The First United Methodist Church in Quantico is an important example of
Greek Revival church architecture in Wicomico County. The well-
preserved temple-front exterior, with its arched front entrance, corner
pilasters, flush board tympanum and bracketed roof belfry, remains intact.
The interior, on the other hand is reflective of the changes made to many
churches during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century.
The pressed metal walls and the beaded tongue-and-groove board finishes
were added in 1915. The most significant original interior feature is the
balcony or gallery, which has Tuscan columns that extend from the gallery
floor to the ceiling.

Methodism in the vicinity of Quantico is traced back to the
Revolutionary War era through the ministry of Reverend Freeborn
Garretson. By the early 1780s a congregation built a small chapel about a
mile south of the present village. The chapel was dedicated by Bishop
Thomas Coke in 1784. About his visit in November 1784, Thomas Coke
wrote, "Near this Chapel, I was entertained by one, Mrs. Walters, a widow
lady of considerable fortune—The Chapel is most beautifully situated in a
grove and the congregations were very large. On the Lord's Day the
Chapel could not contain the people."

During the first half of the nineteenth century the village of
Quantico developed into a modest sized mill community with a handful of
stores and a dozen or more dwellings. In 1847, the church membership
decided to relocate to the village, and a second chapel, which had been
erected in 1820, was moved to the current site. According to church records the building was lengthened fourteen feet at the time of its move. It was rededicated March 26, 1848. At the same time a bell, cast in Baltimore, was placed in the belfry.
HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MHT Inventory Number: WI-81

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE

2) Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

   Agricultural-Industrial Transition
   1815-1870

4) Resource Type(s): Church
Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WI-81
Magi No.
DOE _yes _no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

2. Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>street &amp; number</th>
<th>Main Street</th>
<th>not for publication</th>
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<tr>
<td>city, town</td>
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<td>vicinity of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>congressional district</td>
</tr>
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<td>county</td>
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3. Classification

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<td>___ entertainment</td>
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<td></td>
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4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name</th>
<th>Trustees of the First United Methodist Church</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>street &amp; number</td>
<td>c/o Reverend William T. Sterling telephone no.: 749-9536</td>
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<tr>
<td>city, town</td>
<td>Quantico</td>
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5. Location of Legal Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.</th>
<th>Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>street &amp; number</td>
<td>Wicomico County Courthouse folio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Salisbury state</td>
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6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

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<tr>
<th>title</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>repository for survey records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>city, town</td>
<td>state</td>
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</table>
The First United Methodist Church stands on the west side of Main Street south of the intersection with Cherry Walk Road in the center of Quantico, Wicomico County, Maryland. Facing east, the principal gable roof is oriented on an east/west axis.

Initially erected in 1820 and moved to its current site and enlarged in 1847-48, this single-story, temple-front frame church is supported on a low brick foundation, and it is sheathed with plain weatherboards. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the church is a single-story frame addition built in 1937 with a roof oriented on a perpendicular to that of the main structure.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center arched entrance and flanking colored glass windows. Trimming the corners of the church are paneled pilasters that rise to a boxed cornice, which encloses the pediment. The front entrance is a large round arched opening filled with four-panel, double-leaf doors and framed by a wide surround fitted with a molded keystone at its head. The arched transom is fitted with translucent glass. Flanking the entrance is a pair of colored glass windows framed by wide board surrounds topped by molded lintels. The tympanum is finished with flush board sheathing and a round arched opening is centered within the pediment. Rising from the roof is a small weatherboard frame belfry featuring corner pilasters, rectangular louvered vents, and a low pitched pyramidal roof trimmed with a bracketed eave.

The side elevations are essentially alike with three long colored glass windows framed by wide board surrounds, each trimmed with a heavy crown molding. Interior side brick stove stacks pierce the roofline between the second and third bays from the east corner. The back of the church is largely covered by a single-story frame Sunday School addition that rests on a concrete block foundation and is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof.

The interior of the church has been modified over the years with the introduction of beaded board wainscoting, pressed metal walls, and a beaded board ceiling. Fixed in the east end of the church is the original mid-nineteenth century balcony or gallery that is reached by an enclosed winder stair which rises in the northeast corner. An early nineteenth century door with its back turned outward encloses the winder stair. At the top of the gallery stair is an early nineteenth century chamfered newel post railing. The gallery railing, which stretches between smooth Tuscan columns, is supported by bold turned balusters. At the south end of the front entry is a closet that is entered through a two-panel Greek Revival door.

(continued)
8. Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</th>
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<tr>
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<td>— agriculture</td>
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<td>— art</td>
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<td>— commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-</td>
<td>— communications</td>
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check: Applicable Criteria:   _A_   _B_  xC  _D_  
and/or
Applicable Exception:   xA  _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 First United Methodist Church in Quantico is an important example of Greek Revival church architecture in Wicomico County. The well-preserved temple-front exterior, with its arched front entrance, corner pilasters, flush board tympanum and bracketed roof belfry, remains intact. The interior, on the other hand is reflective of the changes made to many churches during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The pressed metal walls and the beaded tongue-and-groove board finishes were added in 1915. The most significant original interior feature is the balcony or gallery, which has Tuscan columns that extend from the gallery floor to the ceiling.

