

**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  no

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

<i>If the property is within a district</i>		District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district <input type="checkbox"/> yes	Eligible district <input type="checkbox"/> yes	District Name: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Non-contributing but eligible in another context <input type="checkbox"/>		

<i>If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)</i>	
Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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

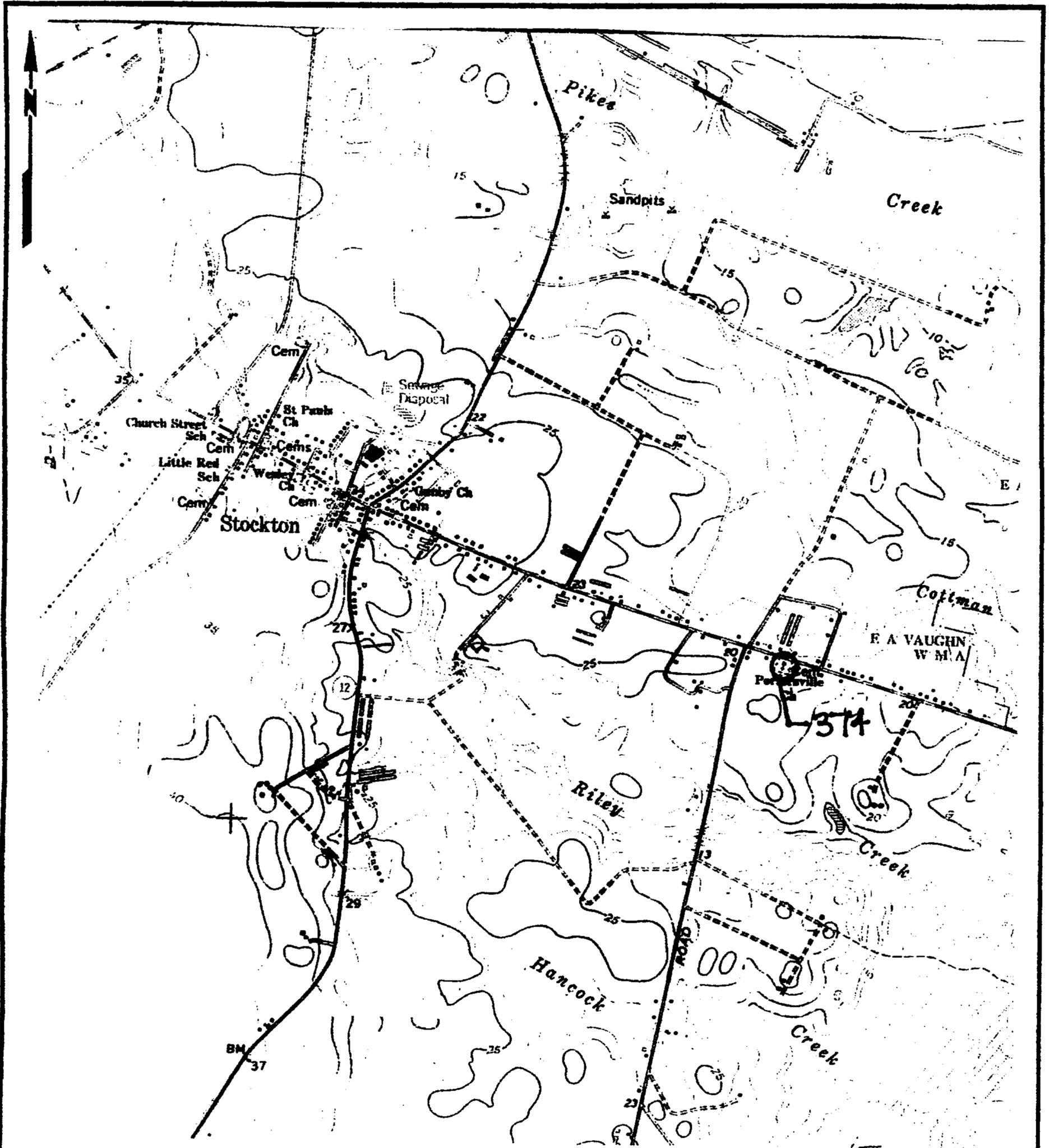
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

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

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
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 MAHONEY

AUG 2002

FORKS CHAPEL/BETERSVILLE 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	<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 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

