

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0480
Dover Methodist Church
14505 Dover Road
Upperco, Baltimore County
1842
Private

The Dover Methodist Church was constructed over a period of five years beginning in 1842. The congregation formed as early as 1808 and erected the extant church on land donated to the congregation by Richard Johns, who lived across Dover Road from the church in 1850. At that time, the small village of Dover included a post office, tannery, and two mills in addition to the residential buildings that were clustered at the center. The Johns family occupied a large amount of land in the local community. John Johns, Richard Johns, and Jonathan Johns all maintained farms surrounding Dover. Very little growth occurred in the community between 1850 and 1877. Indeed, the 1877 atlas indicates that the village's population might have declined. Even though the grist and saw mills remained in operation, the tannery does not appear to be depicted on the map. Additionally, the post office was removed from this location. Growth of the village appears to have stagnated through the early 20th century. The vernacular Dover Methodist Church has remained in use by the same congregation.

The Dover Methodist Church is a one-and-a-half-story building of solid random rubble stone construction that is parged with cement. The rectangular, three-bay-deep building is capped by a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. One stretcher bond brick exterior chimney rises along the east elevation. The façade, or south elevation, features two paneled double-leaf wood doors with paneled recess and soffit and a square-edged wood surrounds. A square-edged entablature surmounts each entry. Two 6/6 windows with square-edged wood surrounds and sills pierce the gable peak. Circa 1970, a skim coat of Portland cement was placed on the exterior over the existing 19th century parging. The church fronts south with an early 19th century cemetery to the north and east. An circa 1930 shed and a 1958 parish hall are to the northwest.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0480

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Dover Methodist Church (preferred), Dover Chapel

other

2. Location

street and number 14505 Dover Road not for publication

city, town Upperco vicinity

county Baltimore County

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

name Dover United Methodist Church, Inc.

street and number 5012 Frye Road telephone Not Available

city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 9043 folio 349

city, town Towson tax map 32 tax parcel 21 tax ID number 2200010774

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
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u> 2 </u> <u> 1 </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u> 1 </u> <u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u> </u> <u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u> </u> <u> </u> objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<u> 3 </u> <u> 1 </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u> 1 </u>

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0480

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 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.

Erected in 1842, the Dover Methodist Church is a one-and-a-half-story vernacular building of solid random rubble stone construction that is parged with cement. The rectangular, three-bay-deep building is capped by a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. One stretcher bond brick exterior chimney rises along the east elevation. The façade, or south elevation, features two paneled double-leaf wood doors with paneled recess and soffit and a square-edged wood surrounds. A square-edged entablature surmounts each entry. Two 6/6 windows with square-edged wood surrounds and sills pierce the gable peak. Circa 1970, a skim coat of Portland cement was placed on the exterior over the existing 19th century parging. The church fronts south with an early 19th century cemetery to the north and east. An early 20th century shed and a mid-20th century parish hall are sited to the to the northwest.

The cemetery is composed of approximately 100 to 150 graves arranged in roughly twelve rows that face east. The majority of the 19th century grave markers are upright marble slabs. Some of these markers have corresponding footstones. The cemetery is still in use, and the majority of the 20th century markers are upright granite slabs.

The circa 1930 shed is a one-story, one-bay-square wood frame building clad in beaded-vertical-board siding with a shed roof clad in standing seam metal. The building sits on a concrete block pier foundation. A flush-vertical-board double-leaf wood door and a flush-vertical-board single-leaf wood door pierce the façade.

The one-story, three-bay-wide parish hall dates to 1958 and features solid concrete block construction with a side gable roof clad in standing seam metal. A paneled double-leaf wood door flanked by two 12/8 windows, all of which have square-edged wood surrounds, centrally pierces the façade, or south elevation.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0480

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 1842-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1842-1847

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.)

The Dover Methodist Church was constructed over a period of five years beginning in 1842. The congregation formed as early as 1808 and erected the extant church on land donated to the congregation by Richard Johns, who lived across Dover Road from the church in 1850.¹ At that time, the small village of Dover included a post office, tannery, and two mills in addition to the residential buildings that were clustered at the center. The Johns family occupied a large amount of land in the local community. John Johns, Richard Johns, and Jonathan Johns all maintained farms surrounding Dover.² Very little growth occurred in the community between 1850 and 1877. Indeed, the 1877 atlas indicates that the village's population might have declined. Even though the grist and saw mills remained in operation, the tannery does not appear to be depicted on the map. Additionally, the post office was removed from this location.³ Growth of the village appears to have stagnated through the early 20th century.⁴ The vernacular Dover Methodist Church has remained in use by the same congregation.

