

Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South  
B-5265  
4820 Reisterstown Road  
Baltimore  
Date of Construction: 1869, 1956  
Access: Private

### **Capsule Summary**

Located at 4820 Reisterstown Road, the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South faces north. The cornerstone of the building was laid on July 18, 1869. Built in the Shingle style, the building's architectural design elements include wood shingle wall cladding (obscured by modern aluminum siding), steeply pitched roof lines, intersecting cross gables, and a tower. The building also exhibits elements of the contemporaneous Richardsonian Romanesque style in its lower stone story and distinctive round headed arches. The use of Richardsonian elements in Shingle style structures constitutes an important design variant. The church is an irregular-shaped building with a steeply pitched, cross gabled roof with flared eaves, and a tower on the main (north) elevation. The first floor of the structure is rough stone, while the gables and upper stages of the tower are clad with modern aluminum siding. Wood shingles are visible under the aluminum siding. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys, centered on the main block, abut each other. A flat-roofed one-story addition is affixed to the southwest corner of the main block. It is rectilinear in form and features shaped parapets on the east and west elevations. It sits atop stone foundation walls and is clad with aluminum siding.

In addition to the Church, there is also a rectory on the property. With an L-shaped ground plan, the two-and-one-half story rectory is west of the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South at 4844 Reisterstown Road. Like the church, it faces Reisterstown Road and sits on a raised stone foundation. The side-gabled structure is clad with aluminum siding, but shingles are evident beneath the modern siding materials. The cross gable roof is clad with slate shingles and has a simple box corniced. Two chimneys pierce the roof. One is centered on the ridge, and the other is on the west-facing slope of the roof toward the rear of the structure. A replacement porch is supported by cinder block piers and wooden posts. It wraps around the left side of the structure and terminates in the middle of the gable. Four concrete stairs lead up to the porch on the main façade.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5265

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South (preferred name); Salem Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church  
 other Baltimore Central Church of God; Lewin United Methodist Church; Christ EUB Church

## 2. Location

street and number 4820 Reisterstown Road      not for publication  
 city, town Baltimore      vicinity  
 county     

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

name Baltimore Central Church of God, Inc.  
 street and number 4820 Reisterstown Road telephone (410) 664-6695  
 city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21215-5531

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clarence M. Mitchell Courthouse, 6th Floor liber 2084 folio 66  
 city, town Baltimore tax map 28 tax parcel 01, 2959, 001 tax ID number 28012959 001

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District  
     Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
     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	
<u>    </u> district	<u>    </u> public	<u>    </u> agriculture	<u>    </u> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>    </u> commerce/trade	<u>    </u> recreation/culture	<u>  3  </u>	<u>    </u> buildings
<u>    </u> structure	<u>    </u> both	<u>    </u> defense	<u>X</u> religion	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<u>    </u> site		<u>    </u> domestic	<u>    </u> social	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
<u>    </u> object		<u>    </u> education	<u>    </u> transportation	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
		<u>    </u> funerary	<u>    </u> work in progress	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> Total
		<u>    </u> government	<u>    </u> unknown		
		<u>    </u> health care	<u>    </u> vacant/not in use		
		<u>    </u> industry	<u>    </u> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				<u>  0  </u>	

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. B-5265

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### Condition

excellent     deteriorated  
 good         ruins  
 fair          altered

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

### Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South

Located at 4820 Reisterstown Road, the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South faces north (Attachment 1). It is now known as the Baltimore Central Church of God. The cornerstone of the building was laid on July 18, 1869. Built in the Shingle style, the building's architectural design elements include wood shingle wall cladding (obscured by modern aluminum siding), steeply pitched roof lines, intersecting cross gables, and a tower. The building also exhibits elements of the contemporaneous Richardsonian Romanesque style in its lower stone story and distinctive round headed arches. The use of Richardsonian elements in Shingle style structures constitutes an important design variant.

The church is an irregular-shaped building with a steeply pitched, cross gabled roof with flared eaves, and a tower on the main (north) elevation (Attachment 2). The first floor of the structure is rough stone, while the gables and upper stages of the tower are clad with modern aluminum siding. Wood shingles are visible under the aluminum siding. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys, centered on the main block, abut each other.

