WI-87 1897
Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church
Parsonsburg vicinity
Private

Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church, located in a stand of mature oaks, is a well-preserved frame building that survives with few alterations since its construction during the late year of the nineteenth century. The rectangular frame structure, supported on a low brick foundation, is sheathed with plain weatherboards, and it is covered with a steeply pitched gable roof. Distinctive to the structure is the symmetrical placement of two front doors on its main facade. The two doorways point to the conservative attitude of the Baptist congregation that dictated separation of the sexes in the entrance and exit of the building.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-87

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church

other

2. Location

street and number Intersection of Forest Grove and Longridge roads not for publication

city, town Parsonsburg x vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name Trustees of Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church

street and number telephone

city, town Parsonsburg state MD zip code 21849

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court tax map and parcel Map 40, Parcel 138

city, town Salisbury, Maryland liber folio

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District
Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
x Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
Recorded by HABS/HAER
Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture	landscape	1	buildings
x building(s)	x private	commerce/trade	recreation/culture		sites
structure	both	defense	x religion		structures
site		domestic	social		_ objects
object		education	transportation		
		funerary	work in progress	1	Total
		government	unknown		
		health care	vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
		industry	other:		

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-87

Name Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-87

Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
x	good	ruins
	fair	altered

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

The Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church stands on the northwest corner of the intersection of Forest Grove Road and Longridge Road south of Parsonsburg, Wicomico County, Maryland. The single-story frame church faces south with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dating to 1897, the single-story gable-front frame church is supported by a continuous brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboards painted white. The steeply pitched roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The church lot is shaded by a mature stand of oak trees.

The south gable end is a symmetrical two-bay facade with a pair of identical entrances evenly placed along the wall surface. Six-panel doors are topped by colored glass transoms. Each entrance is framed by a plain surround. A decorative Victorian molding stretches across each door lintel. Fixed between the two doors is a wooden plaque painted with the name of the church and the dates, 1886 and 1897. The gable end of the church is plain aside from an extended eave which return at the base of the roof.

The east and west sides of the church are defined by a symmetrical fenestration with three shuttered window openings. The shutters are louvered. Stretching across the base of the roof is a boxed cornice trimmed with bed and crown moldings. Piercing each side are metal stove pipes.

The north (rear) elevation is distinguished by a shorter single story apse covered by a gable roof. The roof is trimmed with extended eaves that return like the main block. Smaller louvered shutter openings pierce each side of the apse. A rear entrance marks the northwest corner of the main block, which is served by a handicapped ramp.

The interior was not seen.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-87

Name Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-87

Period		Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699		agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799		archeology	education	industry	philosophy
X1800-1899	X	architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
1900-1999		art	entertainment/ recreation	landscape architecture	xreligion
2000-		commerce	ethnic heritage	law	science
		communications	exploration/ settlement	literature	social history
		community planning		maritime history	transportation
		conservation		military	other:

Significance dates	Architect
Specific dates	**Builder**

Evaluation for:

National Register ● Maryland Register X not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church, standing in a grove of mature oaks, is a well-preserved frame building that survives with few alterations since its construction during the late nineteenth century. The rectangular frame structure, supported on a low brick foundation, is sheathed with plain weatherboards and covered by a steeply pitched gable-front roof. Distinctive to the structure is the symmetrical placement of two front doors on its main facade. The two doorways point to the conservative philosophy of the congregation with separate sexes entering through individual entrances.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-87

Name Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: Church

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Religion

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-87

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area
Acreage surveyed
Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian
organization	Private Consultant
street & number	P. O. Box 5
city or town	Westover, Maryland 21871