Due to its high level of integrity, the First United Methodist church falls in Category A, which identifies a structure of historic significance that exhibits many good architectural details representative of a period of architectural development and which also contributes uniquely and superlatively to the character and collective value of the structures within the district.
9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____________________________
Quadrangle name ___________________________ Quadrangle scale ___________________________

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

<table>
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<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
organization Private Consultant  date  8/27/93
street & number P. O. Box 5  telephone  410-651-1094
city or town Westover  state  Maryland  21871

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
(301) 614-7600

PS-2746
The front entry or vestibule is partitioned from the sanctuary, which is entered through a pair of swinging leather-bound doors. The sanctuary has been remodeled with narrow oak flooring, beaded board wainscoting, and pressed metal walls. A classical metal cornice made up of egg-and-dart and Greek key motifs stretches around the perimeter of the room. The ceiling has been reworked as well with beaded tongue-and-groove board panels set in an angular three-sided vault. Hanging from the ceiling are early twentieth century chandeliers. The altar has been reworked on a raised platform with a turned baluster altar rail in front. Flanking the altar are early twentieth century five-panel doors that open into rooms on each side.
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Quantico, Maryland
1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
MARYLAND
SCALE 1:31680

WAR DEPARTMENT
IRPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Quantico, Maryland
Eden, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

QUANTIC0
HISTORY OF THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
Quantico, Maryland

Methodism had its beginning in Somerset County, Md., at Quantico in the summer of 1778, and it was through an invitation to the Reverend Freeborn Garretson by a Mr. and Mrs. William Rider who were visiting friends in Broad Creek, Del., heard him preach and were so touched, that they remarked, "We cannot hide ourselves any longer from Him. Our house and our hearts are open to receive you and the blessed words you preach." Thus was Methodism brought to Quantico in 1778, and became the first Methodist congregation south of Delaware. Soon after the organization, a rude meeting house was erected about one mile south of the town. A little later the first Methodist Chapel was opened for worship and dedicated by Bishop Thomas Coke. In his journal he made this notation, "Quantico Chapel, Somerset County, Md., Saturday and Sunday, November 20th and 21st, 1784. Near this Chapel, I was entertained by one Mrs. Walters, a widow lady of considerable fortune — the Chapel is most beautifully situated in a grove and the congregations were very large. On the Lord's Day the Chapel could not contain the people."

Incidentally, the Quantico Chapel was built just 16 years before the one at Salisbury, Md. This Chapel was burned and another erected in 1820 and as the town became the center of church life in the community, it was deemed advisable to move the Chapel to the Present location, which was done in 1847, enlarged by adding 14 feet to its length and rededicated March 26, 1848.

In 1873 the auditorium was remodeled, the side galleries removed, and the remains of the slave gallery still exist above the main entrance.

When Bishop Francis Asbury, according to his Journal, visited Quantico on November 5, 1778, he made this statement, "I found no lack of anything in Quantico, except religion."

From 1778 to 1839, Quantico was a part of Somerset Circuit, of which Moore's Chapel was the head and contained 21 appointments. Moore's Chapel was erected in 1781, the year after the barrel's Chapel in 1780.

From 1839 to 1849, Quantico was a part of Salisbury Circuit, and in 1850, Quantico was the head of its own Circuit which embraced the following churches — Mapsey's, Mezick's, Jones', and Quantico. At the First Quarterly Conference, held at Mezick's Church in June of 1877, resolutions were adopted to hold a centennial in 1878, commemorating the One Hundredth Year of Methodism in Somerset County, but due to the lack of interest, the plan was dropped.

It may be of interest to mention that the Bible was presented to an organization of the church known as the Sons of Temperance, Quantico Division No. 52, by Mrs. Beatie A. Parvin and Mrs. Sarah R. Fletcher in behalf of the ladies of Quantico, and has been in use constantly since the dedication in 1848.

The bell was cast in 1848 in Baltimore, Md., and has been tolled for every President of the United States who died in office since Abraham Lincoln.

The Bible, presented to the Church in 1848, contains an unbroken record of all the Ministers serving Quantico Church from 1778 to 1991, the present minister being the Rev. William T. Sterling, Jr.

The First Quarterly Conference of Quantico Circuit was held in the present building on May 11th and 12th, 1850, with the Reverend Robert Patterson as the Minister in charge.
ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY
The Lord's Day, November 1, 1992
214 YEARS OF MINISTRY
1778 - 1992
2:30 P. M.

THE PRELUDE "The Voice of Praise" Northam
"Beyond the Sunset" Brock

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES Eric Elliott, Acolyte

CHORAL INTROIT "The King Is Coming"

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Sterling

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Onward Christian Soldiers" # 575

THE CALL TO PRAYER

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC Dawn Cooper Jeni Feeney

*THE PSALTER - Psalm 107 p. 830

*THE GLORIA PATRI

*THE APOSTLES' CREED # 881

THE MEMORIAL READING Virginia Humphreys

THE SCRIPTURE READING

THE ANTHEM "The Lord is King" Barbara Williams Soloist

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERTORY "Above The Bright Blue" Madalyn Parrott Walter Donoway Soloists

*THE DOXOLOGY "Our Father's God To Thee"

*HYMN "Nearer My God to Thee" # 528


*HYMN "When We All Get To Heaven" # 701

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CHORAL RESPONSE "We Are the Church" (Choir and Congregation)

*THE POSTLUDE "Forth In Thy Name" Thompson

*Congregation Standing
Mr. 01

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Matthews,

Chapel of our Quakers

C/o Mr. and Mrs. Matthews

123 Main Street

The Quakers

Mr. and Mrs. Matthews

No. 123 Main Street