A flat-roofed one-story addition is affixed to the southwest corner of the main block (Attachment 3). It is rectilinear in form and features shaped parapets on the east and west elevations. It sits atop stone foundation walls and is clad with aluminum siding.

#### *North Elevation (Main Façade)*

The front gable fenestration is symmetrical (Figures 1 and 2). A large, arched eight-light stained glass window is centered on the façade. It is flanked by two double-hung stained glass windows and is surmounted by an eyebrow gable vent with a pair of louvered vents. Four windows aligned with the windows on the first floor light the basement. All of the windows on the gable have stone sills. To the east of the gable is an enclosed porch under the main roof line. This porch has a front-facing entrance with a double door and rectangular transom. It is accessed by a six concrete stairs with metal railings. To the right of the center gable section is a three-story entrance tower with a pyramid shaped roof with a conical finial. The north side of the tower has a pair of vertically stacked narrow rectangular windows in the second stage and three narrow, round-arch windows on the third stage surmounted by a belt course and a louvered vent. The first-floor entrance is recessed under a round arch with a large stained glass tympanum. The double door is accessed by six concrete stairs with metal railings. At the bottom of the arched portion of the door surround, a stone belt course adds horizontal emphasis to the tower. A water table unites the tower with the front gable and porch. Recessed from the main elevation, the southwest wing has two bays. The first is composed of a double door with five-panel wooden doors surmounted by a metal awning. The second bay has a single, one-over-one, double-hung stained glass window. These two bays are under a hipped roof. Six concrete stairs with no railing provide access to the doorway.

The north elevation of the rear addition is affixed to the south elevation of the southwest cross gable. It is divided into five bays with a double door entryway in the second bay. This doorway is set under a gabled vestibule flanked by a double-hung sash window in the first and third bays. A double-hung sash window is present in the fourth and fifth bays.

#### *East Elevation*

The east elevation faces Lewins Avenue and has seven bays (Figure 3). The first two bays on the south end of the building have two one-over-one double-hung windows with stone sills on the first story and a gabled louvered roof vent above. The first bay has a single three-light window on the basement story, but the second bay basement fenestration is obstructed by the addition of a shed with a below-grade doorway, likely providing access to the basement. An enclosed porch with an affixed, gabled Porte Cochere composes the third bay. The third-bay porch is under the roofline of the cross gable and has a double door accessed by six concrete stairs. The porch is connected to the Porte Cochere by a covered walkway. The cross gable is composed of the fourth, fifth, and sixth bays. It is identical to the front gable, being fenestrated with a large arched window flanked by two stained glass double-hung sash windows. The pitch of the roof, however, is moderate. The seventh bay contains a triple rectangular stained-glass window with a wood sill. The east elevation of the tower, located behind the mass of the main roof, has the same fenestration on the third stage as on the north elevation. The second stage, however, has only one narrow rectangular window.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. B-5265

Name  
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The east elevation of the rear one-story addition has five bays. The first three bays have a lower floor level than the last two bays, which are raised up from the first three. The first and second bays have single, one-over-one double-hung windows. A single door with one-light transom forms the third bay. To the north of this bay, a small one-over-one double-hung window composes the fourth bay. The fifth bay has a double door. Both doors are accessed by a stone side stair with two landings.

### *South Elevation*

Fenestration on the south gable is partially obstructed by the one-story addition affixed to the southwest corner of the main block (Figure 4). The large arched window surmounted by the eyebrow vent is centered on the gable. A single double-hung window with a stone sill is visible to the east of the arched window. On the basement story, a single, three-light window with a stone sill is aligned below the first-floor double-hung window. The south elevation of the tower is identical to the east elevation.

The one-story addition has seven bays. Two single doors are present in the first two bays. The remaining five bays all have single double-hung windows. There is no parapet on this elevation.

