

BA 595

PARKE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

1888

PARKTON

PRIVATE

This frame Victorian style church covered with white composition shingles was built on land donated by a founding member of the town, Mrs. Miranda Harris. Building contractor was Marion Anderson, who copied an existing church on Mount Zion Road, about four miles away. Cornerstone was laid on August 18, 1888, with Masonic ceremonies. The remains of Captain James Calder, first settler in the vicinity of Parkton, and other members of his family, are buried beneath the altar and the old Calder tombstones are framed in the rear outer wall of the church and can be read by visitors. The stained glass windows date from the 1930s. With its square entrance tower, the church is the most visible and best designed landmark in the north end of town.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

18,910 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Parke Memorial Methodist Church, Inc.

Telephone #: -

STREET &amp; NUMBER

18,908 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21152

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

County Courts Building

Liber #: JWS 169

Folio #: 315

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust

Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

MHT NO. BA 595

DATE

On-going since 1964

 FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Parke Memorial United Methodist Church is a frame structure in Gothic Revival style, now covered with white aluminum siding, presenting a very smart appearance on the rising ground north of Parkton. The church is composed of a gable-roofed nave, its gable end to the road, and a side entrance tower and entrance porch, located at the southeast corner (to the left of the nave), the corner nearest the road.

The nave is three bays wide, with a broad stained-glass lancet window centered in the gable end, flanked by two narrower lancet windows. There is a bracketed bargeboard at the gable peak, decorated with cutout trefoils. There is also a round window above the center lancet window.

The nave is four bays deep, also provided with lancet windows. The rear gable end contains only one round stained glass window. A small hip-roofed apse one bay deep is attached to the rear (west) end of the nave; its windows are small lancet types. The eaves of the nave overhang noticeably and a wood cornice follows the eaves.

The square entrance tower has flush doors set under a rectangular transom with stained glass lights. There are two enclosed levels inside the tower, with lancet windows opening on the east and south. The tower becomes an open belfry at the third level, where there are eight openings in the form of gothic arches. The tower roof is a four-sided spire with triangular louvered vents at its base. A Celtic cross tops the spire.

The porch is eight steps above grade, its deck supported by poured concrete. There are four square porch columns, two of them recessed on either side of the door. Round wooden arches combined with wooden latticework join the columns.

The porch is sheltered by a gable roof with overhanging eaves. Its recessed pediment is decorated with a bargeboard with cutout trefoil forms.

The foundation is stone, about two feet of it exposed along the street facade of the nave. A slim brick chimney rises along the north wall of the nave, about halfway back from the street; it is crooked and secured by metal guys or rods.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Committee on History, Parke Memorial United Methodist Church  
1888-1978 (Parkton, Md., 1978).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 71-1/2 perches

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Original site was Lots 9 and 10 on westside of York Road,  
 running through irregularly to Calder Avenue.

N76W 208 feet to Calder Avenue

N40W 71 feet along Calder Avenue

S76E 304 feet to York Road

S14-1/2W 66.6 feet to BEGINNING.

(Map 17, P297)

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Baltimore County Office of Planning & Zoning

DATE

March 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

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.

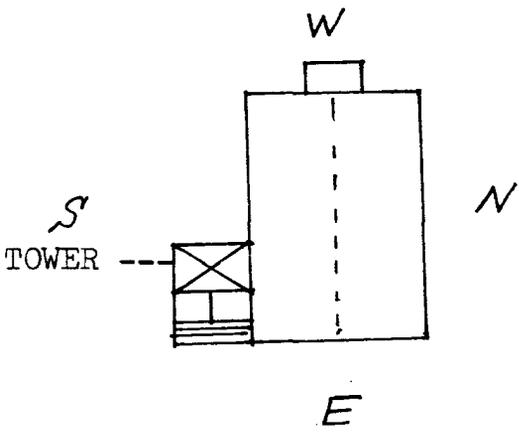
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information  
 and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-  
 ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

BA-505

PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1, ITEM 7, PAGE 2



## PARKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CONTINUATION SHEET NO. 1, ITEM 8, PAGE 2

67 feet high, and in the interior is a classroom and an auditorium, with a gallery, which will seat 350 persons. The windows are of stained glass. (4)

Dedication took place on January 26, 1889, and there was an all-day meeting at which the pastor raised the outstanding \$900 that prevented dedication of a free and clear church structure. First pastor was the Rev. John Solon Bowers. The debt was wiped out at the evening service at which the Rev. Dr. Lewis, president of Western Maryland College, presided.

