

Cooper & Preston's Old Church/ Town Hall Antiques
3700 Aldino Road
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001

The Christian Church at Avondale (now known as Aldino) was constructed in 1878 on a $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre parcel of "Woods Meadows Enlarged". In 1913, the Aldino Country Club acquired the building and owned it until 1943. It was then used as an outlet for farm machinery by Nelson Cooper, and since 1976 has housed an antiques store. During World War II it was used as a town hall and theatre for minstrel shows.

The structure is a fine country gothic church with much of its exterior detail intact, including the board-and-batten siding and Gothic window arches and muntins.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
 Christian Church at Avondale
 AND/OR COMMON
 Cooper and Preston's Old Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
 Northeast corner; Aldino Road (MD 156) and Stepney Road

CITY, TOWN
 Aldino
 VICINITY OF
 first
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 COUNTY
 Harford
 STATE
 Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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
 James E. Emerson, Jr. and Laura Jean Emerson Telephone #: 734-7088

STREET & NUMBER
 3700 Aldino Road

CITY, TOWN
 Aberdeen, VICINITY OF
 STATE, zip code
 Maryland 21001

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 997
 Folio #: 873

STREET & NUMBER
 40 S. Main St.

CITY, TOWN
 Bel Air, STATE
 Maryland 21014

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-930

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

This board-and-batten el-shaped church, now containing an antique shop, is located on the northeast corner of Aldino and Stepney Roads in Aldino.

With an addition on the east end, the structure is three bays wide and two bays deep with a gable roof. The roof has a center gable on the south side and brick chimneys with flue pipes in both ends. Windows have pointed arches and tracery, although the double-leafed doors in the center bay of the south facade appear to have been replaced. The gables contain round windows.

The south facade has a central entrance flanked by a window on each side. The west end has two windows and the north end has a door, with a shed-roofed addition to the west filling in the el.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HA-930

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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1877, Robert and Sarah R. Walker and George W. and Sarah A. Walker sold 1/2 acre of "Woods Meadows Enlarged" for \$70 to the Trustees of the Christian Church at Avondale.¹ Presumably, then, the structure standing now was built at that time for the Christian Church (Aldino was formerly known as Avondale). On the 1878 Martenet's Map, there are two structures near this location: one is a schoolhouse, the other is unmarked. The 1858 Jennings and Herrick Map shows no structures on or near this location.

In 1913, the Aldino Country Club acquired this lot² and owned it until 1943. It was then used as an outlet for farm machinery for Nelson Cooper,³ and since 1976 has housed an antiques store. It is said to have been used as a town hall and theatre for minstrel shows during World War II.

The structure is a fine country gothic church with much of its exterior shape and detail intact, including the board and batten siding and Gothic window arches and steeple.

Footnotes

¹
ALJ 35/276

²
JAR 142/168

³
GCB 280/251

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land & Will Records of Harford County
 Interview with Laura Jean Emerson; May, 1979

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

June, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main St.

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland 21014

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
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

Cooper & Preston's Old Church

Title Search

HA-930

997/873 May 3, 1976

Grantor: Verna C. Preston
Grantee: James E. Emerson, Jr. & Wife
Laura Jean
Acreage: .5 Acres at intersection of
Aldino Rd. & Hopewell Rd.

Will Records

TLA 25/436 February 15, 1958

Grantor: Will of Nelson Cooper
Grantee: Verna C. Preston
Acreage: .5 Acres

GCB 280/251 November 1, 1943

Grantor: Michael W. Fahey, Receiver
Grantee: Nelson Cooper
Sum: \$1025
Dissolution of Aldino Country Club, Inc.