### *West Elevation*

The west elevation of the church is composed of the tower, the cross gable, and the gable of the southwest wing, which projects out from the main form of the building. The projecting gable end of the southwest wing has a cross-gabled and hipped roof. The gable is steeply pitched with flared eaves, and the two flanking hipped portions of the roof are asymmetrical. A single rectangular window on the first floor surmounting a three-light basement window flanks the southwest wing gable. The gable itself has three bays. A single, centered three-light window lights the basement. A large, three-light arched window flanked by two identical one-over-one double-hung windows with round heads is centered above the basement window. The first-floor fenestration on the three-bay cross gable is identical to that of the east elevation, having a large arched window flanked by two double-hung sash windows above four regularly fenestrated basement windows. The roofline, however, is truncated by the southwest wing and the tower and thus does not have flared eaves. Of the four basement-level windows, the first is replaced with a five-panel door providing access to the basement. A below-grade stair with a metal railing leads to this door. A gabled, louvered roof vent is aligned with the chimney on the west-facing slope of the roof of the main block. The fenestration on the tower in the second and third stages is identical to that of the north elevation, having two vertical, narrow, rectangular windows on the second stage and a triple arched window surmounted by a louvered vent in the second stage. Different from the north elevation, the first stage has a single rounded head, double-hung window with a stone sill.

The west elevation of the one-story addition is symmetrical and has only two double-hung windows, one in each bay. This portion of the addition sits on a concrete foundation.

### **Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South, Rectory (4844 Reisterstown Road)**

With an L-shaped ground plan, the two-and-one-half story rectory is west of the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South at 4844 Reisterstown Road (Figure 7). Like the church, it faces Reisterstown Road and sits on a raised stone foundation. The side-gabled structure is clad with aluminum siding, but shingles are evident beneath the modern siding materials. The cross gable roof is clad with slate shingles and has a simple box corniced. Two chimneys pierce the roof. One is centered on the ridge, and the other is on the west-facing slope of the roof toward the rear of the structure. A replacement porch is supported by cinder block piers and wooden posts. It wraps around the left side of the structure and terminates in the middle of the gable. Four concrete stairs lead up to the porch on the main façade.

### *North Elevation (Main Façade)*

The five-bay main elevation has a cross gable roof with gable returns. A central door with sidelights is flanked by two symmetrical bays with a single, double-hung sash window in each. The second story has five double-hung sash windows that are aligned with the fenestration of the first floor. The attic story is lit by a centered, double-hung Palladian window with a half-round panel above.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 2

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### *East Elevation*

The east elevation is composed of four bays. The first bay is recessed from the three eastern bays, forming the L-shaped ground plan. The first bay has a single window on the basement story and another on the first floor. A missing panel of aluminum siding provides evidence of a second-story window. The three remaining bays light the cross gable. The central bay is composed of a paired double-hung window centered on the gable. Two flanking bays have a single double-hung window on the first and second floors. One rectangular basement window is visible in the first bay. The porch obscures the basement story in the third bay.

### *North Elevation*

The north elevation, or rear of the structure, has four bays. The rear gable of the main block is composed of three bays. The central bay of the gable has a set of paired double-hung sash windows on the attic story aligned above a central doorway on the first floor. The second-story fenestration is regular and has a double-hung sash window in the first and third bays. On the first floor, the first bay has a single window, but the third bay is without fenestration. The centered doorway is accessed by a side stair. The fourth bay is part of the cross gable of the building and is recessed from the gable end. It has single, stacked, double-hung sash windows on the first and second floors. An access door to the basement is below the first floor window.

### *West Elevation*

There are only two bays on the west elevation of the main block of the building. Both have double-hung windows on the first and second floors and rectangular windows on the basement story. One of the two chimneys is located above the second bay on the west-facing slope of the roof.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. B-5265

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

**Specific dates** 1869, 1956

**Architect/Builder**

**Construction dates** 1869, 1956

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### Summary

The building that is currently occupied by the Baltimore Central Church of God was built in 1869 as the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South. In 1945, after the church and its congregation moved to a different location, the building became the home of the Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church. This congregation combined with another one, and in 1952, the church became the Christ Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1975, the building was purchased by the Lewin United Methodist Church, and in 2002, it was purchased by its present owner, Baltimore Central Church of God, Inc.