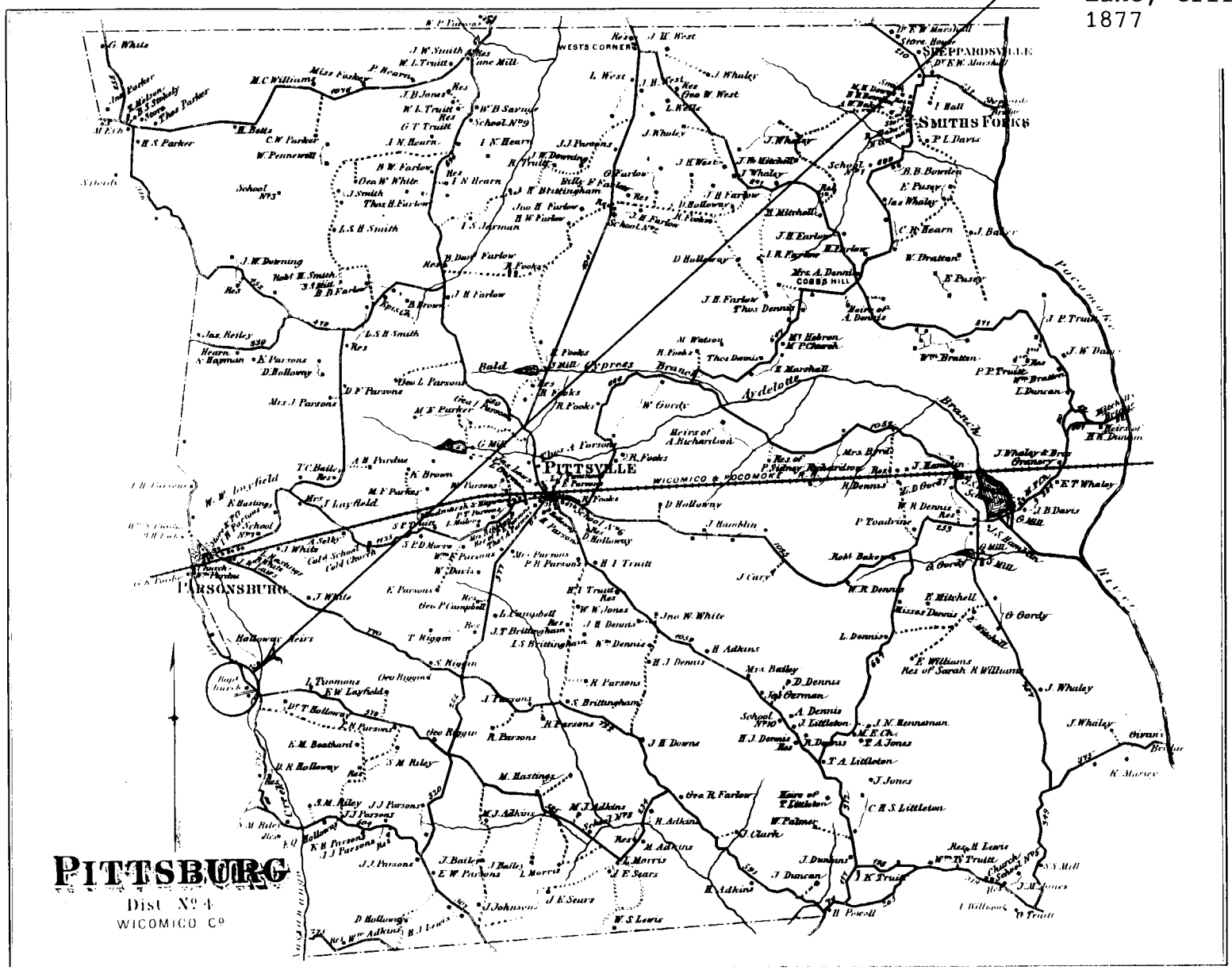
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

