

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Forks Chapel/Portersville United Methodist Church Inventory Number: WO-374
 Address: George Island Landing Road City: Portersville/Stockton Zip Code: 21864
 County: Worcester County USGS Topographic Map: Stockton
 Owner: Forks Chapel M P Church Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 105 Tax Map Number: 94 Tax Account ID Number: 006687
 Project: Verizon Wireless - Stockton Cell Site Agency: FCC
 Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? yes no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible yes no

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

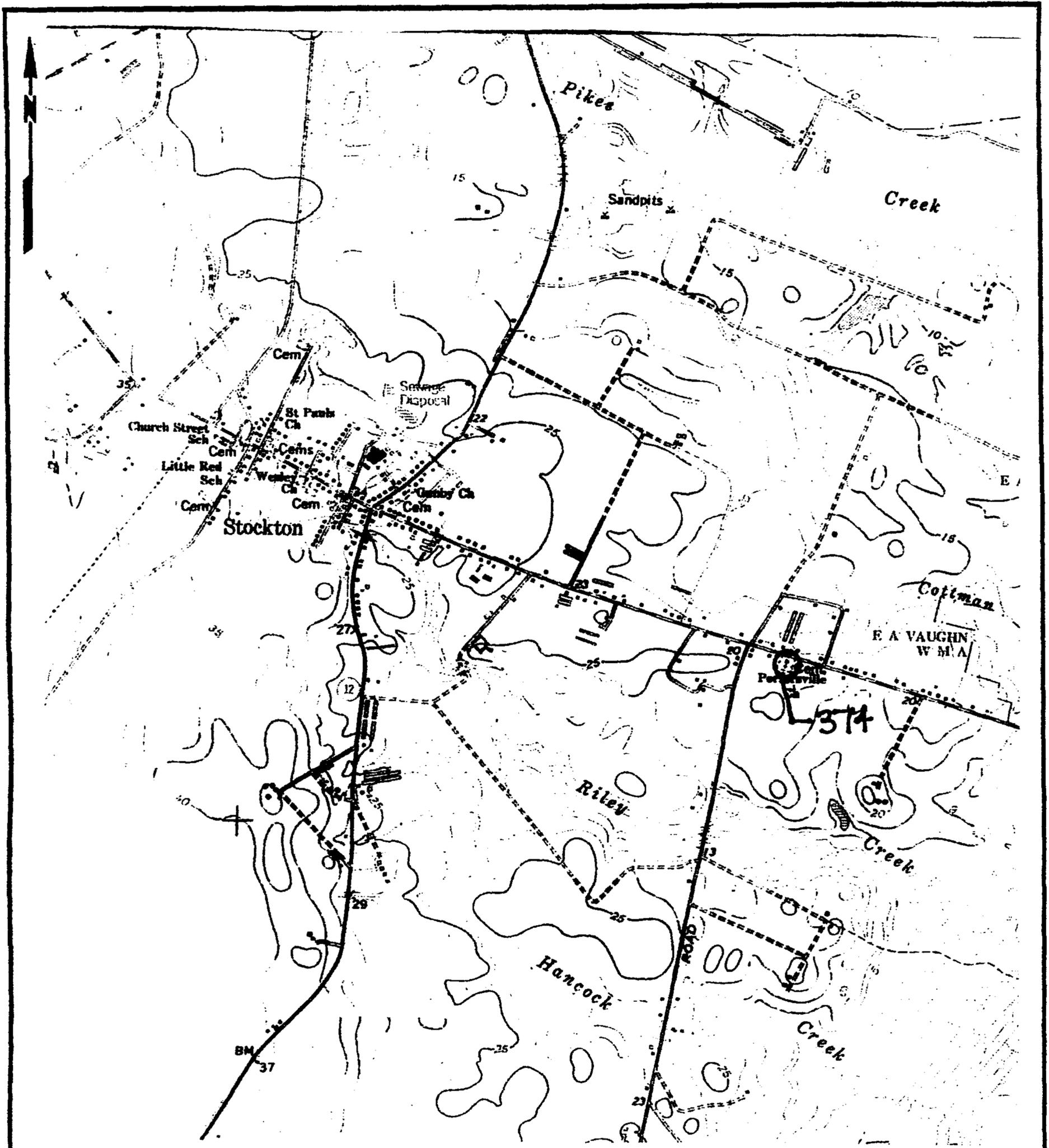
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