### History

The cornerstone of the Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South was laid on July 18, 1869. Reverend Dr. L.D. Huston preached a sermon.<sup>1</sup>

In May 1944, the Arlington South congregation combined with two other congregations: McKendree Church at Reisterstown Road and Granada Avenue and Whatcoat West Baltimore Station at Park Heights and Shirley Avenues. The unified congregations were called the Arlington Methodist Church, and they met at the former McKendree Church. The consolidation was brought about by the recent unification of the Methodist Protestant Church and Methodist Episcopal Church into the Methodist Church and the reduced membership in the three combined churches.<sup>2</sup>

In 1945, the Salem Evangelical United Brethren Church moved into the building, gaining title to the property in 1950. In 1952, the congregation united with the Franklin Street Memorial Church, which was formerly located at Franklin and Monroe Streets. The unified congregation became the Christ Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1956, the following improvements were made to the church: (1) four large rooms in the basement were converted into a nursery and primary and junior age groups; storage facilities; a boiler room; and a new juvenile restroom, (2) a social hall on the ground floor was enlarged to provide a seating capacity of 250 and included a stage and restroom at one end and an enlarged kitchen at the other, and (3) a pastor's study and church office were created adjacent to the sanctuary.<sup>3</sup>

In 1975, the church became the Lewin United Methodist Church.

In 2002, the church was bought by the Baltimore Central Church of God, Inc.

<sup>1</sup> J. Thomas Sharf, *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts), 842.

<sup>2</sup> Churches vertical file, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, Maryland.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. B-5265

Churches vertical file, Maryland Room, Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, Maryland.

Sharf, J. Thomas. 1881. *History of Baltimore City and County, from the Earliest Period to the Present Day*. Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 1.01522 acres  
Acreage of historical setting ~0.66 acres  
Quadrangle name Baltimore West

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Ward 28, Section 01, Block 2959, Lot 001 is the current legal boundary.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