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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. WO-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		

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Specific dates	1887	Builder/Architect
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check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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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.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. W0-374

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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D 

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H 

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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 Private Consultant/Worcester Co.      date 11/7/90

street & number P. O. Box 5      telephone 301-651-1094

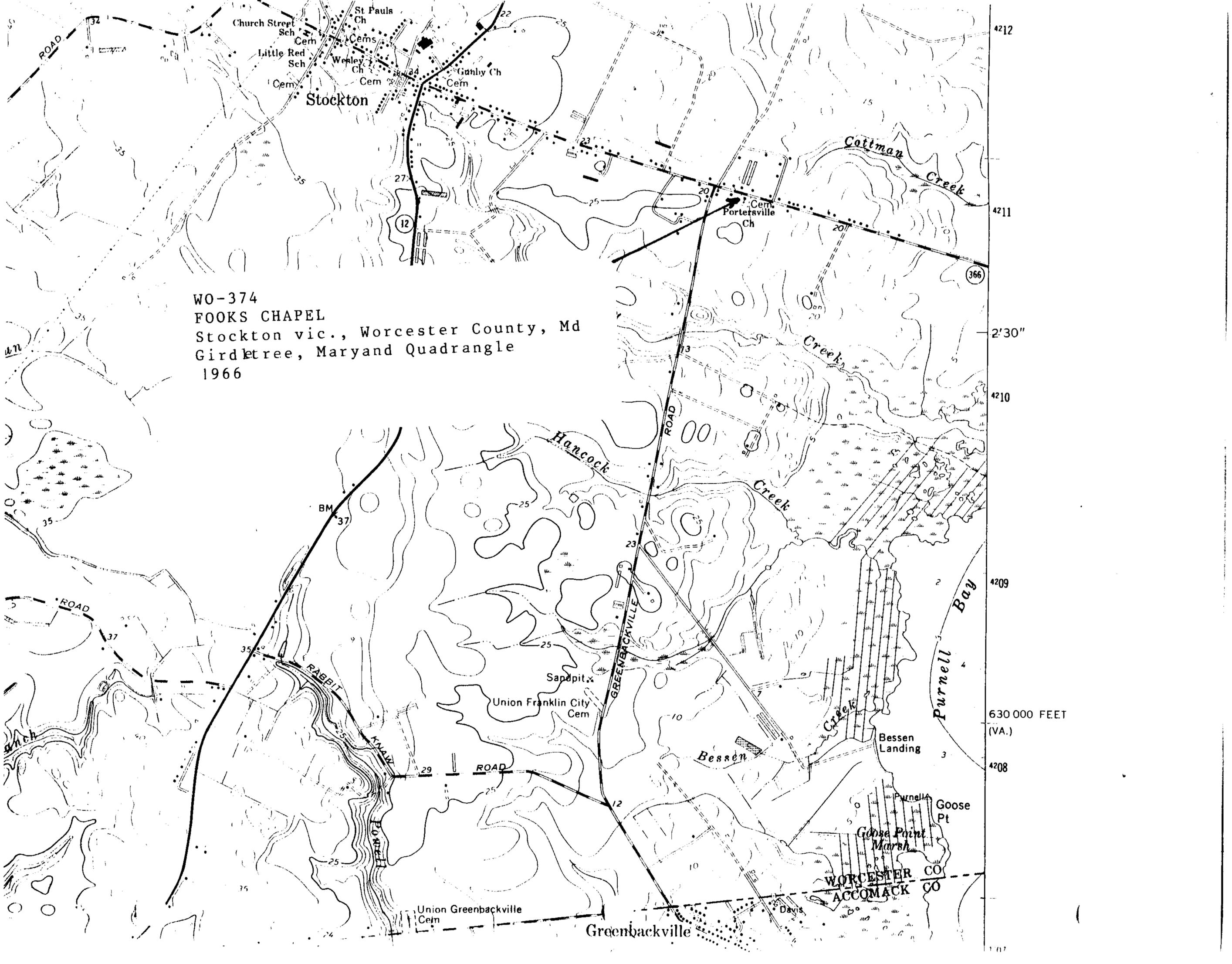
city or town Westover      state Maryland      21871

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

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



4212  
4211  
2'30"  
4210  
4209  
630 000 FEET (VA.)  
4208  
1 017