

PH 0681130

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

B-3711

RECEIVED AUG 9 1978

76

DATE ENTERED

Easement
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Scott Street United Brethren Church

AND/OR COMMON

Dorguth Memorial United Methodist Church (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

(527) Scott and Carroll Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE

24

COUNTY

Baltimore City

CODE

510

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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

c/o Baltimore Conference of the United Methodist Church

STREET & NUMBER

516 North Charles Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

21202

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office, Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

21201

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

B-3711

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Dorguth Memorial, built in 1857, is a simple, two-story brick church of the 1st Roman Revival style. A gabled roof with a pedimented brick cornice caps the building. Four brick pilasters divide the front facade into three bays. The central bay houses two round-arched windows on the upper story and a centered door with a round-arched transom at the street level. The side bays contain flat-topped windows in set and recessed panels divided by pilasters. All the windows have more recently installed Gothic-pointed stained glass. Four large windows of the upper story of the side facade are similarly decorated. A parish house of the same styling, added in 1868, is located at the rear of the south side of the church.

Dorguth Memorial originally served the early nineteenth century working class community of Pigtown, a name referring to the concentration of many butchers.

The community has recently fallen on hard times, but the restoration efforts of the Barre Circle Homesteading District are located only several blocks north of the church.

The main body of the church is on the second floor. There is a wide center aisle and narrow aisles on the side. At the front of the church is a recessed arch in which the altar stands with a large painting of Christ above it. The arch is flanked by windows, and the area before it is separated from the rest of the church by a railing. A balcony supported by cast-iron columns stretches across the rear of the church, on the Scott Street side. Stairs on the Scott Street side lead from street level up to the church. The space below the church is used for meetings; there are slim, cast-iron columns here supporting the structure above.

Although the surrounding Pigtown or Washington Hills neighborhood has a good sample of buildings from about the 1850s to the early 20th century and may be eligible for the National Register, up to this time the community has not advocated historic district designation. The community is largely a working class one and has not taken much concern with historic preservation and the retention of the architectural characteristics of the neighborhood. In the future, with the community's support, historic district designation may be feasible. The Walter's Bath House Number 2 has been listed on the Register and is being rehabilitated for a social services agency. A library branch next to the Walter's Bath House has been housed in a late 19th century building. Also, two neighborhoods to the east, Ridgely's Delight and Barre Circle have been found to be eligible for the National Register. Until this community actively seeks historic designation, as has been the case with Barre Circle and Ridgely Delight, it makes more sense to nominate the church individually.

SIGNIFICANCE

B-3711

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1857

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Christian Gerber

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dorguth Memorial Church owes much of its initial success to the hard work and determination of Nehemiah Altman, Dorguth's first pastor. Altman, born in Mosbach, Baden, Germany of very wealthy and pious Jewish parents, initially studied to be a rabbi. Being desirous of have complete knowledge of the Scriptures for the sake of his people, he undertook a thorough study of both the Old and New Testaments. After much study and travail of soul, these efforts led Altman to Christianity where he would spend his life's work.

After immigrating to America and joining the United Brethren Church, Altman ultimately felt a call to the ministry. His first sermon was preached at the parsonage of the Otterbein Church, a German church of South Baltimore. In October, 1855, a group of members from Otterbein led by Altman met for the purpose of forming an English congregation. The church gave a lot of ground 133 feet by 66 feet from their cemetery on Scott and St. Peters (presently Carroll) Streets on which to build. The new chapel was incorporated "The Otterbein's Chapel of the United Brethren in Christ." Most of the task of collecting money for the building fell on Altman, and the construction of the building was entrusted to Christian Gerber, a local carpenter. The cornerstone was laid on June 30, 1857 and Altman served as the first pastor (1855-1859).

It seems that the church has never been popularly known by its legal name. It was first termed "The Baltimore English Mission." When the church became self-supporting in 1870 and petitioned the Conference to give it the status of "Station," this name changed to "Otterbein Chapel Station." During the early part of the twentieth century it was called "The Scott Street United Brethren Church." Presently, the church is popularly known as "The Dorguth Memorial United Methodist Church."

SIGNIFICANCE

Dorguth Memorial represents a simple and typical example of an early nineteenth century church of the Roman Revival style. It is among the last of this type of church still in use in Baltimore.

The church has remained in the community for 122 years. It was the center of the community when Pigtown was merely a village, and it remains the center of the community as an urban neighborhood. It has also remained important to a community which has changed from a largely middle income neighborhood in its early history to the predominant working class community it is today.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Dorguth Memorial Church
Baltimore City

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

(SIGNIFICANCE, Continued)

The church has functioned throughout its years to serve the social and religious needs of Figtown or Washington Village. It housed a public school in the 1870s; sheltered the wounded of the Civil War; held bazaars, raffles, and festivals for many of its years; it has baptized; married, and held funeral services for thousands of residents throughout 122 years; and today it is playing an important role in the revitalization of the neighborhood in working to establish the Washington Village Urban Renewal Area.

The church is significant in the role of the mother church to Salem Church in 1874 and the Franklin Street United Brethren Church in 1894. These congregations later merged into Christ Church.

The church is also important as an example of an early break from the German Otterbein Church to form an English speaking congregation. It represents the Americanization of the United Brethren denomination in Baltimore.

B-3711

AUG 9 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER



5.5 MI TO MD 7
 HAVRE DE GRACE, MD

17°30"

2.8 MI TO US 401

4349

1.3 MI TO US 40

4348

4347

4346 3000m N.

20°15'

Dorguth
 Memorial
 Church

Baltimore
 West
 Quad