This rural site is located on the south side of Rte. 366, George Island Landing Road, east of the small town of Stockton, Maryland. The property is the site of the former Forks Chapel/Portersville United Methodist Church. The church was completely destroyed by fire started by lightening strike during a severe thunderstorm in late April 2002. The site has been cleared and sod planted. Still intact is the cemetery associated with the former church structure. The cemetery contains many simple historic markers and does not exhibit distinctive design features. It is not associated with significant historical individuals or events, or exhibit other characteristics necessary for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Kate Mahood
Architectural Historian

Date Prepared: August 22, 2002

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 <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>9/12/02</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>9/13/02</u> Date



SOURCE: UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 7.5 MINUTE SERIES GIRDLETREE, MARYLAND TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE; DATED 1966 (PHOTOREVISED 1980)

FORKS CHAPEL/PORTERSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 GEORGE ISLAND LANDING ROAD
 WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND (WO-374)



WJO-374

KATE MAHOOD
AUG 2002

FORKS CHAPEL/PORTERSVILLE U.M. CHURCH

Worcester Co, MD

MD SHPO

VIEW OF SITE OF FORMER CHURCH

LOOKING S. WEST

PHOTO # 1 of 1

WO-374
Fooks Chapel
Portersville
Public Worship

1887

Fooks Chapel is a plain frame church located in the small community of Portersville southeast of Stockton. Although the building is identified as Fooks Chapel on the 1887 cornerstone, the congregation is now know as the Portersville United Methodist Church. Pointed arch window and door openings are the only exterior references to the Gothic Revival style. As a relatively plain structure, the church is an interesting example of late nineteenth century rural Methodist chapel.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: FOOKS CHAPEL

MHT Inventory Number: W0-374

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
RELIGION
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):
INDUSTRIAL/URBAN DOMINANCE
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s):
Church and cemetery

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic FOOKS CHAPEL

and/or common PORTERSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2. Location

street & number South side of George Island Landing Road not for publication

city, town Stockton 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 Portersville United Methodist Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Stockton state and zip code MD 21864

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

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-374

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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.

Fooks Chapel, now known as Portersville United Methodist Church, stands on the south side of George Island Landing Road southeast of Stockton, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story gable front frame church faces northeast with the principal gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Dated by a cornerstone to 1887, this single-story asbestos shingled frame church is supported by a low infilled brick pier foundation, and the steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Surrounding the church is a nineteenth and twentieth century cemetery.

The northeast (main) elevation is a symmetrical facade with a projecting gable roof entry flanked by Gothic arched lancet windows. The front double doors are topped by a Gothic arched transom, and the sides of the vestibule are marked by small pointed arch sash as well. The datestone is fixed in the northwest corner, and it is inscribed "Fooks Chapel M. P. C. (Methodist Protestant Conference), 1887." The gable end is a plain asbestos shingled wall, and the eaves are extended slightly.

The sides of the church are defined by three evenly spaced Gothic arched sash windows, and an interior side brick stack rises on the east.

The south (rear) facade features a hip roofed apse pierced on each side by a pointed arch sash window.

The interior was not seen.