The building is representative of vernacular structures built throughout rural Baltimore County in the mid-19th century. Vernacular buildings tend to have little to no stylistic detailing and are typically constructed by local builders with locally available tools and materials. Vernacular architecture accounts for the majority of the built environment and reflects the traditions of society, rather than the whims of the architect.⁵ Throughout Baltimore County, there are a number of vernacular stone houses from this period. Stone was readily available in the county, with both marble and granite quarries located throughout the region. Commonly, these random rubble stone dwellings are two stories in height, single-pile with side gable roofs. This continuity of form is a result of folk architecture and the reliance on constructing forms that had been built by the previous generation.

¹ Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

² J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

³ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G.M. Hopkins, 1877).

⁴ *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

⁵ Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach, editors, *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, (Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1986), pp. xv-xvi.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0480

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .10 Acre
Acreage of historical setting Unknown
Quadrangle name Hampstead Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1842, the Dover Methodist Church has been associated with the 2.21 acres of land known as tax parcel 21 of map 32 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

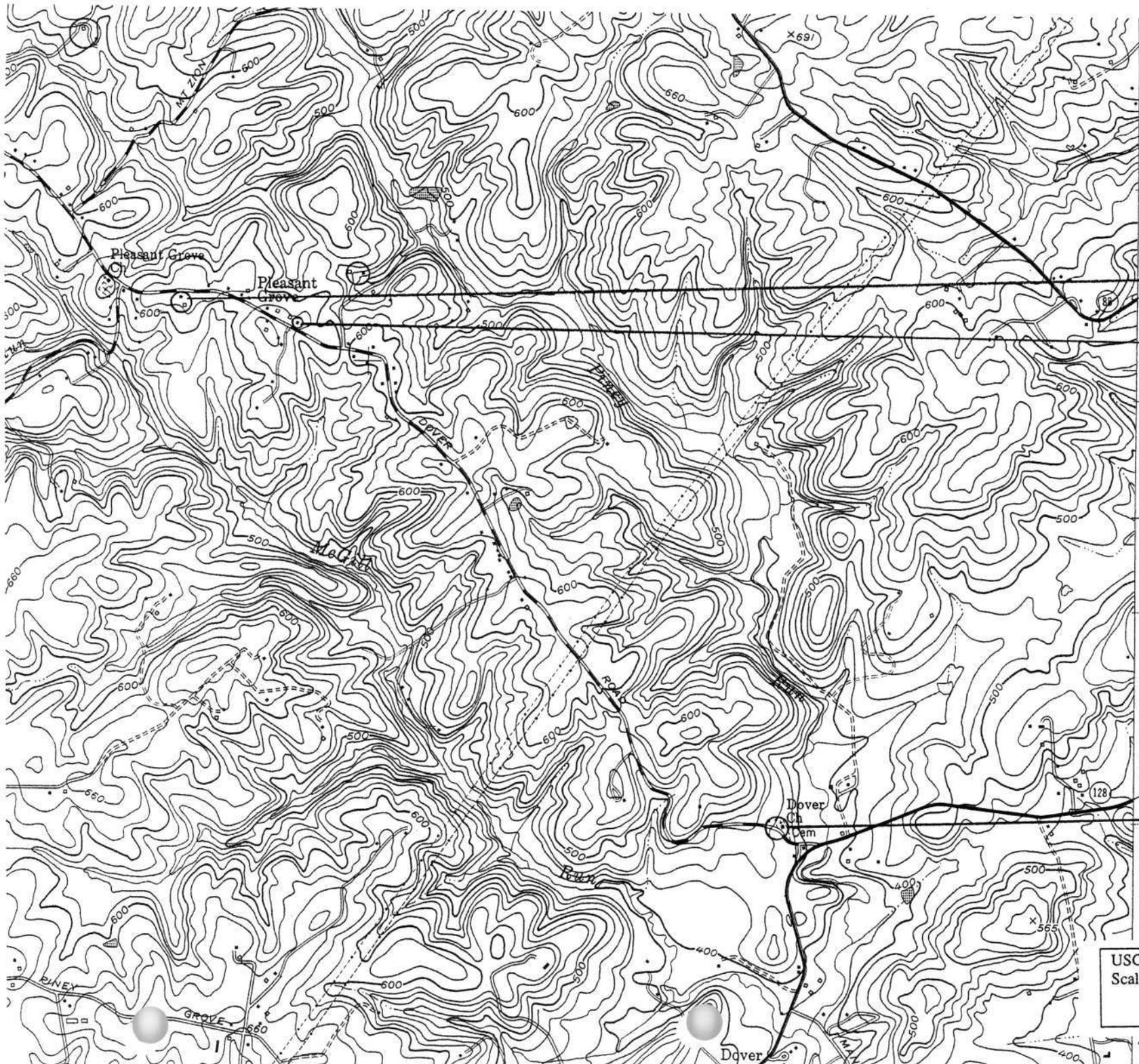
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 15, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

