

CARR-549

1893, 1940, 1993

Ridgeville United Methodist Church  
(Ridgeville M.P. Church, Boulevard Office Center)  
108 East Ridgeville Boulevard (MD 144)  
Mt. Airy  
Private

The former Ridgeville United Methodist Church has, c. 1993, been converted for use as office space. The gable-front frame building faces north onto Ridgeville Boulevard, with a three-bay front facade. The center entrance bay stands in a slightly projecting tower. The double six-panel doors, which were surmounted by a stained-glass window in a gothic arch, have been replaced by a modern glazed door with sidelights. A gable-roofed portico has been added to shelter the door. The projecting bay remains, but the former crenelated tower with pointed-arched panels has been removed above the roofline. A single round four-light window in the attic gable has been replaced with a louvered vent. The standing-seam metal roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles. The four stained glass lancet windows on the east and west sides of the nave, the window on either side of the south chancel, the two on its south end, and those flanking the central north entrance have been replaced with standard 1/1 sash windows, and the space above each filled with a blank aluminum sheet. The interior chimney has been removed from the northwest corner of the nave. The 8/8 sash windows in the cellar have been replaced with 1/1 sash, and the interior space has been divided into offices.

Jennifer K. Cosham, 3/9/2004





CARR-549  
Ridgeville U.M. Church  
(Ridgeville M.P. Church, Boulevard Office Center)  
108 East Ridgeville Boulevard  
Mt. Airy

Photographs: Jennifer K. Cosham, 3/6/2004  
Digital files at MHT

CARR-549

Ridgeville M. P. Church  
Ridgeville Boulevard

1893; 1940

Ridgeville M. P. Church is more typical of towns of moderate size than of small villages and isolated rural location. The single entrance and central bell tower, while conservative for the period, were not as traditional as a double entrance with no tower. Most unique is the use of a concrete block foundation. If this foundation truly dates to 1893, it must be one of the earliest uses of concrete block in Carroll County. The Ridgeville ceiling, like most metal ceilings, was probably a later alteration, but is still significant. The windows and interior furnishings are being removed, and the integrity of the interior is seriously threatened.

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Ridgeville M. P. Church

and/or common Ridgeville U. M. Church

## 2. Location

street & number 1034 Ridgeville Boulevard (MD 144)  not for publicationcity, town Mt. Airy  vicinity of  congressional districtstate Maryland  county Carroll

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

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

name

street &amp; number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber

street &amp; number 55 North Court Street folio

city, town Westminster state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

**Summary:** Ridgeville Methodist Protestant Church is located on the south side of Ridgeville Boulevard, between Ridge Road (Route 27) and Main Street in Mount Airy, in southwestern Carroll County. The church is a one-story, three-bay by four-bay structure with a rusticated concrete block foundation, aluminum siding over German siding, and a standing-seam-metal gable roof with a north-south ridge. The north elevation has a projecting center bell tower. The northwest corner of the foundation has a marble stone carved with "Ridgeville Methodist Church Built 1893 Rebuilt 1940." The east and west elevations each have four 8/8 sash in the cellar with four stained-glass lancet windows above. On the south is a one-bay by three-bay, one-story addition. The gabled ceiling has pressed metal with a cove cornice. The church was recently sold and will be converted to commercial space.

Ridgeville Methodist Protestant Church is located on the south side of Ridgeville Boulevard, between Ridge Road (Route 27) and Main Street in Mount Airy, in southwestern Carroll County. The church is a one-story, three-bay by four-bay structure with a rusticated concrete block foundation, aluminum siding over German siding, and a standing-seam-metal gable roof with a north-south ridge. The north elevation has a projecting center bell tower with double six-panel doors in a beaded-interior-edge door frame. The doors have sunk panels with ovolo panel moulds. Above the doors is a lanciform stained-glass transom. It has a green outer margin, a purple inner margin, an amber field, a blue tablet with a cross in a crown, and at the bottom "Ridgeville Methodist Church". High up in the tower is a four-light oculus with amber glass. At the top of the tower is a boarded over opening with a triangular top. There is a cross on top of the tower, and battlements at the four corners. On either side of the tower is a stained-glass lancet with a pair of two-panel shutters. The northwest corner of the foundation has a marble stone carved with "Ridgeville Methodist Church Built 1893 Rebuilt 1940."