JAR 142/168 August 14, 1913

Grantor: Joseph T. McCommons, et al, Trustees
Grantee: The Aldino Country Club, Inc.
Acreage: .5 Acres, "Woods Meadows Enlarged" in
Aldino, formerly Avondale

ALJ 35/276 March 23, 1877

Grantor: Robert I. (J.?) & Sarah R. Walker
George W. & Sarah A. Walker
Grantee: James Standiford, Jarnett B.
Standiford, Lawson Ewing, Joseph T.
McCommons & John T. Evans-Trustees
of the Christian Church at Avondale
Sum: \$70
Acreage: ½ Acre of "Woods Meadows Enlarged" in
Avondale

INVENTORY NO. HA-930

ELECTION DISTRICT 2

DATE: 9/79

TAX MAP NO. 43

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

PARCEL NO. 226

NAME OF PROPERTY: Town Hall Antiques/Cooper & Preston's Old Church

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Northeast corner Aldino Rd. (Md. 156) Church & Stepney Rd.

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

NAME OF OWNER: Laura Jean Emerson

ADDRESS: 3700 Aldino Rd.
Aberdeen, MD. 21001

STORIES: 1[] 2[X] 3[] 4[] 5[] 6[] BAYS:

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

On west: 2 1/2-story additions
On north: a 1-story shed-roofed addition in e1

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?)
- BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- LOG

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[] 2/2[] 6/6[] 9/6[] 9/9[] other[X]
pegged[] nailed[] wide[] narrow[]
original[] replaced[]

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: Center bay, south side
HARDWARE: original[] replaced[X]
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES:
original[] replaced[]
with center gable

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERS
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original[] replaced[]

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[] hip[] gable[]
with stove pipes

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 2 BRICK[X] STONE[] CORBELED[] original[] replaced[]
LOCATION: inside both ends

ARCHES:

COMMENTS:

HA 930

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Cooper & Preston's old church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Northeast corner, Aldino Road (Md 156) and

CITY OR TOWN: Aldino Stepney Road

STATE: Md COUNTY: Harford

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>warehouse</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Cooper & Preston, Inc

STREET AND NUMBER: Churchville Road

CITY OR TOWN: Churchville STATE: Md

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET AND NUMBER: Harford Co. Courthouse - 46 S. Main St

CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air STATE: Md

ACREAGE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

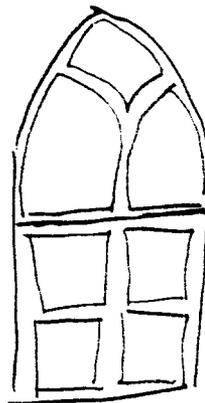
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This frame church, board and batten covered, once had 3 gothic windows facing south, 2 on east and west end walls. T shaped a vestry was in the small wing running north in the middle of the north wall. The A roof ridge runs east west, with a vent for stove near each end. The south wall now has a sliding-hanging barn door about 12' _{w.} x 8' with a door and two windows ~~at~~ centered in it for easy access for people and light tools. Windows of clear glass are sketched below, 3 lights over 4.



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

This ~~Mass~~ church has been made into a warehouse for Cooper & Preston's store farm machinery in about 1920, when farmers could get to churches in Haver & Grace and Aberdeen as they gave up their carriages for automobiles.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

No indication on Martinet's Map.

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

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

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE _____ CODE _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

ABERDEEN
USGS
QUADRANGLE

Hopewell
Ch

Level

HA-1278

HA-1278

HA-1279

HA-1277

HA-930

Aldino
Airport

Aldino

Churchville

HA-994

Smith Chapel

HA-1276

Boat Corner

HA-1280

HA-1284

HA-1288

HA-1053

HA-1286

HA-1287

HA-1285

HA-1054

HA-1300

Capsins

Jefferson
Sch

Gravel
Pit

Baker
Cem

Grass

GILBERT
Run

300

300

300

380

374

352

328

300

339

360

400

360

387

391

400

315

300

300

340

400

400

330

382

300

220

Run

Run

Snake

GRATONS

LANE

GRASS

Cem

Level



Cooper & Preston's Old Church HA-930

Aldino, MD
Natalie Shivers

June, 1979
Southwest