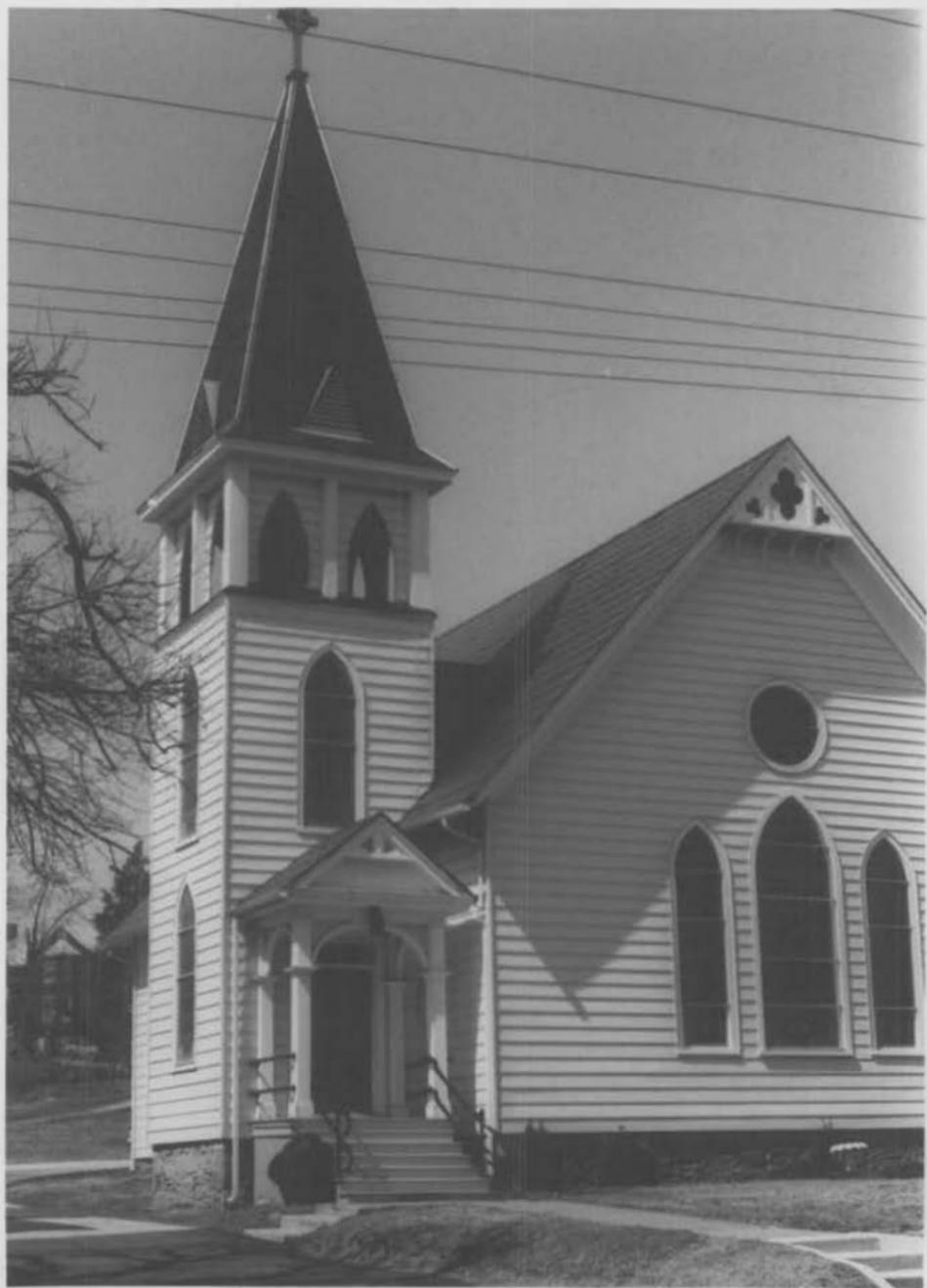
Total cost of the church was \$2,100. There were originally two stoves that had cost \$92.23. Later, a hot air system was installed, and an oil burner in 1941. Lighting began with kerosene lamps, progressed to acetylene gas, and in 1925, electricity was installed.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Moreland Ellis Dearholt (1931-38), the interior was redecorated and a number of stained glass windows installed. An educational building was added in 1960. Another redecoration was carried out in 1970 and in 1973, aluminum siding was added to the structure of both church and educational building.

## NOTES:

1. Committee on History, Parke Memorial United Methodist Church 1888-1978 (Parkton, Md. 1978), pp. 2-3.
2. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 169:315.
3. Committee on History, Parke Memorial, p. 4.
4. Committee on History, Parke Memorial, p. 5.





PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, March 1980  
Neg. located at MHT  
Tower & SE corner



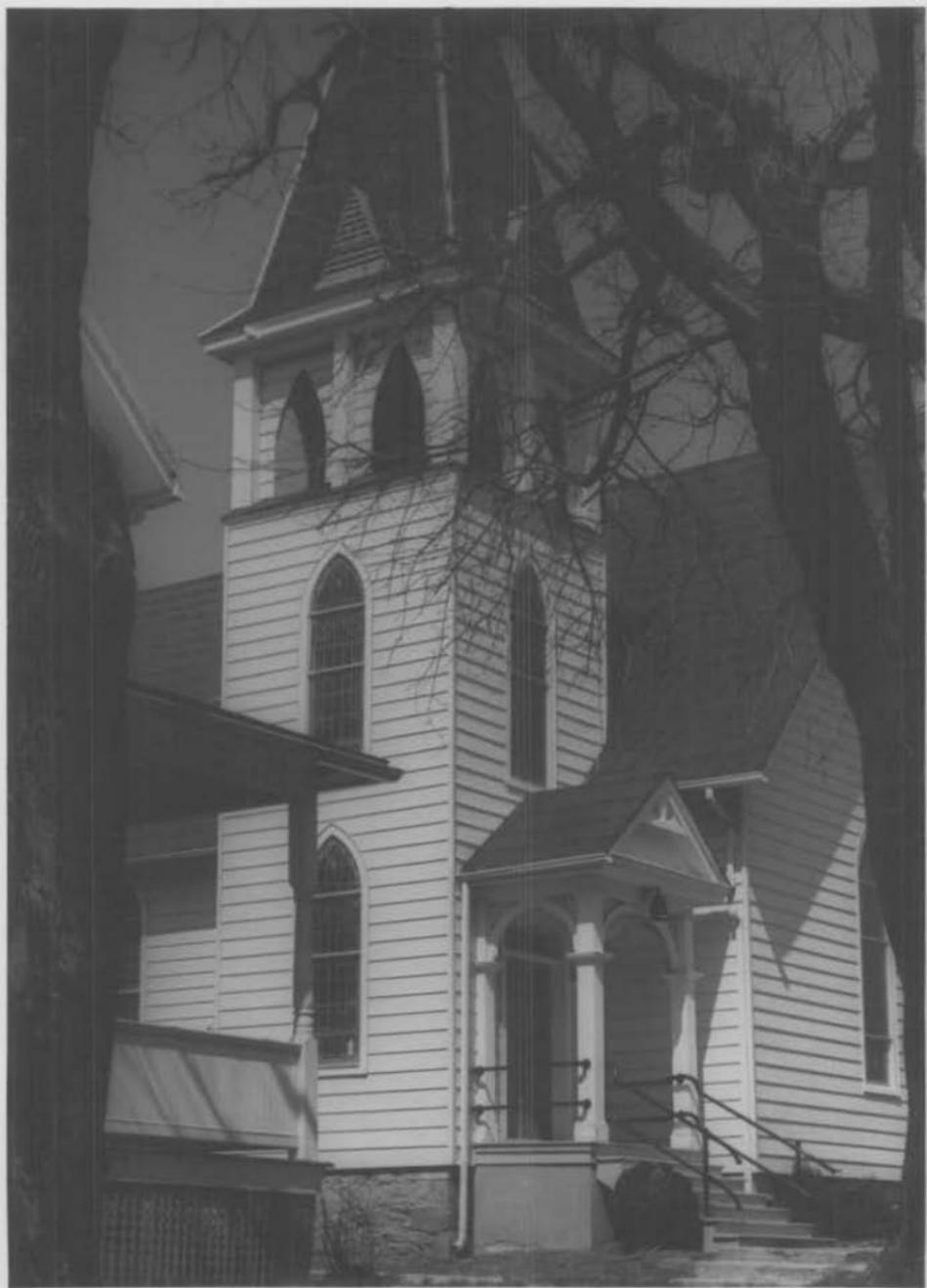
Memorial  
METHODIST CHURCH

SCHOOL / 10:30 A.M.

WEDNESDAY / 11:30 A.M.

WEDNESDAY

PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, March, 1980  
Neg. located at MHT  
East end of nave



PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, March 1980  
Neg. located at MHT  
Tower & SE corner



St. Mary's  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SOUTH BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:00 A.M.  
MASS - 8:00 A.M.  
MASS - 10:00 A.M.  
MASS - 5:00 P.M.

PARKE MEMORIAL CHURCH BA 595  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, March 1980  
Neg located at MHT  
East facade and tower