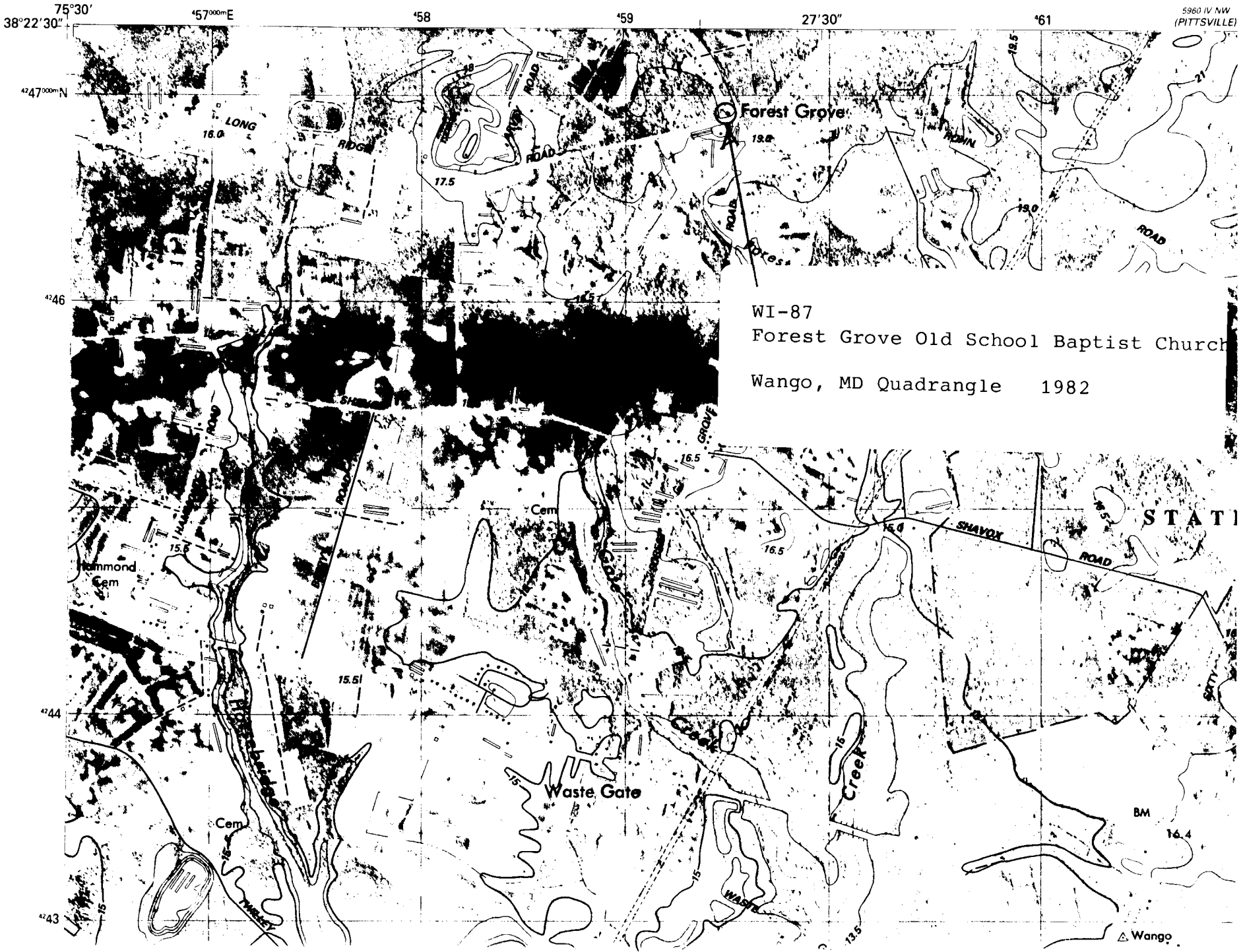
WI-87
Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF MA
MARYLAND GEOLOG



WI-87
Forest Grove Old School Baptist Church

Wango, MD Quadrangle 1982

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

2/2000 [illegible]

Nec. 1 [illegible]

1 of 2

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

2/2000, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Frame church on brick foundation, two bays wide by three long. Front facade has two doorways above three brick steps. Rectangular stained glass windows above each door. The side of the building contains three tall windows with louvered shutters. The front facade has the gable end with cornice returns.

WI-87 Forest Grove Old Baptist Meeting House 1974

PHOTO—
[illegible]
[illegible] DRIVE
SALISBURY, MD.