

AA-58

Built 1912

Cedar Grove United Methodist Church

~~5965 Deal Churchton Road~~ Deale-Churchton Road

~~Deal, Maryland~~ Deale, Maryland

Anne Arundel County

Private Building

Constructed in 1912, the Cedar Grove United Methodist Church is a fine example of early-20th century, Gothic-Revival-Style ecclesiastical architecture. The current structure replaced an earlier building that was destroyed by fire.

Cedar Grove was most likely built according to a standardized plan published by the Methodist conference. Cedar Grove compares closely to Church Plan #39 found in *Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages Furnished by the Board of Church Extension, M.D. for the year 1899*.

AA-58
Cedar Grove United Methodist Church
5965 Deal-Churchton Road, Deale, Maryland
Private

Built 1912
by William Leatherbury

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

I. Geographic Organization: Western Shore

II. Chronological/Development Periods: Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes: N/A

IV. Historic Period Themes: 1) Architecture, Landscape Architecture & Community
Planning 2) Religion

V. Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: village

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

Known Design Source: Plan No. 39 of Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and
Parsonages, 1889.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AA-58

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Cedar Grove United Methodist Church

2. Location

street & number 5965 ^{Deale} ~~Deale~~ Churchton Road and/or 710 Masons Beach Road not for publication

city, town Deale vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Cedar Grove United Methodist Church

street & number 6965 ^{Deale} ~~Deale~~ Churchton Road telephone no.: 410-867-7417

city, town Deale state and zip code: Maryland 20751

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 3322

street & number 7 Church Circle folio 531

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No.

AA-58

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input 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.

Cedar Grove United Methodist Church is situated in the heart of the Deale community of southern Anne Arundel County. It lies on the east side of Deale-Churchton Road at the intersection of Deale Road (both roads form Rt. 256). As the main access to the community, Route 256 runs eastward from Route 2 into Deale and then makes a 90-degree turn north into the Shady Side Peninsula. The church commands the pivotal position at this turn, symbolically and literally forming the nexus of the community.

The church consists of three sections with the oldest portion of the church situated at the southern most end of the complex. Built in 1912, it is of frame construction with a gable front orientation, facing west. A projecting bell tower extends from the southwest corner of the building and once functioned as the primary entrance to the church. Two mid-20th century additions, housing the fellowship hall, kitchen and multi-purpose rooms, extend from the north elevation of the church. Constructed of concrete block, they are covered with a brick veneer. The fellowship hall was renovated in 1997 for expanded use as the church sanctuary.

The 1912 church building replaced an earlier church building, which was moved to the site in 1892, the year Cedar Grove Methodist Church was established. This earlier church building, built in 1869 for the Oakland Methodist Church in Churchton, was destroyed by fire sometime before 1912. In its place, the Cedar Grove congregation built their own building which compares closely to Church Plan No. 39 in *Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages Furnished by the Board of Church Extension, M. D. Church for the year 1889*. It is a rectangular structure with a gable front orientation, facing west. Its prominent feature is the bell tower, which extends from the southwest corner. It is crowned with a steeply pitched pyramidal roof with flared eaves. The building rests on a concrete pier foundation. Exterior walls are covered with weatherboard siding, which were veneered with brick in the mid-1950s. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles over the original wood shingles. The gable ends feature exposed purlins, and the sides, exposed rafter ends at the eaves.

The stately bell tower and Gothic windows are the character defining architectural features of the exterior of the 1912 church. A large Gothic arch window with tracery dominates the center of the front, or west elevation. The symmetry of this massive window is offset by the bell tower, which is richly ornamented. The west elevation of the tower has a double door (no longer used) surmounted by a Gothic arch transom window with elaborate tracery. Two smaller Gothic arch windows, one positioned on the north elevation of the tower

Section 7 (continued)

elevation of the tower and the other on the south, light the entranceway. Round windows, adorned with tracery, pierce each side of the square tower, just below the open belfry. The top of the enclosed portion of the tower is marked by a projecting eave, supported by ornamental brackets on all elevations. Above, rises the belfry crowned by the steeply pitched pyramidal roof. The belfry consists of four large Gothic arch openings, which are covered with wood shingles and linked by a classically inspired balustrade. The original cast iron bell resides inside, and until recently, was in use.

