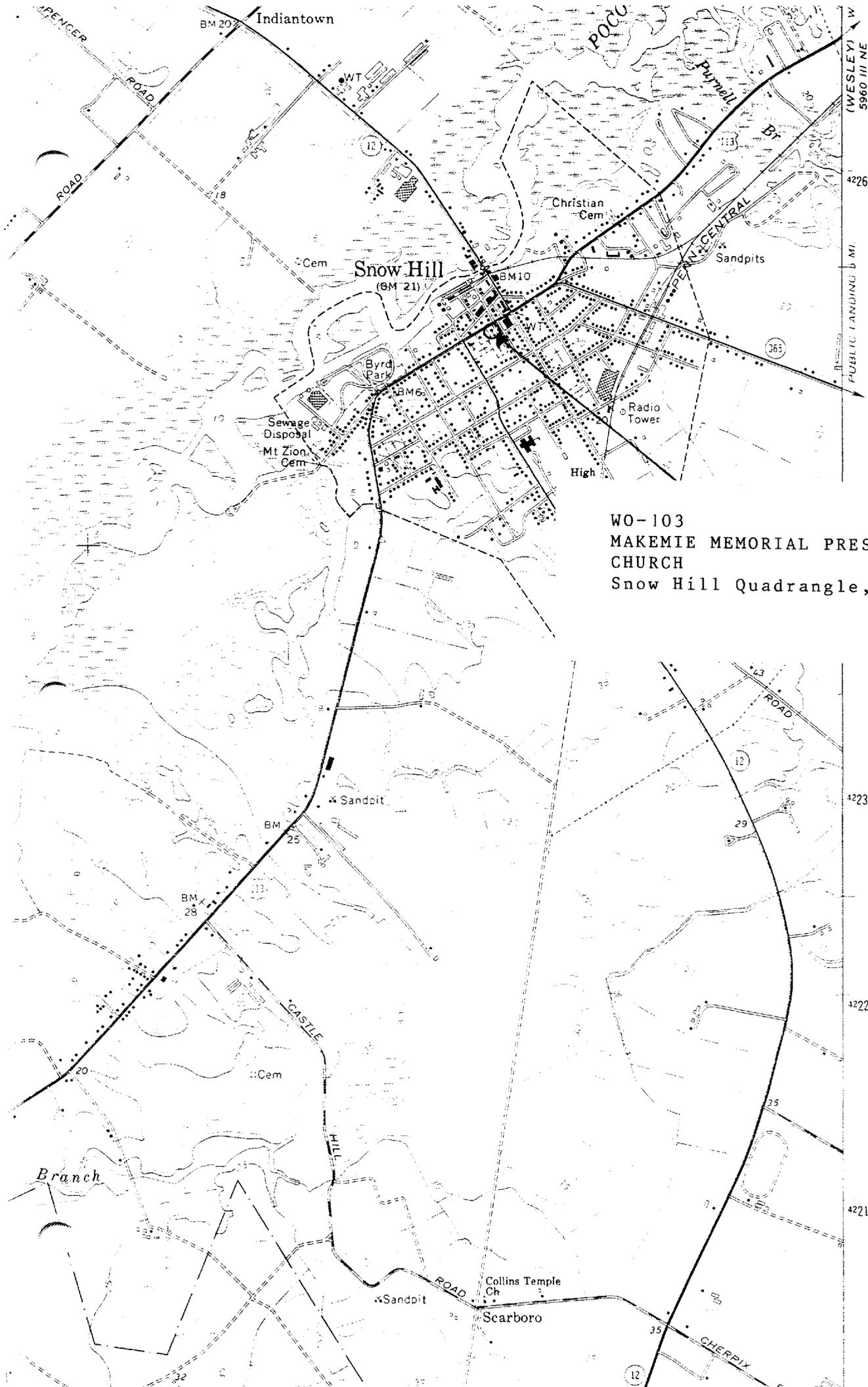
Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** Isaac Purcell, architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Makemie Memorial Presbyterian church is one of the few architect-designed buildings on the Eastern Shore for which there is a complete record of its construction in 1888-1889. Designed by Philadelphia architect, Isaac Purcell, the High Victorian Gothic brick church was erected with superior materials and craftsmanship for the time. Materials were gathered from a wide range of sources including Baltimore, Philadelphia, in addition to local craftsmen. Not only is the church distinguished by its pair of decorative entrance towers, but the structure stands out as a highly impressive landmark in Snow Hill. Historically, a Presbyterian congregation has existed in town since the church was organized around 1684. The Victorian building is the fourth structure to house the congregation. The site of the third church, a brick building erected in 1795, is located in the center of the cemetery behind the present structure.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT



Snow Hill
 166
 WO-103

WO-103
 MAKEMIE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN
 CHURCH
 Snow Hill Quadrangle, 1966



W0-103

MALDENIE PRESBYTERIAN Church

SNOW HILL, WORCESTER County, MD.

NORTHWEST, ELEVATION

11/98, MICHAEL H. DAY, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEED MD. HIST. TRUST



Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church W O-103

103 West Market Street, Snow Hill