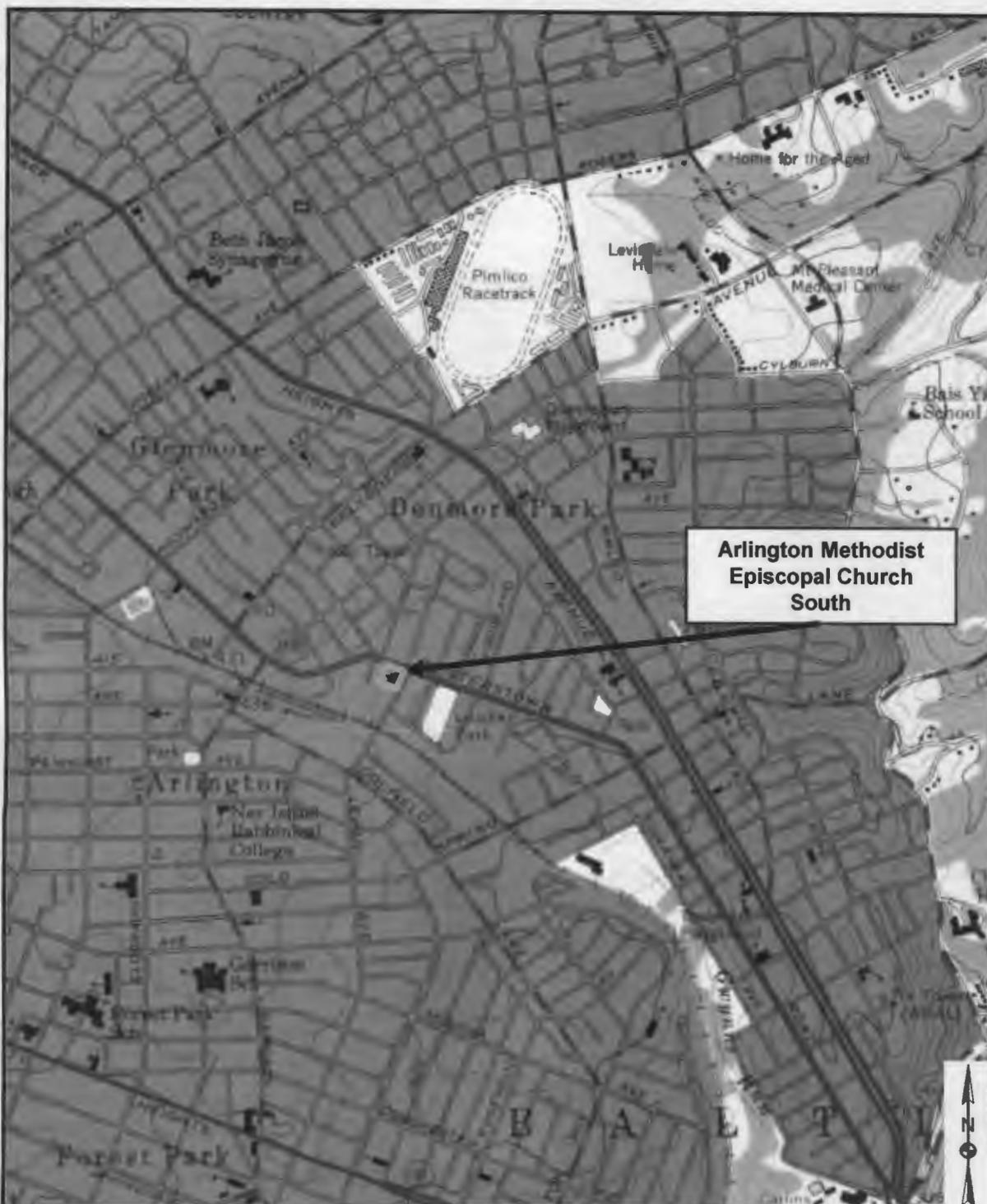
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name/title	<u>MS4</u> Robyn Chrabasz, Historic Preservation Officer		
organization	Corporation for Baltimore City DHCD	date	June 2012
street & number	417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 313	telephone	(443) 984-1871
city or town	Baltimore	state	MD

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.

