

S-179

St. James United Methodist Church  
Westover  
Public Worship

c. 1886

St. James United Methodist Church was organized and erected in 1886 by the rural black population living in the vicinity of Westover. A few Victorian details survive, but for the most part, this church has been extensively reworked. It is one of three churches still standing in Westover, and one of two which are still active.



# 7. Description

Survey No. S-179

<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 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.

St. James United Methodist Church stands on the west side of MD 413 between Sign Post Road and MD 361 in Westover, Maryland. Facing east, the single-story aluminum-sided frame church rests on a concrete block foundation and is sheathed with asphalt shingles. Shed additions have been added to both sides of the church as well as to each side of the three-story tower. The marble datestone is inscribed with the 1886 date. The three-story tower is capped by a pyramidal roof which is distinguished by a small turned-wood spire. The first floor has a pair of molded-panel double doors, while the second floor is lighted by single pane window sash. Louvered vents are built into the third floor.

The interior was not seen at first visit. A small cemetery with above-ground concrete vault caps is located to the rear of the church.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-179

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 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** 1886 **Builder/Architect**

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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.

St. James United Methodist Church was built in 1886 by the rural black population living in the vicinity of Westover. A few Victorian details survive, but for the most part, this church has been extensively remodeled. It is one of three churches still standing in Westover, and one of two which are still active.



5-179 St. James United Meth. Church  
Kingston Md. Quad.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

5860 III NE  
(MONIE)





St. James United Methodist Church      S-179  
Westover, Somerset County  
Southeast elevation  
2/84 Paul Touart  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust