

Property Address <u>3537 Spencerville Road, Burtonsville, Montgomery County</u>
Owner Name/Address <u>Cyril Hardy, 9305 Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20910</u>
Year Built <u>circa 1860</u>

Description:

The Liberty Grove Church, constructed circa 1860, was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 1973, 1976, and 1979, and was recommended for designation as a historic site by the M-NCPPC in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Since the previous survey the upper portion of the lancet window has been infilled, the belfry is missing its balustrade and it appears that new siding has been installed.

National Register Evaluation:

The Liberty Grove Church, constructed circa 1860, was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) and was recommended for designation as a historic site by the M-NCPPC in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. However, the property is not eligible for the National Register. The church is not eligible under Criterion A; no event or pattern of events significant in local, state, or national history have been determined to have been associated with the church. The church is not eligible under Criterion B; no person significant in local, state or national history has been determined to have been associated with the church. The church is not eligible under Criterion C; the original design of the church has been altered by the construction of a large addition, the installation of replacement windows, and the installation of new siding. These alterations have introduced architectural elements that are out of character with the original design. Finally the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, does not meet Criterion D.

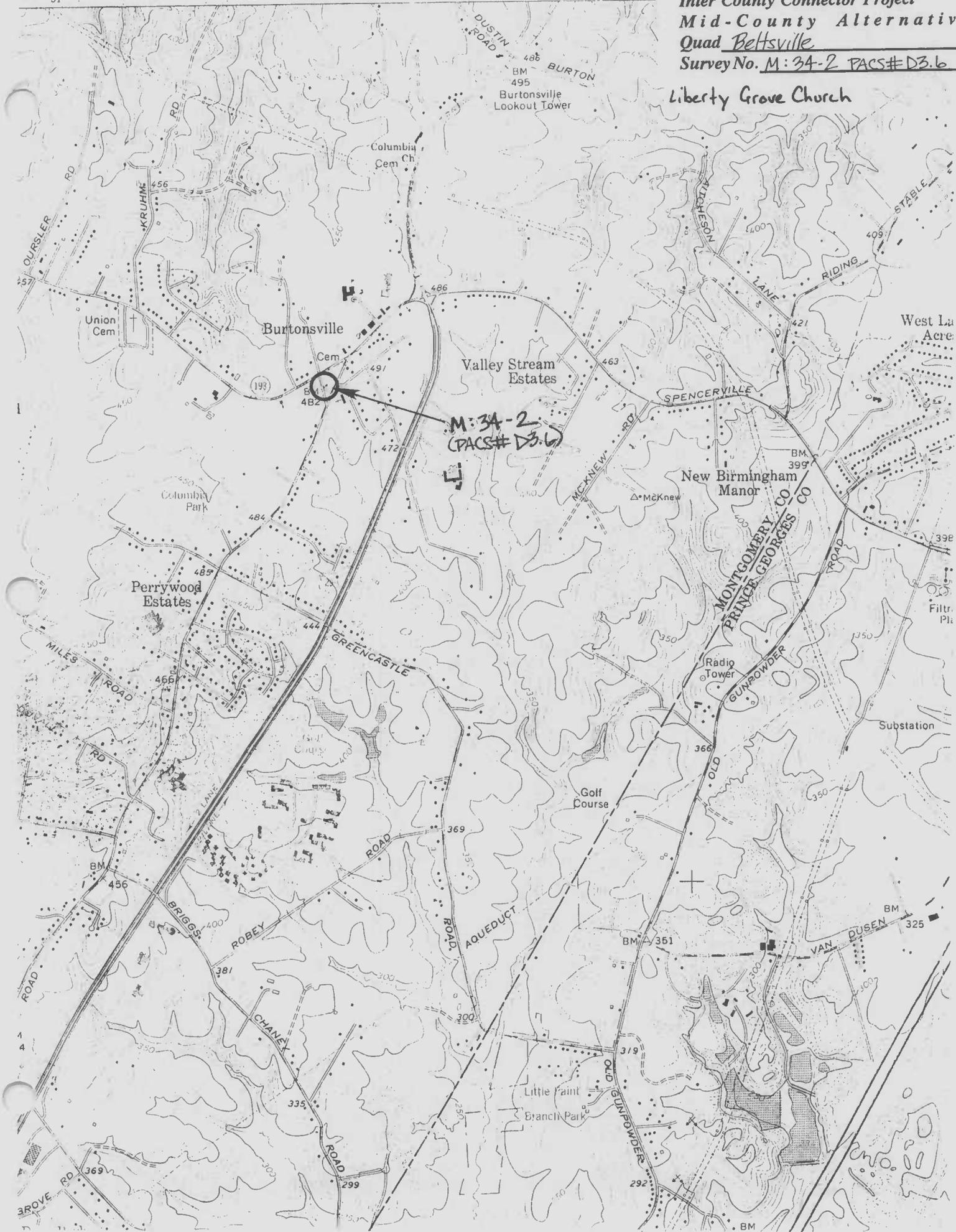
MHT CONCURRENCE:	
Eligibility <u>Recommended</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Not recommended</u>	
Criteria <u>A</u> <u>B</u> <u>C</u> <u>D</u>	Considerations <u>A</u> <u>B</u> <u>C</u> <u>D</u> <u>E</u> <u>F</u> <u>G</u> <u>None</u>
Comments: _____	

<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program
<u>8/25/98</u> Date	<u>8/27/98</u> Date

Jing

Inter County Connector Project
Mid-County Alternative
Quad Beltsville
Survey No. M:34-2 PACS# D3.6

Liberty Grove Church





MHT # 34-2

Library from Birds

Montgomery Co, MD

1200 York St

1200

1200 York St



1771 2522

1. Water 2140 (P. 2003)
P. 2003

PAC Spring 2003

PAC Spring 2003

Water 2140 (P. 2003) 2522

South Jamaica
Day 2

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:34-2
(date entered 5-4-80)

1. Name: Liberty Grove Church
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 34/2
3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 18
Coordinate B-9
4. Address: 3537 Spencerville Road
Burtonsville, Md.
5. Classification Summary
- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Category | <u>building</u> | Previous Survey Recording | <u>MNCPPC</u> |
| Ownership | <u>private</u> | Title and Date: | <u>Historic Sites Inventory</u> |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u> | | <u>1976</u> |
| Status | <u>occupied</u> | Federal | <u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u> |
| Accessible | <u>yes; restricted</u> | | |
| Present use | <u>commercial</u> | | |
6. Date: 1863
7. Original Owner: Liberty Grove Methodist Church congregation
8. Apparent Condition
- a. good b. altered c. original site
9. Description: This two bay by three bay, one and a half story church faces north. It has white novelty siding. The church was recently converted to Burtonsville Office Building and a three bay by three bay, two story cinder-block addition was constructed at the southeast corner. There is a three story bell tower on the north elevation. Open at the top, the pyramidal roof is supported by four corner posts and enclosed by a balustraded railing. There are six-over-six double-hung windows. There is a large lancet window on the north elevation with six fixed lights. Church has intersecting gable roof with grey asbestos shingles.
10. Significance: The Liberty Grove Methodist Church is an example of a rural community church of the mid 19th century, and an example of adaptive reuse (as the Burtonsville Office Building). In the mid 1800s, a small Methodist congregation that was part of the Spencerville Circuit gathered on Sundays at the Frog Pond school house. In 1863 the Liberty Grove Methodist Church was built. Built on land where the school was located, the church also received the nickname "Frog Pond Church".
- Changes to the building have been a 1900 fire, the addition of the belfrey and vestibule in 1921, and a new wing in 1927. In the 1940s new quarters were built across the street and the old building was used for Sunday school classes until it was sold in the 1970s.
11. Researcher and date researched: Candy Reed - arch. desc.
Donald M. Leavitt July 1979
12. Compiler: Gail Rothrock
13. Date Compiled: 10/79
14. Designation Approval
15. Acreage: 51,101 sq. ft.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 34/2
Magi #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Liberty Grove Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3537 Spencerville Road

CITY, TOWN

Burtonsville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Cyril Hardy

Telephone #: 585-8702

STREET & NUMBER

9305 Columbia Blvd.

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20910

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 4745

Folio #: 685

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

MNCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE

1976

— FEDERAL STATE COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

M.34-2

7 DESCRIPTION

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two bay by three bay, one and a half story church faces north. Built on fieldstone foundations, the church has white novelty siding. Some time ago the church was converted into the Burtonsville Office Building. A three bay by three bay two story cinderblock addition was constructed at the southeast corner. There is a three story bell tower on the north elevation. It is open at the top and enclosed by a balustraded railing. The tower has a pyramidal roof which is supported by four wooden corner posts with decorative brackets. Five poured concrete steps, flanked by wrought iron hand rails lead to the base of the tower where double glass and wooden paneled doors open into the tower. There is a one and a half story apse on the south elevation. A wooden paneled door leads into the base of the south apse and is shielded by a gabled hood with angle braces. There is a glass and wooden paneled door on the south elevation of the cinderblock addition. This too, is shielded by a gabled hood with angle braces.

There are six over six double hung windows. On the north elevation at the west side, there is a large lancet window with six fixed light sections. The church has a cross gable roof with grey asbestos shingles. The cornice line is boxed and returned.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES 1863 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charlie Righter

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Liberty Grove Methodist Church, although much modified over the years, is an example of a rural community church of the mid 19th century. In the mid-1800s, a small Methodist congregation of farmers and their families gathered in the Burtonsville area for Sunday worship. The congregation was part of the Spencerville Circuit and members would gather on Sunday in a small log house called Frog Pond School to hear a circuit minister. In the early 1860s it was decided that a regular church should be built. The acre of land where the school was located was purchased for \$5 from Joseph and Catharine Soper in order "to preach and expound God's only word therein"¹ and in 1863 the corner stone was set. Charlie Righter was the builder of the frame building, a structure that was sometimes called "Frog Pond Church" because of its close proximity to a marsh. Over the years several changes have taken place in the building. In 1900 fire destroyed a section of the church. Many years later when the cornerstone was removed in order to remove the historical documents stored therein, Liberty Grove members were disappointed to find nothing more than a pile of ashes, a reminder of what took place many years earlier. In 1921 the distinctive belfry and a new vestibule were added, and in 1927 a new wing was constructed. The congregation grew in size as the 20th century progressed and by the late 1940s new quarters were needed. A new church was built across the street and the old building was used for Sunday school classes. In the mid 1970s, the older church was sold and today has been converted into office space.

FOOTNOTES:

1 Land Records of Montgomery County, Md. EBP 2/279 (8/4/1865).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md.
History of Liberty Grove Methodist Church, Liberty Grove Methodist Church,
 Burtonsville, Md. 1959.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 51,101 square feet

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located on the south side of Route 198 approx. 3/4 miles from Route 29

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Candy Reed - Architectural Description

NAME / TITLE

Donald M. Leavitt

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

DATE

July 1979

TELEPHONE

926-4510

STATE

Maryland 20753

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
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

16 08394608

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Liberty Grove United Methodist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Western side of intersection Spencerville & Old Columbia Pike

CITY OR TOWN:
Burtonsville

STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Montgomery

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>abandoned</u>	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Liberty Grove United Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Liberty Grove Drive and Old Columbia Pike

CITY OR TOWN: Burtonsville STATE: Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Rockville STATE: Maryland

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

M:34-2

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The church is a small clapboard structure with a tower entrance on the northwest corner. The north elevation has a pointed arch window with large wooden mullions forming six panes. The tower is open at the top with a balustrade; the tower roof is double hipped.

The church is a good example of a late 19th century vernacular country church.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
- 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abar iginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Cammerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-
lasaphy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-
itorian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ |
|--|---|---|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

OTHER: The building is endangered; a rezoning petition is pending.

M:34-2

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreeage Justification:

Blank area for Acreeage Justification.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC DATE: 1/24/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
 National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



M: #34-2

NAME LIBERTY GROVE U.M. CHURCH

LOCATION Rts. 198+196 BURTONSVILLE, Md

FACADE N

PHOTO TAKEN 1/16/73 M. DWYER