

F-1-174
Forest Grove United Methodist Church
Tuscarora vicinity
Private

1874

The Forest Grove United Methodist Church is a one-story frame church with german siding, wood buttresses, and a rusticated concrete block foundation which was originally built prior to 1874 as an Episcopal chapel in Washington, D.C. In 1874, it was acquired by the Methodist Episcopal congregation in the Licksville vicinity, disassembled, and transported to Frederick County by C&O canal boat. Originally rebuilt without a foundation or cellar, the structure was raised on the concrete block foundation in 1936-1937. An enclosed vestibule on the principal south elevation was added in 1956 and a small frame belfry was built over the south gable in 1965. The church has moderate architectural significance for the history of its construction and relocation to the present site.

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Tuscarora vicinity
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function & Use:
Religion/religious facility/church

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Methodist Episcopal Church of Licksville

and/or common Forest Grove United Methodist Church (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 6100 block Dickerson Road not for publicationcity, town Tuscarora vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

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 Forest Grove United Methodist Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber TG 2

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 107

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-1-174

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

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The Forest Grove United Methodist Church is a one-story frame church building with german siding built about 1874 of materials from a church originally constructed in Washington, D.C., which was disassembled, transported by C&O canal boat to Licksville (now Tuscarora), and reconstructed on the present site on the northeast corner of Dickerson Road and Greenfield Road, near Tuscarora, Frederick County, Maryland. The building has been altered several times in the early and mid-20th century, with a raised concrete block basement in 1936-1937, a basement level classroom and a projecting vestibule which conceals the original principal entrance in 1956, and a small belfry in 1965. Dates stated are documented in land records and the 1971 church history.

The original frame church was reconstructed on the site without a foundation. It had a wood shingle gable roof, german siding, and wood buttresses separating the three bays on the east and west elevations. The original appearance of the main south elevation is unknown, but probably had a central doorway flanked by two windows. The present windows are 6/6 textured glass flanked by replacement shutters. In 1912, a concrete walk from Dickerson Road to the entrance was laid and the original kerosene lamp lighting was replaced by carbon lighting, according to the 1971 church history compiled for its centennial celebration. In 1936-1937, the frame structure was hoisted by Bartlett and Barnhouse, contractors from Doubs, and dug basement of rusticated concrete block was placed under the building. In the same year, the carbon lights were replaced by electric lighting. In 1952, the wood shingle roof was replaced by asbestos shingles; a replacement of this roof in the same material was installed in 1971. In 1956, a projecting classroom was built on the west side of the basement level and an enclosed vestibule was built across the south elevation, concealing the original entrance. This vestibule has a plain concrete block foundation. In the north elevation is a stained glass semi-circular window, flanked by a modern exterior brick chimney, part of the oil furnace installed in 1961. In 1965, a small plywood covered open belfry was built over the south gable to accommodate a donated bell. The interior of the church was not accessible; however, the 1971 history contains a chronology of improvements to the church which list several interior alterations. The walls are plaster and the hardwood floor is apparently original. The pews and altar furnishings were purchased from 1952 to 1971.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-1-174

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 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 C. 1874 **Builder/Architect**

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.

The Forest Grove United Methodist Church is architecturally significant for the history of its construction on the present location, having been originally an Episcopal chapel in Washington, D.C. prior to 1874. The Methodist Episcopal Church South of Leesburg, Virginia, had established the congregation in the vicinity of Licksville, Maryland about 1871 and services were first held in a log building which stood next to the Licksville School (F-1-173), an 1847 brick structure, currently a residence, located across Dickerson Road from the present site of the church. According to the church history, about 1871, Lloyd and McGill Belt, Frederick County residents with ties to Washington and members of an Episcopal church, were instrumental in acquiring the materials of an Episcopal chapel in Washington which was being replaced by a larger building. The building was disassembled and loaded on a canal boat on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. The boat carried the building parts to Tuscarora, then the canal and railroad stop just south of Licksville. (In the 1920's, the name Tuscarora was transferred with the post office to Licksville, but it was not until the 1950's that local maps began to show the name Tuscarora at the Licksville location.) The site for the new church was sold to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Archibald T. Snouffer and Rebecca Snouffer, his wife, in 1874 for the nominal fee of \$1.00. The name Forest Grove seems to have been used since this date, perhaps based on the tract name "Jedbury Forest" or the name of an early landowner, Forrest. The discrepancy in the dates 1871 and 1874 may be attributed to the short period of time that the congregation met in the log building prior to the 1874 acquisition of the chapel materials and the present site. The church has remained active to the present, passing through changes in affiliation with Methodist charges in Leesburg, Clarksburg in Montgomery County, and Doubs. Although considerable alterations have taken place over the period 1912 to 1971, the church still retains a moderate level of historical character on its exterior and the changes, particularly the concrete block basement of the 1930's, reflect the building technology of the period.



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Forest Grove United Methodist Church

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md.

Southwest corner view

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F-1-174

Forest Grove United Methodist Church
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

April 1993

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Crownsville, Md

Northeast corner view

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