WO-230 1909
Old Rehobeth Church
Whaleyville vicinity
private

Situated north of Whaleyville in the vicinity of the former community of Careytown is the old Rebobeth church, also called Shavox church. The single-story, rectangular frame building, erected in 1909, combines standard finish features for the period with horizontal weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. Supported by a pier foundation, the interior of the gable-front church is fitted with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded boards, and Victorian bulls-eye corner block surrounds frame the doors and windows. A small apse extends from the north end of the building to provide more space and light to the altar.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: OLD REHOBETH CHURCH

MHT Inventory Number: WO-230

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE, RELIGION

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1870 - 1930 INDUSTRIAL URBAN DOMINANCE

4) Resource Type(s):

1. STANDING STRUCTURE

a. CHURCH

Survey No. WO-230

Magi No. 2402305708

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic OLD REHOBETH CHURCH

and/or common OLD SHAVOX CHURCH

2. Location

street & number North side of Shavox Church Road ___ not for publication

city, town Whaleyville x vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	x unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	x other: none

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

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

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

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-230

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	_x_ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_x_ original site
___ good	___ ruins	_x_ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

The old Rehobeth church, more commonly known as the old Shavox church, stands on the north side of Shavox Church Road at the intersection of Tull Road in northern Worcester County in the vicinity of Whaleyville. The single-story frame church faces south with the gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1909, the weatherboard frame structure is supported by a combination brick pier and concrete foundation, and it is covered by a steeply pitched wood shingle roof. The eaves to the roof are extended, and the rafter ends are exposed.

The south (main) elevation is a gable-front facade with a center entrance framed by a plain surround. In contrast to the weatherboard siding that sheathes the main first floor, fishscale shingles cover the upper gable.

The east and west sides of the rectangular building are defined by three evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows, and an interior brick stove stack pierces the roofline.

The north end of the church is marked by a small apse that is covered by a shed roof, and small windows pierce each side.

The interior has deteriorated significantly, but the interior finish features are largely intact. Beaded board wainscoting stretches around the perimeter of the room, and bulls-eye block Victorian moldings frame the windows and doors. The ceiling is covered with narrow beaded board as well.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-230

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	x religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	x architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
x 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B x C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state x local

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

The old Rehobeth church is a small weatherboard frame building which stands on the edge of the cypress swamp in northern Worcester County. The rectangular frame structure displays standard finishes for the early twentieth century with a combination of weatherboard siding and fishscale shingles. Inside, the walls and ceiling are covered with narrow tongue-and-groove beaded board, and bulls-eye block surrounds frame the doors and windows.

This small frame church served the old community of Careytown and the residents living in the vicinity of the great cypress swamp of northern Worcester County and southern Delaware. Aside from the church most vestiges of Careytown have deteriorated or been destroyed.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-230

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

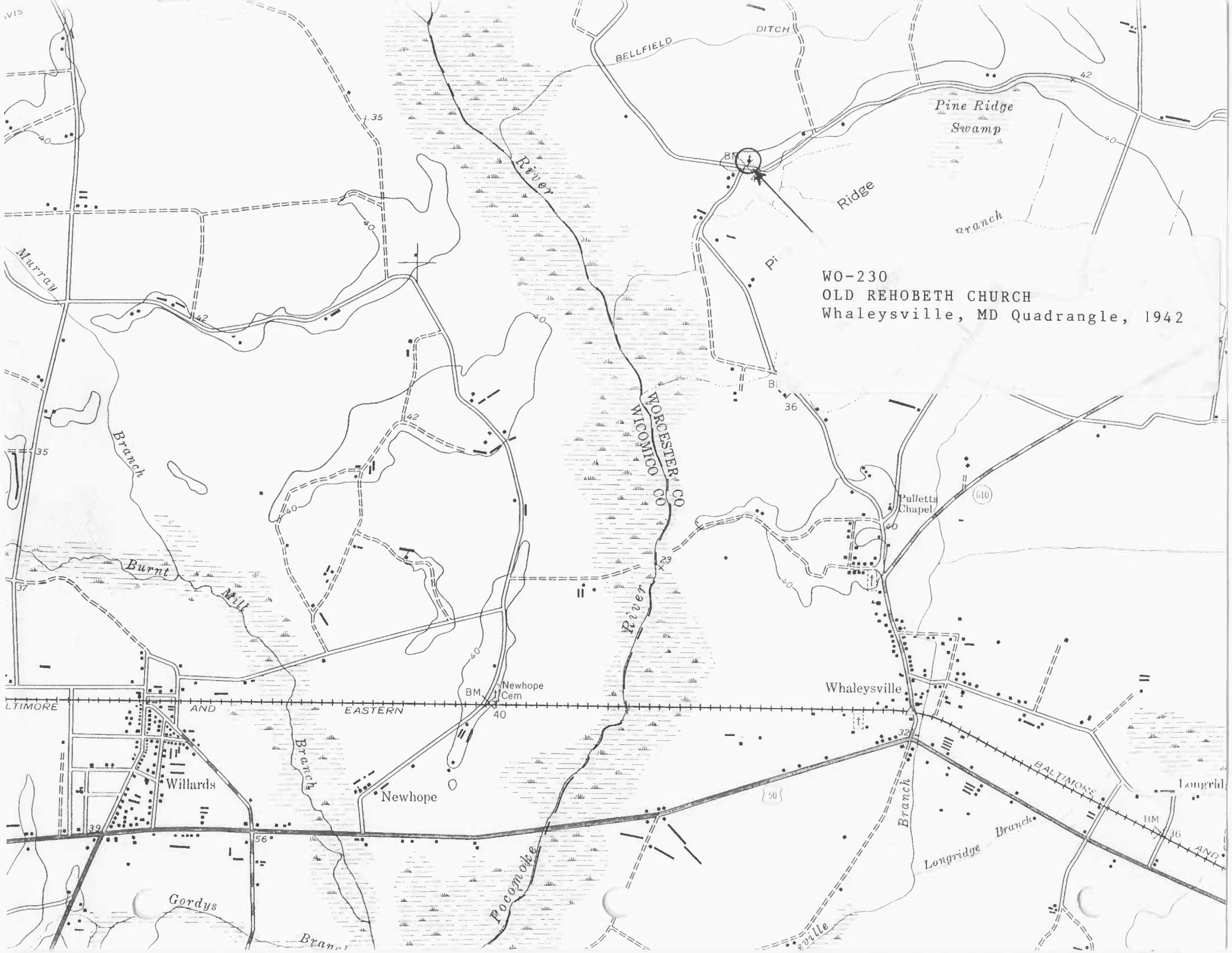
name/title	Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian		
organization	Worcester County	date	3/28/88
street & number	Worcester County Courthouse	telephone	(301) 632-1194
city or town	Snow Hill	state	MD 21863

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

PS-2746


WO-230
OLD REHOBETH CHURCH
Whaleysville, MD Quadrangle, 1942
BELLFIELD
DITCH
Pine Ridge
Swamp
Ridge
Branch
River
WORCESTER CO
WICOMICO CO
Murray
Branch
Burnt
Mill
Pulletts
Chapel
Whaleysville
Newhope
Cem
BM
LTIMORE
AND
EASTERN
Willards
Newhope
Branch
Pocomoke
Gordys
Branch
Longridge
Branch
BALTIMORE
AND
Longrid