

WO-437

1914

Curtis United Methodist Church  
Campbelltown  
Public worship

Curtis United Methodist Church, also referred to as Curtis Chapel, is a single-story Gothic Revival frame church that stands near the small crossroads community of Campbelltown. The asymmetrical plan, the pointed arch windows, and the corner entrance tower are common features for rural Methodist churches of this period. Construction of Curtis Chapel is dated by its cornerstone to September 27, 1914, when contractor L. J. Clark, whose name is also inscribed in marble, presumably set it in the foundation. However, this church is the second building located on the site. The first church building, a plain two-story structure, stands across the road. Designated at this location on the 1877 atlas map is a "Col'd Meth. Epis. Church & School No. 1." The congregation history states that a church was established around 1870 on a one-quarter acre lot donated by Colonel Curtis W. Jacobs, a large landholder who owned around 6000 acres in northern Worcester County at the time. The initial church trustees were Benjamin Tinley, Amos Brevard, Soloman Ayres, Jacob Holland, and Isma Holland.

HISTORIC CONTENT INFORMATION

Resource Name: CURTIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MHT Inventory Number: WO-437

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

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

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WO-437

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic CURTIS CHAPEL

and/or common CURTIS METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**2. Location**

street & number East side of Campbelltown Road  not for publication

city, town Campbelltown  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<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 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 Curtis United Methodist Church

street & number Campbelltown Road c/o Rev. A.L. George telephone no.:

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

**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-437

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input 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.

Curtis Methodist Church stands on the east side of Campbelltown Road, a half mile south of the Campbelltown crossroads, which is located five miles northwest of Berlin, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story tee-shaped frame church faces west with the main gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Erected in 1914, the single-story Gothic Revival church is supported by a concrete block foundation. Fixed in a corner of the foundation next to the front steps is a marble datestone inscribed, "Curtis M. E. Church, Built Sept. 27, 1914, L. J. Clark, Contractor & Builder." The church is sheathed with asbestos shingles, and it is covered with an asphalt roof.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical elevation with an entrance tower rising in the front corner of the tee plan. Pointed arch openings filled with frosted clear glass sash windows mark the sides of the building. The entrance has been altered with the insertion of replacement doors.

The north and south sides of the church are defined by pointed arch sash windows. The interior of the building was not seen.

Located across the street, on the west side of Campbelltown Road, is a two-story church hall and the church cemetery.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WO-437

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Sept. 27, 1914 **Builder/Architect** L.J. Clark, contractor

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.

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W0-437

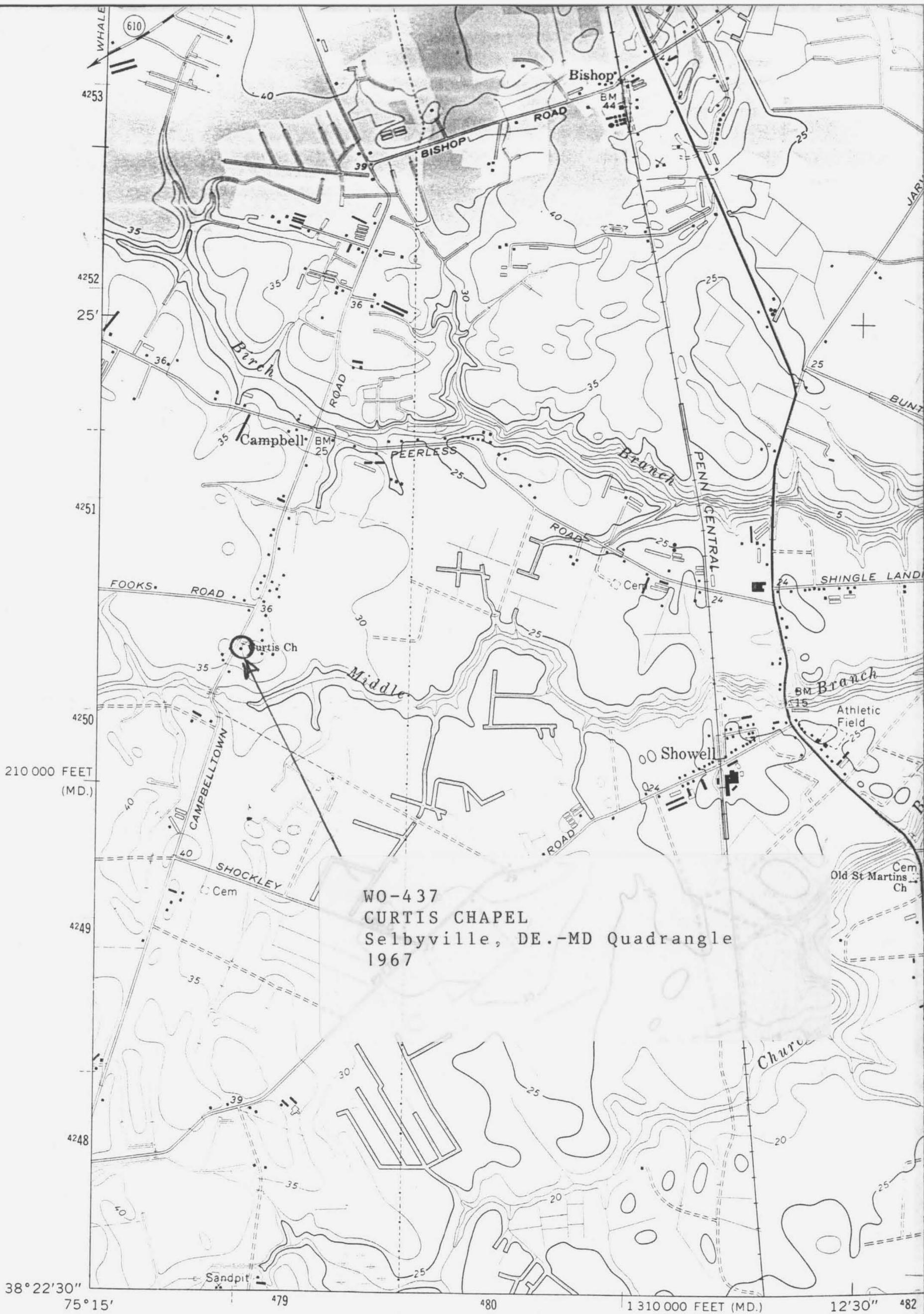
CURTIS CHAPEL

CAMPBELLTOWN, WORCESTER CO. N.H.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

2/93, PAUL TOUARI, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MP. HISTORICAL TRUST



WO-437  
 CURTIS CHAPEL  
 Selbyville, DE.-MD Quadrangle  
 1967

(NINEPIN)  
 5960 IV SE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Maryland Bureau of Control Surveys  
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
 taken 1963. Field checked 1967  
 Supersedes Army Map Service map dated 1943