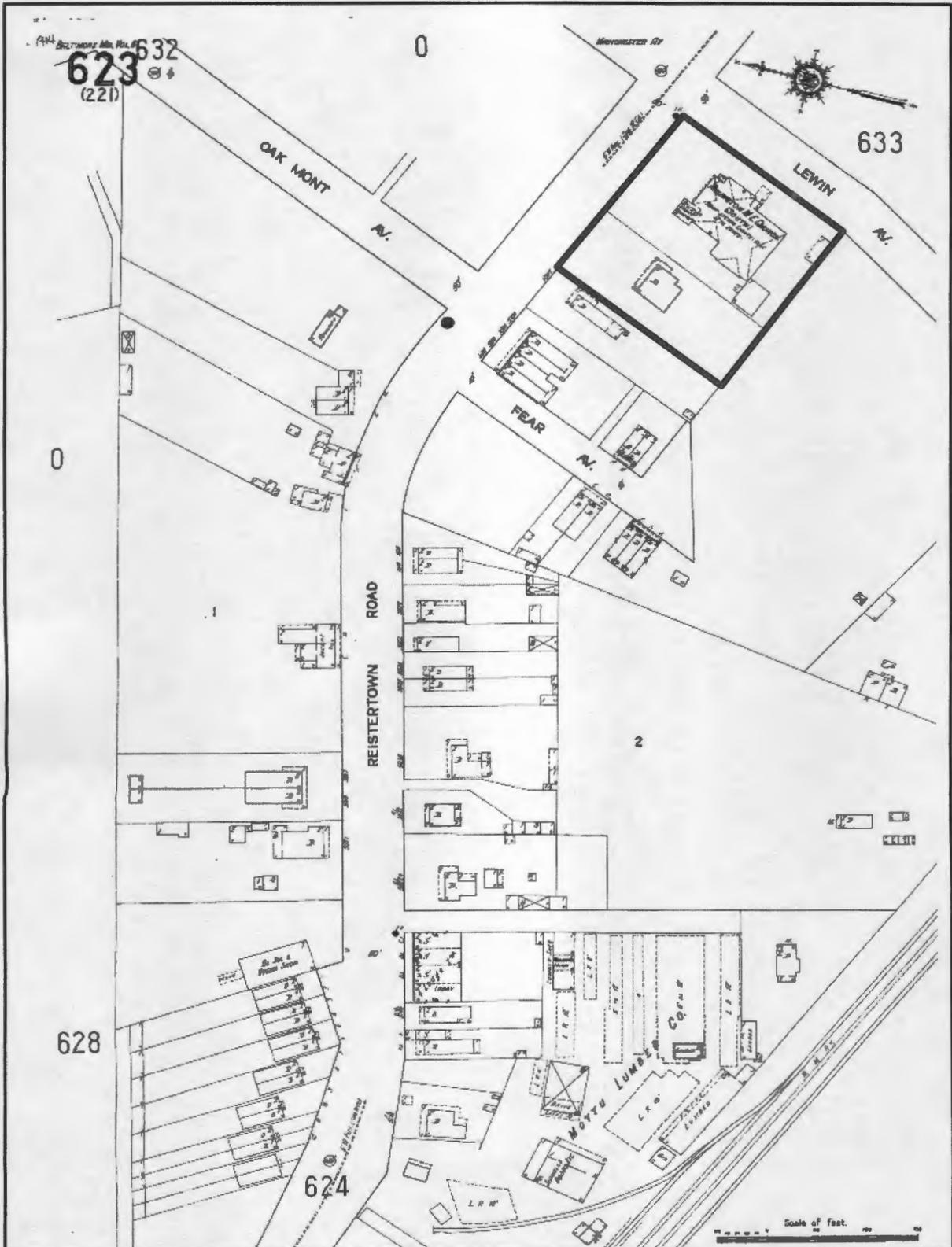
return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Maryland Department of Planning  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



**Arlington Methodist  
Episcopal Church  
South**



PROJECT	Baltimore Housing	<b>Topographic Map of Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South</b>	
SCALE	1:24,000	<b>URS</b>	Project No. 15303130
SOURCE	USGS 7.5' Series Baltimore West MD 1953		Attachment 1

