

Christ Methodist Church
Chestertown, Md.
privately owned

The most impressive brick Gothic Revival structure in Kent County
Christ Methodist Church contains many decorative elements of the
period.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Christ Methodist Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

corner Mill and High Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of the Associated Methodist Telephone #: 778-0911

STREET & NUMBER

Church in Chestertown

corner Mill and High Sts.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Clerk

Liber #: 8B 8

Folio #: 242

STREET & NUMBER

Kent County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

none known

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-350

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

A late Gothic Revival (1887) brick church Christ Methodist Church was built in an irregular cruciform shape. It has a rough granite block base and sandstone trim around windows, on buttresses and as belt coursing. Much of this sandstone is spalling.

The High St. or northern facade has a massive two storey gothic arch with three supporting gothic stained glass windows topped by three circular windows of a quatrefoil design. This is flanked by two buttresses and stained glass Gothic windows. Above the gothic arch is a massive circular window containing quatrefoils and above that, below the gable pediment, are three rectangular ventilator windows. The west facade, front, facing both north and west, contains a 2½ storey turrett with spire, dormer and 4 part finial. Decorative devices are gothic windows, circular windows and tile motifs under the cornice.

The western axis has a storey and ½ extension for the church office and rector's study, with entrance through the section possessing the turrett.

The dominant element of the building on the eastern axis is the bell tower, three stories high with massive spire surrounded by four shorter spires and containing 4 ventilator dormers.. The main entrance into the name is through the front of the bell tower.

The church has the original slate roof with interesting snow stops at the foot of the roof. Part of the decorative motif is missing from the top of the front gable. The main part of the church has 4 dormers, 2 on each side, on the roof, with rectangular stained glass windows, to admit light. The two storey sanctuary protrudes slightly from the southern gable and originally had 3 stained glass windows. One was removed to permit entry from the 1949 Parish House, which now partially encloses the old sanctuary.

Buttresses and gothic stained glass windows are used throughout on the first floor. The original fabric of the church is almost totally complete save the finial missing from the front gable and the inclusion of the sanctuary into the new Parish house.

From the bell tower to the street the brick is of the pressed variety and there is a rusticated granite base to the building. From the bell tower south the appearance is different, the brick of a softer type, etc. as this part was hidden from public view by a house on the corner lot (which is now gone). The western axis is almost totally screened by a house and is the same as the east from the bell tower back.

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 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 begun 6/14/1887 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Benjamin Owens, Balto., arch.
dedicated 10/14/1888 Milton Baker, Chestertown, contractor

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Christ Methodist Church is no doubt the most impressive brick Gothic Revival structure in Kent County. Decorative elements of the styple include buttresses, gothic arches, finials, etc. contribute to complete this structure.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Christ Methodist Church, Chestertown, Md. 1827-1956, 129th Anniversary, 4/8/56 (a program)

Fred G. Usilton, History of Chestertown

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY see below

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION begin on W side High St. at N corner of James B. Sappington's lot, and running thence by and with the west side of High St. 32' in a NW direction, thence at right angles to the line of High St., 120' to lot of James W. Chapman; thence at right angles and by and with said Chapman's lot 33' to the lot of said Martha H. Baker, and thence at right angles 119'6" to point of beginning.

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kathleen B. White, Historic Site Surveyor

Nov. 1976

ORGANIZATION

Md. Historical Trust/Town of Chestertown

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

SB 8/242 10/7/1886 Milton Baker and Martha H. Baker to Trustees
of the Associated Methodist Church in Chestertown.
(Methodist Protestant) \$1,300.00, part of
town lot #85.

SB 6/631 6/10/1885 Wm. B. Usilton and wife to Martha H. Baker.

SB 4/503 7/19/1883 Samuel Register to Wm. B. Usilton

1500581608

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Kent County TOWN VICINITY STREET NO. 401 High Street ORIGINAL OWNER Christ Church ORIGINAL USE Church PRESENT OWNER Christ Church PRESENT USE Church WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick NO. OF STORIES 1	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
	2. NAME Christ Church	K- 58 350
	DATE OR PERIOD STYLE Gothic revival (High Victorian) ARCHITECT BUILDER	
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE		

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC

Christ Church is eight bays deep and five bays wide. (The actual facade is only three bays.) The entrance is in a tower facing the street which is the fourth bay back from the facade. The tower is square with buttresses projecting from the corners. It reaches nearly to the ridge of the main building. At this height, there are four small turrets and finally a very steep octagonal spire with metal crown at the apex. The windows have gothic arches and those within the tower and on what would be called the facade(s) are surrounded by a greenish stone as well as a band at window sill level and the projecting portions of the buttresses.

The street facade has a large three part window with gothic tracery and two smaller windows. At eve level there is a small rose window and above that, a three part louvered opening.

At the west of the facade stands a smaller hexagonal tower. There are stair glass window throughout. The

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior (good)

Building is of brick on a granite foundation.

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	1 B & W 7. PHOTOGRAPH
	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Michael Bourne Maryland Historical Trust
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	DATE OF RECORD Feb. 9, 1968

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

K-350

N

CEMETERY

VITA FOODS

FOODS (NEW) FARM

COUNTY

KENT

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD

LYNCHBURG

POPLAR

STREET

KENT

MILL

CROSS

TWILLEY

LANE

QUEEN

WATER

CANNON

HIGH

STREET

U.S. 213

Chester

STREET

PROSPECT

STREET

STREET

SPRING ST.

ROW

STREET

PARK COURT ST.

CHURCH ST.

AVENUE

MAPLE

RIVERSIDE TERRACE

WASHINGTON

COLLEGE

CAMPUS

MT. VERNON

WASHINGTON

U.S. 213

PHILOSOPHERS

TERRACE

KENT

BYFORD DRIVE

WALDO DRIVE

DAVID DRIVE

BARROLL DRIVE

BYFORD COURT

River

AVENUE

AVENUE

PINE

VALLEY

CEDAR

BROWN VIEW RD.

STREET

SCHOOL STREET

SCHOOL AVENUE

STREET

MORRIS

MORGNEC

STREET

ELM STREET

GREENWOOD

STREET

SCHOOL

STREET

KENT

K-350



K-350
Christ Methodist Church
Mill St. and High St.
Chestertown
Chestertown Quad.
Kent County





K 350 Chued MP Church

1/77 E



K 350 Christ AP Church

1/77 N