The east and west elevations each have four 8/8 sash in the cellar with four stained-glass lancet windows above, but the south bay is boarded up. All of the windows have a blue outer margin, a purple inner margin, an amber field, a brown vertical band in the center, a square, figural panel in the center, and a memorial tablet at the bottom. On the south is a one-bay by three-bay, one-story addition. It has a rusticated concrete block foundation, aluminum siding, and a standing-seam-metal gable roof with a north-south ridge. The south elevation is three bays, with two 5/2 lancet sash on the first story and no openings in the center bay. The cellar has two two-light sash in the center, flanked by a 6/6 on each side. The west elevation has one 5/2 lancet sash and a marble

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1893; 1940 Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

**Summary:** Ridgeville M. P. Church is more typical of towns of moderate size than of small villages and isolated rural location. The single entrance and central bell tower, while conservative for the period, were not as traditional as a double entrance with no tower. Most unique is the use of a concrete block foundation. If this foundation truly dates to 1893, it must be one of the earliest uses of concrete block in Carroll County. The Ridgeville ceiling, like most metal ceilings, was probably a later alteration, but is still significant. The windows and interior furnishings are being removed, and the integrity of the interior is seriously threatened.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Architecture, Religion

Resource Types: Church, Rural vernacular

While Ridgeville M. P. Church dates only to 1893, there was apparently a Methodist church in the area long before. The 1862 map shows such a church south of Mt. Airy and another in nearby Parrsville. The latter church was the only one in the vicinity in 1877, and according to Scharf it was a Methodist Episcopal building. The forces that led to the creation of an M. P. church in Ridgeville are unknown, but the structure they built is more typical of towns of moderate size than of small villages and isolated rural locations. The single entrance and central bell tower, while conservative for the period, were not as traditional as a double entrance with no tower. Most unique is the use of a concrete block foundation. Use of such blocks was virtually unknown until after 1900, when the industry took off. If this foundation truly dates to 1893, it must be one of the earliest uses of concrete block in Carroll County. Most original ceilings in churches have been covered over recently, but it still seems that the use of pressed metal was rare. The Ridgeville ceiling, like most metal ceilings, was probably a later alteration, but is still significant. Unfortunately, the church has closed and been sold. It will soon be converted to commercial use. The windows and interior furnishings are being removed, and the integrity of the interior is seriously threatened.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-549

1862 & 1877 maps  
Scharf, History of Western Maryland, p. 895

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Damascus

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting	Northing

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing

C 

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D 

--	--	--

E 

--	--	--

F 

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G 

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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
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner

organization Carroll County Planning Department

date July 28, 1993

street & number 225 North Center Street

telephone (410) 857-2145

city or town Westminster

state Maryland

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

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

cornerstone with "Ridgeville M.P. Church 1893." The east elevation has one 5/2 lancet sash and a six-panel door to the north, in the cellar.

Inside the bell tower is a vestibule with new six-panel double doors on the west, in an original opening. These lead to stairs down to the cellar. On the east is a single four-panel door into a closet. There is an access hatch in the ceiling of the closet that leads to the bell tower. On the south wall of the closet is a four-panel door into the sanctuary. On the south of the vestibule are new six-panel double doors into the sanctuary. All of the door and window surrounds have two back-to-back shallow ogee mouldings down the center of the field. The sanctuary has three-inch-wide tongue-and-groove pine flooring that runs north-south. The pews have been removed, but there was formerly a center aisle. The baseboard has an ogee moulding on the top and the walls have textured plaster. The gabled ceiling has pressed metal with a cove cornice. Each side of the ceiling has three large, square metal panels that are original. Inside each panel is a square, recessed light. There are two square patches in the cornice, in the center of the east and west walls, that suggest there were once interior chimneys here.

There is a raised dais on the south that has been altered, and the chancel furniture has been removed. Apparently there was originally an altar rail straight across this end, between the south and south-central bays, and it had an opening in the center. The south wall has a recessed, three-sided apse with a small stained-glass lancet on the southeast and southwest sides. These windows match the others, except that they have light green margins. There are two new doors on the south wall into the south addition. This section is divided into two rooms, with knotty pine panelling. The social hall below has no exposed details. The church was recently sold and will be converted to commercial space.



CARR-549  
 Ridgeville M. P. Church  
 Ridgeville Boulevard

Assessments & Taxation Map #602



# COUNTY

# LAND

al Surveys by

l assistants.

olished by

Surveyor & Civ Eng.

BALTIMORE.

in One Mile.



S.  
ances in miles and fractions.

Station.

Simon J. Martenet in the Clerk's

Manchester, Maryland 21102.