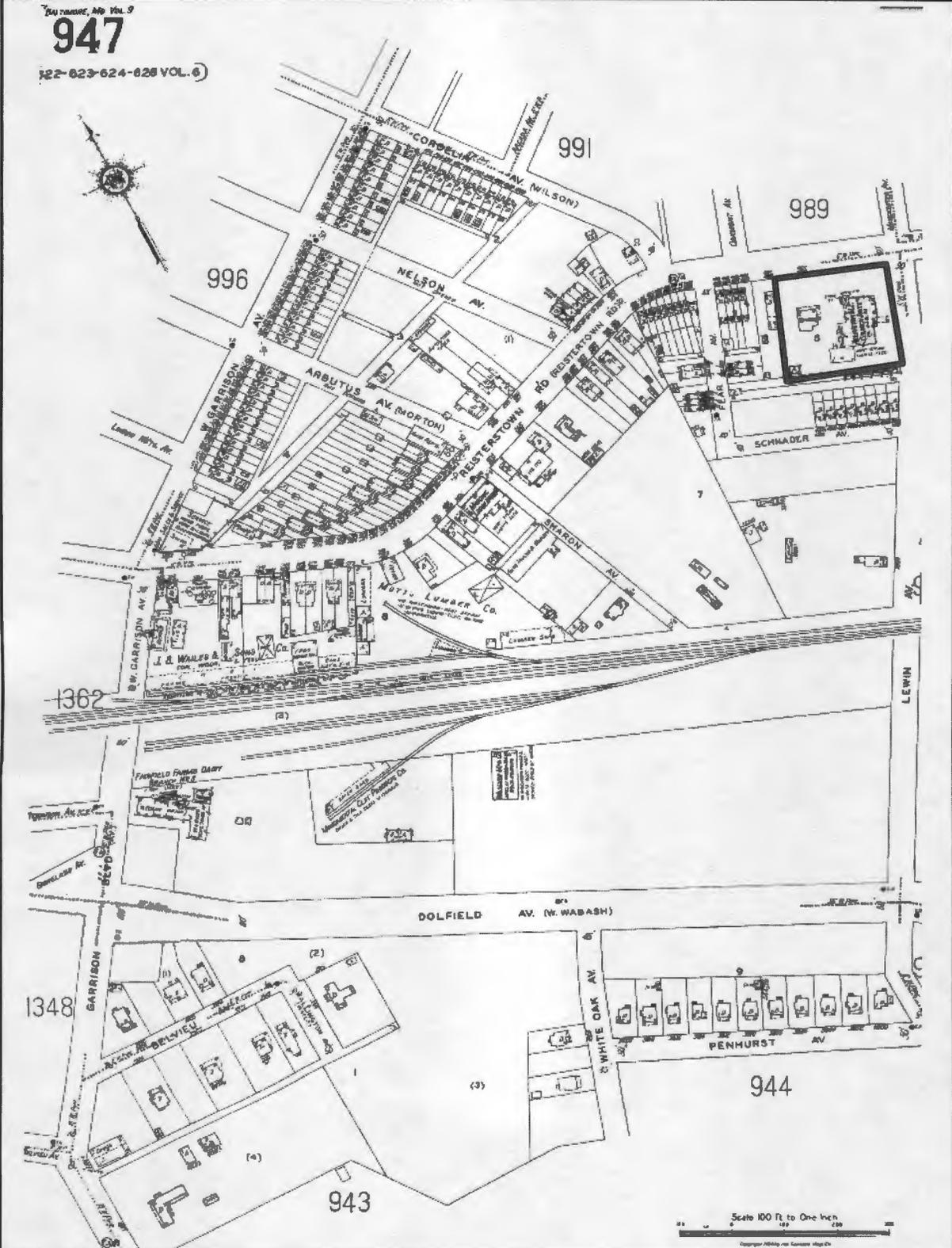


PROJECT	Baltimore Housing	1915 Sanborn Insurance Map	
SCALE	See Map	<b>URS</b>	Project No. 15303130
SOURCE	Sanborn Insurance Map		Attachment 2

The Public, No. 9

947

22-623-624-628 VOL. 6



PROJECT	Baltimore Housing	1929 Sanborn Insurance Map	
SCALE	See Map	<b>URS</b>	Project No. 15303130
SOURCE	Sanborn Insurance Map		Attachment 3



PROJECT Baltimore Housing		Photo Map Key, Arlington Methodist Episcopal Church South	
SCALE N/A		<b>URS</b>	Project No. 15303130
SOURCE Google Earth Professional 2012			Attachment 4



B-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH AND RECTORY, NORTH ELEVATION (LEFT)  
AND WEST ELEVATION (RIGHT), LOOKING SOUTHEAST.

#1 OF 7



B-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, EAST ELEVATION (LEFT) AND NORTH  
ELEVATION (RIGHT), LOOKING SOUTHWEST.

#2 OF 7



8-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, SOUTH ELEVATION (LEFT) AND  
EAST ELEVATION (RIGHT), LOOKING NORTHWEST.

# 3 OF 7



B-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, REAR ADDITION, SOUTH ELEVATION  
(LEFT) AND EAST ELEVATION (RIGHT), LOOKING NORTHWEST.

#4 of 7



B-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, NORTH ELEVATION (LEFT) AND WEST ELEVATION (RIGHT),  
LOOKING SOUTHEAST.

#5 of 7



B-5266

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH RECTORY

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH RECTORY, MAIN FACADE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST.

#6 OF 7



B-5265

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH RECTORY

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

BRIAN CLEVEN

30 MAY 2012

MD SHPO

ARLINGTON METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH RECTORY, SOUTH ELEVATION (LEFT) AND EAST  
ELEVATION (RIGHT), LOOKING NORTHWEST.

#7 of 7