

PROPERTY INFORMATION

PROPERTY NAME	Calloway United Methodist Church (Current and Historic)
PROPERTY ADDRESS	5000 Lee Highway Arlington VA 22207
TAX PARCEL	08002004
USGS QUAD (S)	FALLS CHURCH
COUNTY/INDEPENDENT CITY	Arlington (County)

ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION

ARCHITECTURE SETTING	Suburban
OWNERSHIP CATEGORY	Private

SITE DESCRIPTION

November 2002: The church is sited on a sloping grassy lot with a paved parking lot south and west of the church. The cemetery lies to the west and a single dwelling and shed lie to the southeast of the church.

February 2017: Calloway United Methodist Church's sanctuary faces north on the south side of Lee Highway (US 29), in the Hall's Hill commercial area. The lot is enclosed by a chain link fence at its west perimeter, a small city park at its east perimeter, and 22nd Street North at its south perimeter. Within, a wide grass lawn extends between the street, the church's east elevation, and the north elevation of the parsonage; there is an asphalt driveway and small parking lot at the property's west portion beyond the church, beside the church's cemetery, where 44 members are buried (ten members were moved to another cemetery when Lee Highway was widened in 1959. The cemetery is said to contain over 100 decedents. A poured-concrete walkway connects the church and the street sidewalk to the parsonage on the property's east portion. A circa-2008 brick and metal marquee was erected at the sidewalk's northeast intersection with the street sidewalk.

November 2019: In addition to the November 2002 and February 2017 site descriptions of this resource, the L-shaped concrete walkway east of the sanctuary also connects with the two-story, side-gabled parish house located southeast of the building. It appears the church may have acquired the two adjacent residential lots and maintained one residence as an auxiliary structure.

PROPERTY HISTORY

November 2019: The congregation of the Calloway United Methodist Church (Calloway Church) first organized in 1866 at the residence of Samuel Smith on the Saegmuller farm (No author 1978; ACHPP 2016:18; Jones 2018: 27; Carroll 2002). The congregation moved from the Freedman's Village area of Arlington to the Hall's Hill area in 1870 (Maas et. al 2016: 34). The first church, a small wood-framed building constructed circa 1870 with congregant member funds, was on a site purchased from Alexander Parker in the vicinity of 4800 Lee Highway. Winston Calloway was the church's first pastor and subsequent namesake. From 1872 to 1876, the Sumner School, a school for African American children in North Arlington County, held weekly classes in the church building. In 1888, the current site was conveyed by congregant member and church trustee, Moses Jackson, although its most long-standing structure was not constructed until 1904 (ACHPP 2016: 18).

The cemetery was established during the same time with its first and last recorded burials in 1891 and 1959, respectively. The oldest graves belong to Margaret Hyson (1825-1891), an emancipated slave who worked on the Hall's Hill plantation and the Rev. Winston Calloway (1843-1891) (Sullivan 2012; ACHPP n.d.). "The Calloway Cemetery is the oldest known church-affiliated, African American graveyard in the Hall's Hill neighborhood and possibly in all of Arlington. This historic cemetery represents an important connection to Arlington's undocumented African American heritage" (ACHPP n.d.); it is noted here for context with its associated church building but is recorded separately in the Virginia Cultural Resource Information System (see DHR #000-9858). The Calloway Church Cemetery became an Arlington County Historic District in 2012 and appears to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with African American Ethnic Heritage (ACHPP 2016: 18; Maas et al. 2016: 106-107).

According to the cornerstone, earliest renovations to the 1904 edifice occurred in 1940 although the extent of the building campaign is unknown.

From 1947 through 1959, Rev. John F. Monroe led Calloway. The church membership grew, and the building was improved under his pastoral leadership. John Carpenter presenting the church with new flooring and electrical fixtures. Charles Chinn and Robert Nickerson, representing Wilson Lodge #196, presented the church with the lot adjoining the church (Jones 2018: 89).

Congregant member, local architect, and Hall's Hill community member E. Leslie Hamm was the project architect for the church's renovation and expansion in 1979 under the pastorate of Rev. Carl Renick. The renovation nearly doubled the square footage, expanded the choir loft, and added an open bell tower, vestibule, and new classrooms (ACHPP 2016: 18). The same year as its last 1959 burial, the widening of Lee Highway caused the relocation of ten graves to Coleman Cemetery in Fairfax County (ACHPP 2016: 18; ACHPP 2012:6). More recent renovations to the building include replacement windows and a remodel of the corner tower although the overall footprint of the 1979 renovation appears intact.

For over a century, Calloway Church fulfilled roles beyond its spiritual capacity serving as a civic and social center for long-standing community organizations like the John M. Langston Citizens Association (established 1924), the John M. Langston School (established 1925), and the Hall's Hill Volunteer Fire Department (established 1918) (Jones 2018: 58-59). During the Civil Rights Movement, Calloway Church provided student aid and hosted visitors, most notably during the Resurrection City/Poor People's Convention (May 12 – June 24, 1968) (Jones 2018: 96, 136, 164). The church provided safe space for students to meet and prepare for integration and continued this tradition summarized in its current mission statement: "Open doors. Open hearts. Open minds." Calloway Church is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which speaks to its ongoing involvement in civil rights since the 1960s.

SURVEYOR ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATION

November 2019: The Calloway United Methodist Church is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A on the local level for its historical association with the history of religion in Arlington County and African American heritage in the Hall's Hill/High View Park (HHHVP) neighborhood. The Calloway United Methodist Church has been historically associated with the religious and social development of the predominately African American Hall's Hill/High View Park (HHHVP) neighborhood since the late nineteenth century. It is eligible under Criterion C as embodying the characteristics of religious architecture along Lee Highway including its one-story height, brick veneer, stain-glass windows, and bell tower. Also, the historic addition was designed by architect Edward Leslie Hamm, Sr. The building retains its integrity of location, design, materials, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association.

SURVEYOR RECOMMENDATION: NRHP ELIGIBLE

PRIMARY RESOURCE INFORMATION

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Religious
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RESOURCE TYPE	Church/Chapel
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	1904; Additions: 1940, 1979
HISTORIC TIME PERIOD	Reconstruction and Growth (1866-1916)
HISTORIC CONTEXT (S)	Architecture/Community Planning, Religion, Ethnic Heritage (Black)
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	Vernacular w/Gothic Revival details
FORM	Irregular
NUMBER OF STORIES	2.0
CONDITION	Good
THREATS TO RESOURCE	None Known

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

November 2002: This vernacular-style church is one story in height and four bays wide. The principle elevations (north) features the three-bay nave, bell tower, and two bays of a wing. It has a solid poured concrete foundation supporting a masonry structural system with brick laid in a stretcher-bond. The nave features three multiple light stained-glass lancet windows with rowlock sills and surrounds. The ground story of the bell tower contains the two-leaf metal and plate glass doors. Above the doors is a large stained-glass window made of four separate windows and, at the top, is a lancet opening with a rowlock surround. The tower has a pyramidal roof. The last two bays contain fixed metal sash stained glass windows. The building has a cross gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. One exterior-end brick chimney is positioned on the south elevation. The datestones on the building illustrate the growth of the church. In 1904 the building was the ME Church, in 1940 it changed to the Methodist Church, and in 1979 it was renamed the Calloway UM Church.

February 2017: Calloway United Methodist Church is a late Gothic Revival-style church that was built circa 1909, refurbished in 1940, and remodeled in 1979. The sanctuary has retained its front-gable form and its attached east tower entrance, crowned by its pyramidal roof with its flared eaves, while its smaller gabled rear extension is now a much larger cross-gable extension with a hip roof at its west elevation. The church's foundation is not visible; sanctuary, tower, and rear extension are covered by a tan stretcher-bond brick veneer. Asphalt paper roofing covers the sanctuary, tower, and rear extension. The church tower has retained its decorative finial, while the exterior end brick flue chimney was removed from the rooftop and replaced by a chimney pipe. Fenestration follows a regular pattern comparable to the building, although the rear extension covers one former window opening on the east elevation. Lancet-shape window openings are filled by pressed blue glass within a fixed upper metal sash, and a lower hopper sash; this window opening, and infill is repeated on the rear extension's east elevation, but its north and south elevations are filled by rectangular metal hopper windows. The primary entrance has remained on the tower's east elevation, whose earlier double leaf door entrance and opalescent glass transom have transformed into a full-height, lancet-arch, fixed pigmented glass window; double leaf metal-and-glass swing doors open into the church's vestibule. A secondary entrance on the west elevation is filled by a metal door with an inset glass panel, and an identical door is on the rear extension's south elevation. Two engraved stone markers, chronicling the church's changes from 1904 to 1979, are affixed to the north elevation's west corner.

November 2019: No major changes to the church building from the November 2002 nor February 2017 architectural descriptions were observed during the current survey. However, other auxiliary structures are not described. There is a church sign located northeast of the concrete landing around the corner tower. The brick base of both the concrete landing and church sign are complementary to the brick of the main church building; however, the brick and mortar color

are lighter. There is a replacement 1964 historic parsonage building located off the southeast corner of the church; the original parsonage dated to the early 1900s (Green 2019). The building is a one- and two-story, irregular frame vernacular former dwelling. Its wood-framed walls support a side-gabled roof covered with replacement composition shingles and features a wall chimney on the east façade. The exterior is clad in vinyl siding. Fenestration throughout has been replaced and/or partially enclosed to accommodate non-historic fixed one-pane, one-over-one single-hung sash, and one-by-one sliding metal windows. Access is provided by two panel doors on the north side and a single panel door on the south side. The west door on the north/front façade has a concrete landing with stairs that interface with the L-shaped sidewalk east of the church. Southeast of this former dwelling is a non-historic, gambrel roof shed.

EXTERIOR COMPONENTS

COMPONENT	COMPONENT TYPE	MATERIAL	MATERIAL TREATMENT
CHIMNEYS	Wall	Brick/metal	--
ROOF	Cross-gabled; Hipped	Asphalt	Shingle
WINDOWS	Fixed	Metal	--
STRUCTURAL SYSTEM/EXTERIOR TREATMENT	Masonry	Brick	Stretcher Bond
FOUNDATION	Not visible	--	--
PORCH	--	--	--

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