The cemetery surrounding the church contains several hundred markers dating from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

8. Significance

Survey No. W0-374

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 1887 **Builder/Architect**

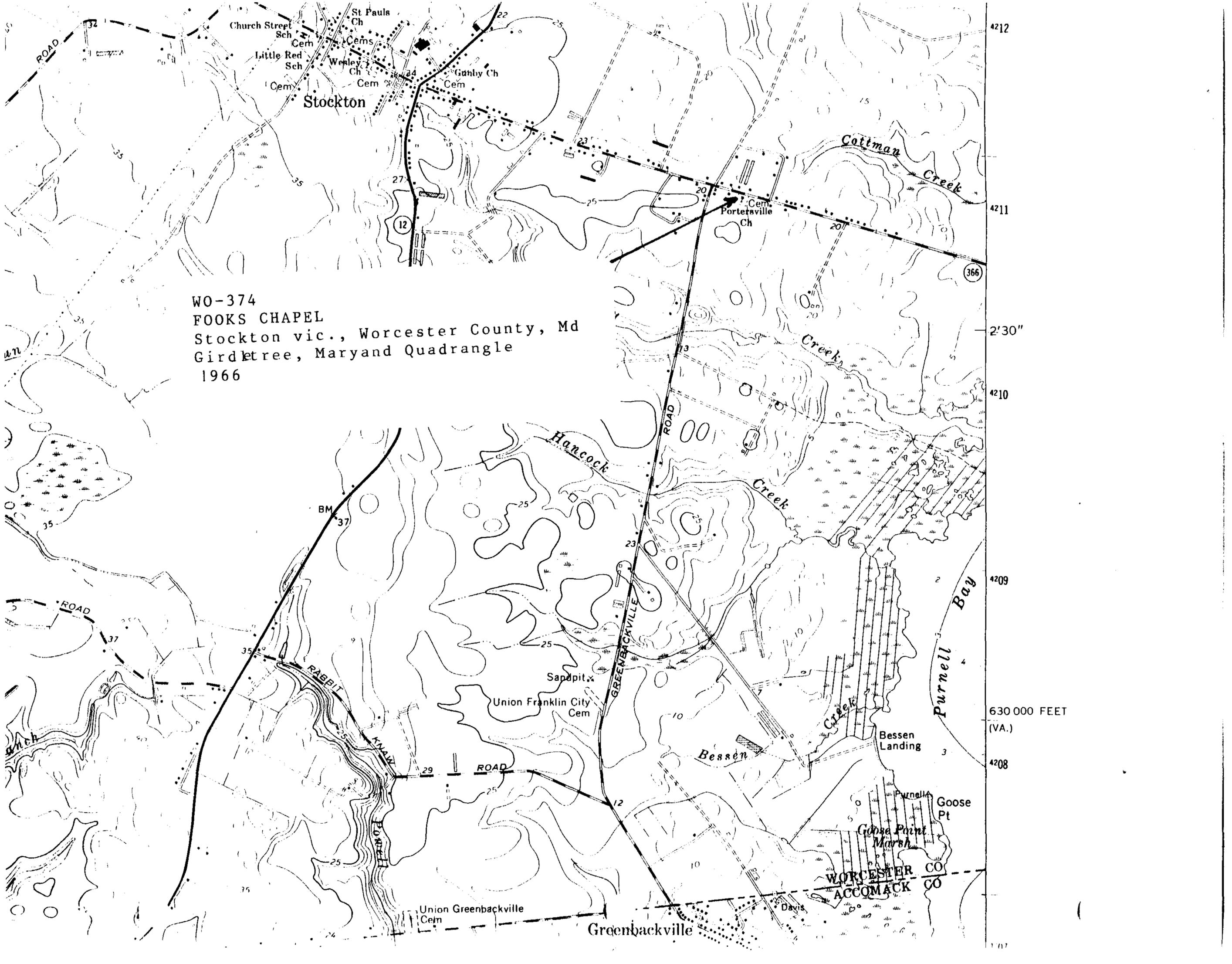
check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

Fooks Chapel is a plain frame church located in the small community of Portersville. Pointed arch window and door openings are the only exterior reference to the Gothic Revival style. The building is dated by a cornerstone to 1887. Despite its plain nature, the church is an interesting example of late nineteenth rural Methodist chapel.

WO-374
FOOKS CHAPEL
Stockton vic., Worcester County, Md
Girdletree, Maryland Quadrangle
1966



4212
4211
2'30"
4210
4209
630 000 FEET
(VA.)
4208
1 07