

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED APR 18 1977

DATE ENTERED SEP 15 1977

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 \*\*

Hull Memorial Christian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Lansdowne Christian Church

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

101 Clyde Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lansdowne

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Baltimore

CODE

005

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

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

c/o Mr. Vernon Neilson, 502 Oak Grove Road,  
Linthicum Heights, Maryland 21090 (301) 789-7390

NAME

Lansdowne Christian Church Council

STREET & NUMBER

101 Clyde Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Lansdowne

STATE

Maryland 21227

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Chesapeake Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Clyde and Baltimore Avenues in Lansdowne, Baltimore County, Maryland, is the Lansdowne Christian Church.

The north facade is made up of two square towers on either side of a two-story, slightly projecting bay. The entrance, in the face of the west tower, has plain wood double doors topped with a pointed arch, three-light transom of frosted, colored glass. The window in the face of the east tower is of the same glass and has two lights topped with the same treatment as the entrance. In the central section are two three-part windows, one above the other. The bottom one is a memorial window similar in design to the other windows in the body of the church; it is situated directly behind the altar. The second window is taller and has a round-arched pane in the center. Commemorative of the Grand Army of the Republic, the central panel has an eagle above a vertically placed American flag above a "bronze" star.

The two towers are presently identical, with mansard roofs with small spires with heart-shaped decorations on the corners. There is a cross atop the peak of the gable roof between the towers.

Built with white clapboard siding, the church is presently covered with light gray asphalt shingle. The second floor of the central projection has been boxed in and the commemorative window moved forward. A railing that formerly ran between the towers is gone. The west tower had a belfry with pointed roof originally. Weakened by a storm in 1952, it was removed; the bell is now perched on a stone base in front of the church.

The body of the church extends for five bays behind the towers. The ground slopes away from the front of the building and a full basement exists under the church. A small, shed-roofed addition on the rear was made later.

The cornerstone of the church reads: "Hull Memorial Christian Church, November 26, 1903." The bell, purchased of Meneely, Troy, New York, in 1904, is inscribed "Lansdowne Christian Church, Lansdowne, Maryland."

On the interior of the church the pews are arranged with two side aisles. The benches are of dark wood with pointed-arch designs and simply scrolled arms on the ends. The walls are of plaster with beaded wainscoting around three sides below the windows. The windows are simple, stained glass ones, each dedicated to one or two of the first parishioners. At the rear (south) of the church, on either side of a door, are two more elaborate windows. Both have "Dushane Post No. 3" at the bottom. The east one is of the Women's Relief Corps and reads, "In Memoriam of Our Deceased Members." The west one is of the Grand

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Army of the Republic and reads, "In Memoriam of Our Deceased Comrades." Each shows an open book on an American flag draped over a podium, with the seals of the groups above.

The organ, built in 1930, stands in the northeast corner. When it was installed, the pipes were placed above the chancel, blocking the inside view of the three-part window commemorating the Grand Army. The area around the altar has been changed somewhat, whereas the rest of the interior remains largely unaltered. The chancel is surrounded by a tall cornice ending in pilasters facing the congregation. Modern wood paneling was recently added to the wall behind the altar. A pool (with cover) for baptisms is located behind the altar. An old photograph shows that the walls of the church were originally stenciled just below the narrow strip of molding at their top.

Entrance to the nave is gained through stairs up from the west tower. Stairs to the basement are found in both towers. The basement has been remodeled. It contains a Sunday School room and a mini-museum of the Grand Army of the Republic. Included in this collection are books, newspaper clippings, medals and other artifacts of the Army.



# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land records, Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Md.  
Personal records from the family of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wesley Hull

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	3 5 6 4 6 0	4 3 4 5 0 4 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

JM

NAME / TITLE

Howard H. Olver, Heritage Committee Chairman/Pamela James, Asst. Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Lansdowne-Baltimore Highlands Bicentennial Committee/MHT 4/27/76

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

2614 Willow Ave./21 State Circle

242-0482 - wk. 962-3750/267-1438

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Baltimore/Annapolis

Maryland 21227/21401

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*John H. Pearce*  
SHPO

DATE

4/14/77

TITLE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*W. M. ...*

DATE

9/15/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Charles ...*

DATE

9.15.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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A mini-museum has been dedicated in this church which houses mementoes of the Grand Army of the Republic as well as historical items on the church and the community. It is the hope of the Heritage Committee of the Lansdowne-Baltimore Highlands Bicentennial Committee that the museum will become a permanent part of the church. We have the support of the church council who have already given us the use of one room in the basement of their church. Many interesting articles have been donated and we are trying to obtain all of the badges representing the different encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic. The first was held in 1866 and the last in 1949.

The church is thought to be unique because it is the only church that was built to honor the Grand Army of the Republic. Usually church windows depict religious scenes, but the large stained glass window in the front of the church shows the badge of the Grand Army of the Republic (in the interior of the church the G.A.R. emblem is now blocked by the pipe organ). The two stained glass windows in the rear of the church were donated by the Women's Relief Corps and the G.A.R. Dushane Post #3, Department of Maryland, "in memoriam of our deceased comrades." A bronze plaque of the Gettysburg Address, which is seen on the west wall on entering the sanctuary, was donated by the Women's Relief Corps in 1930.

Lansdowne is a small community of houses built around the turn of the century. None of its structures are of particular architectural merit, except for the Christian Church, which is a community landmark, of interest to many residents though they are not members of the church itself. The American Revolution Bicentennial engendered much interest in local history throughout the country. In Lansdowne this interest was directed at the Christian Church, the oldest and most architecturally interesting of the community's buildings.