The remaining windows in the church follow the same Gothic arch design used on the front of the building and have pastel colored glazing. A large, centrally placed window, fills the rear or east elevation, balancing the window in the front. Four smaller Gothic arch windows pierce the south elevation. Originally, a small shed roof wing extended from the north elevation, toward the west end, and served as a small study or storage. It still survives on the interior, but has been engulfed by the mid-20th century addition. An original half-arched or fanlight type window, located in the center of the north elevation, still survives but has also been entombed by the addition. It once served to light the pulpit and choir area within the church.

Interior: The interior arrangement of Cedar Grove church is similar to Plan No. 39 in the catalogue of architectural plans for churches mentioned above. It is somewhat non-traditional in that the pulpit and choir loft are located against the north wall (one of the long sides of the church). This placement, especially the pulpit, is reminiscent of pulpit locations in colonial Anglican churches. At Cedar Grove the pulpit and choir loft are set on a raised platform and housed within a double segmental arch alcove, similar to that shown in Plan No. 39. The pews (recently removed) were arranged facing the pulpit and choir loft. With the original entrance in the bell tower, members would enter from the southwest corner into a small vestibule, formed by the tower, and then into the rear of the church sanctuary.

Except for the application of masonite board on the ceiling, the original interior finishes survive. The tower vestibule and sanctuary walls are plaster on circular sawn lath and have a simple vertical board wainscot with plain board chairrail.

Note: Two photographs, which must date to just after construction of the church (1912), are in the possession of the Nutwell family. The views show the west and south elevations.

8. Significance

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> community history				

Specific dates	1912	Builder/Architect	William Leatherbury	
Check: Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D
and/or Applicable Exception:	<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
Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national	<input type="checkbox"/> state	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Cedar Grove United Methodist Church was established in 1892-94 at Deale, then known as the community of Cedar Grove. It was created from Oakland Methodist Church located in nearby Churchton, which was formed in 1862. The first Oakland Methodist Church building, constructed circa 1869, was moved to the site of the present Cedar Grove Church in 1892 and served as the new congregation's first church. In 1912, a new church building was constructed after a spirited camp meeting. Today, this structure survives as part of an expanded church facility.

In addition to its historical significance to the community, Cedar Grove holds architectural interest. The interior plan of the church is similar to Church Plan No. 39 in the *Catalogue of Architectural Plans for Churches and Parsonages Furnished by the Board of Church Extension, M. E. Church for the year 1889*. While non-traditional for small country churches of the 19th century, its arrangement, with the pulpit located on the north wall, is reminiscent of colonial Anglican churches.

Background:
Cedar Grove Church was formed in 1892-94 by 40 members of the Deale community, many of whose descendants still live in the vicinity, including the Fords, Leatherburys, Rogers, Deales, Leitchs, and Nutwells. It became part of the West River Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which included churches in southern Anne Arundel and northern Calvert Counties.

After using the Oakland Methodist Church building for nearly 20 years, the members of Cedar Grove constructed a church of their own in 1912. According to the church history prepared in 1992 for the 100th anniversary of the Cedar Grove, construction of the church was decided upon during a revival meeting held sometime around 1909 or 1910. The history describes all that participated in this great event:

At the revival Thomas Ford offered timber from his land for a new church building. He also arranged for Harry Price's saw mill to be set up in the woods to saw the trees into lumber. The lumber was (then) hauled to the building site in Deale by ox carts and teams of horses, owned by Cornelius Jones & Sons. Oregon Nutwell used his ox teams to haul the heavier timbers

Section 8 (continued)

Reverend Sanders secured the services of William Leatherbury to direct the building of the church at a cost of \$2.50 a day. Most of the labor was volunteered by members of the church and the community. Julius Phipps brought the windows and frames from Baltimore to the church on his "bugeye" – a sailing boat that he used to ship oysters to Baltimore. (Other men who voluntarily worked on building the church were James Daugherty, William Deale, Erickson Deale, George Sherbert and Joseph Knopp.

In addition to the volunteer labor and services from members and the community, financial donations came from the conference church extension in Baltimore (\$785) and the Improved Order of Heptasoph (\$39.23---Frederick A. Rogers was treasurer of the Order). According to the church history, the old church was dismantled and the wood was given to several African American families in Churchton for repair of their houses.

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