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 21032-2023
410-514-7600

ROAD



1.5 MI. TO MD. 35

32'30"
4378

4377

BUTLER 1.5 MI.

4376

4375

BA-0556
15276 DOVER ROAD

BA-1163
15225 DOVER ROAD
REISTERSTOWN
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0480
14505 DOVER ROAD -
UPPERLO
BALTIMORE COUNTY

USGS Quad: HAMPSTEAD
Scale: 1:24,000

N



BA-0480

14505 DOVER ROAD, UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SAPO

SE CORNER

1 of 3



BA-0480

14505 DOVER ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

N. ELEVATION + CEMETERY

2 of 3



BA-0480

14505 DOVER ROAD, UPPERCO
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

PARISH HALL + SHED

3 of 3

(Within Worthington Valley NR District)

030480 4408

BA-480

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Dever Methodist Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
^{14505 Rd}
Dever and Butler Roads

CITY OR TOWN:
Glyndon

STATE: **Maryland** COUNTY: **Baltimore**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dever Methodist Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Dever and Butler Roads

CITY OR TOWN: **Glyndon** STATE: **Maryland**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Towson** STATE: **Maryland**

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): **AWB 378/408**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>DOVER CHURCH is a one storey, rectangular church or meeting house of stuccoed stone, three bays in length, with a gabled roof. Two principal entrances are in the south gable end, facing the road; two 6/6 windows light the gallery within through the gable. Three windows on the west side, two on the north end, and two on the east side (the northerly bay of that side containing a secondary entrance), all with 8/8 sash set into thin beaded-edge frames, hung with leuvred blinds, light the single space within. The roof is covered with standing seam tin. A stone high in the south gable contains the following text:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DOVER 1842</p> <p>Each jamb of the two principal southerly entrances is paneled; the westerly entrance contains double doors, one folding on the other, to prevent the blockage of the gallery stair within. The easterly pair of doors is hinged conventionally. The doors retain their original hardware, including wrought-iron rim locks and cast-iron butt hinges.</p> <p>Simple slip pews with rectangular, unmelded paneled ends, are arranged in three banks, with two aisles leading from the southerly entrances to the similarly-paneled pulpit, which is surrounded with a communion rail supported by two Tuscan columns; its front is enclosed with unoulded paneling. The wide gallery stair ascends in the southwest corner around a single pivot-point. Two cast-iron kerosene chandeliers, electrified, hang from a tie rod across the middle of the structure. The plaster finish of the walls continues along the undersides of the roof rafters, thence horizontally beneath the cellar beams. The floor is of random-width pine.</p> <p>West of the church, near the road, is a mounting block of rubble stone with single stone treads. North and west of the church is a cemetery.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1842

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dever Methodist congregation was established in 1808. The first place of worship was a schoolhouse located on the Western Run about one half mile distant from the present church.

The cornerstone of the present structure reads 1842 at which time Richard Jehns gave the congregation the 5/8 acre to construct a meeting-house. Additional land was acquired in later years for a graveyard and an enlargement of the area around the church.

For a long time there was neither water nor electricity inside the building. This was only installed during the 1950's when considerable renovation was done and a Sunday School building erected.

The congregation has varied in size over the years but has always had the strong support of a number of neighboring families. Such names as Kemp, Gill, Caples and Belt appear on the various deeds and papers. Like most rural churches, Dever Methodist Church is an important center of its community. It is a perfect illustration of the philosophy of its owners, a philosophy opposite from those of the Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches which encouraged ornamental, stylish buildings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"History of Dover Church". Unpublished manuscript. (May 10, 1959).

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County
(Philadelphia, 1881). p. 866

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5/8 acre**

Acreeage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollen, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION: **Werthington Valley Historical District Project** DATE: **Jan. 1, 1976**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1114 Bellemore Road

CITY OR TOWN: **Baltimore** STATE: **Maryland**

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____



Dover Methodist Church

Wilton 1975

BA-480