CARR-549  
Ridgeville M. P. Church  
Ridgeville Boulevard

Martenet Map, 1862



Ridgeville Methodist Church

Ridgeville Boulevard

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: July 1993

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

north & west elevations

113



Ridgeville Methodist Church

Ridgeville Boulevard

Carroll County, Maryland

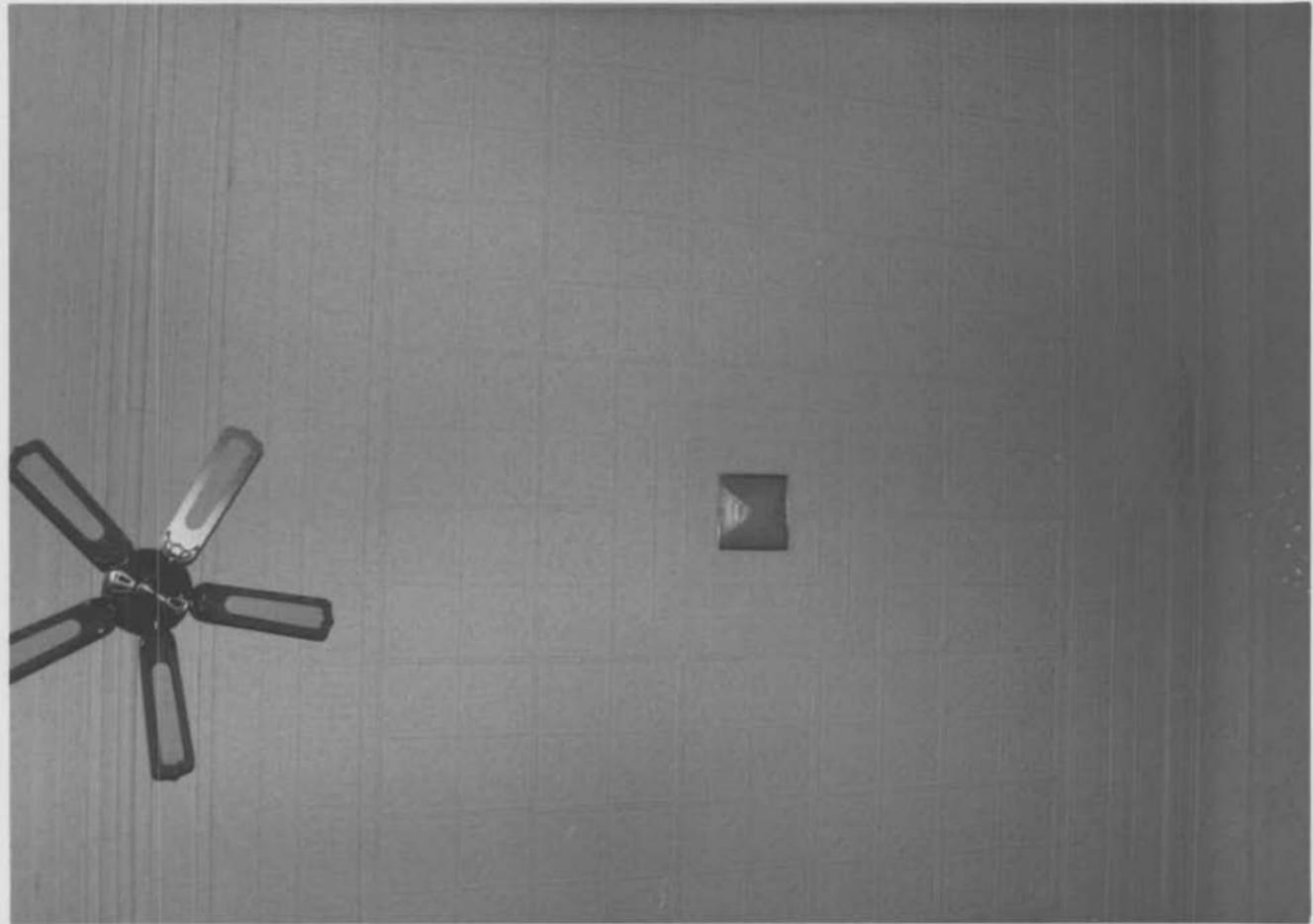
Photo: Kenneth M. Short

Date: July, 1993

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

interior - east & south elevations

2/3



Ridgeville Methodist Church

Ridgeville Boulevard

Carroll County, Maryland

Photo: Kenneth M. Strat

Date: July 1993

Neg. Loc. Maryland Historical Trust

interior ceiling detail

3/3