



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

August 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*  
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report Addendum, U-5902, Widen NC 150 from US 64 to Forsyth County Line, PA 17-12-0065, Davidson County, ER 18-3639

Thank you for your July 18, 2019, letter transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur that the following resources are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:

- Shiloh United Methodist Church Cemetery (DV1911)
- Shiloh United Methodist Church 1967 Parsonage (DV1912)
- Shiloh United Methodist Church 1936 Parsonage (DV1897)

However, we do not agree that the Shiloh United Methodist Church Complex (DV1910) is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Rather, we believe the property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as it is an example of high style architecture. It retains outstanding architectural integrity, embodies the distinctive characteristics of Classical Revival architecture, and represents the work of a local master craftsman. It also meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties because of its architectural distinction.

Our recommended boundary encompasses the church and the semi-circular driveway. The rise of the driveway contributes to the monumental effect of the edifice. Our suggested boundary begins at the intersection of the northern tax parcel line and the driveway. It runs west along the northern tax parcel line until it reaches a point that is twenty feet past the west elevation of the building. It turns south and continues until it reaches a point that is twenty feet past the south elevation of the church building. The boundary turns east and runs parallel with the south elevation of the building, until it meets the driveway. It follows the driveway in a southeastern direction until it intersects with the edge of the pavement on Highway 150. The boundary turns north, running parallel with Highway 150, along the edge of the pavement, until it reaches the outside edge of the church driveway. The boundary then runs southwest until it intersects with the northern tax parcel line. Please see the proposed boundary map below

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Attachment: Boundary Map

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, [mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



Received: 07/23/2019  
State Historic Preservation Office



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

July 18, 2019

**ER 18-3639**

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley  
Environmental Review Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office  
North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources  
4617 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

Due -- 8/14/19

Dear Renee:

RE: Historic Structures Survey Report Addendum, U-5902—Widen NC 150 from US 64  
to Forsyth County line in Davidson County PA# 17-12-0065, WBS# 44725.1.1

H- ER letters  
8/7/19

This addendum serves to fulfill the request made by your office that NCDOT evaluate the Shiloh United Methodist Church, Cemetery and Parsonage for the above referenced project. Calyx recommends that none of these properties are eligible for National Register listing.

The report and survey materials are enclosed for your review and comment per 36CFR.800. Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this project. I can be reached at (919) 707-6088 or by email at [sreap@ncdot.gov](mailto:sreap@ncdot.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Shelby Reap in black ink.

Shelby Reap  
Historic Architecture Team

Attachments

Mailing Address:  
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RALEIGH NC 27610

# HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT ADDENDUM

Widen N.C. 150 from U.S. 64 to Forsyth County Line, Davidson County  
TIP No. U-5902  
WBS No. 44725.1.1  
PA No. 17-12-0065

Prepared for:  
Environmental Analysis Unit  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699

Prepared by:



CALYX Engineers and Consultants, an NV5 Company  
6750 Tryon Road  
Cary, North Carolina, 27518


**JULY 2019**



# HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT ADDENDUM

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Cary, North Carolina, 27518

**JULY 2019**

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 Kenneth Joel Zogry, Principal Investigator  Date

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Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor Date  
Historic Architecture Group  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

## Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen NC 150 from US 64 to the Forsyth County Line in Davidson County. The project’s Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by NCDOT, is illustrated in Figure 2.

The project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). In 2018, CALYX architectural historian Sarah David completed an evaluation of 14 resources within the APE for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility, which included DV1897, a 1936 parsonage on the Shiloh United Methodist Church property located on NC 150 outside of Lexington. The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NCHPO) requested that the other resources on the parcel also be evaluated, and the findings are presented in this addendum to that report. Those properties include the Church complex (DV1910), Cemetery (DV1911), and the 1967 Parsonage (DV1912).

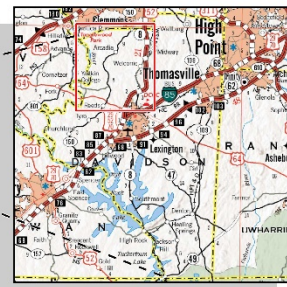
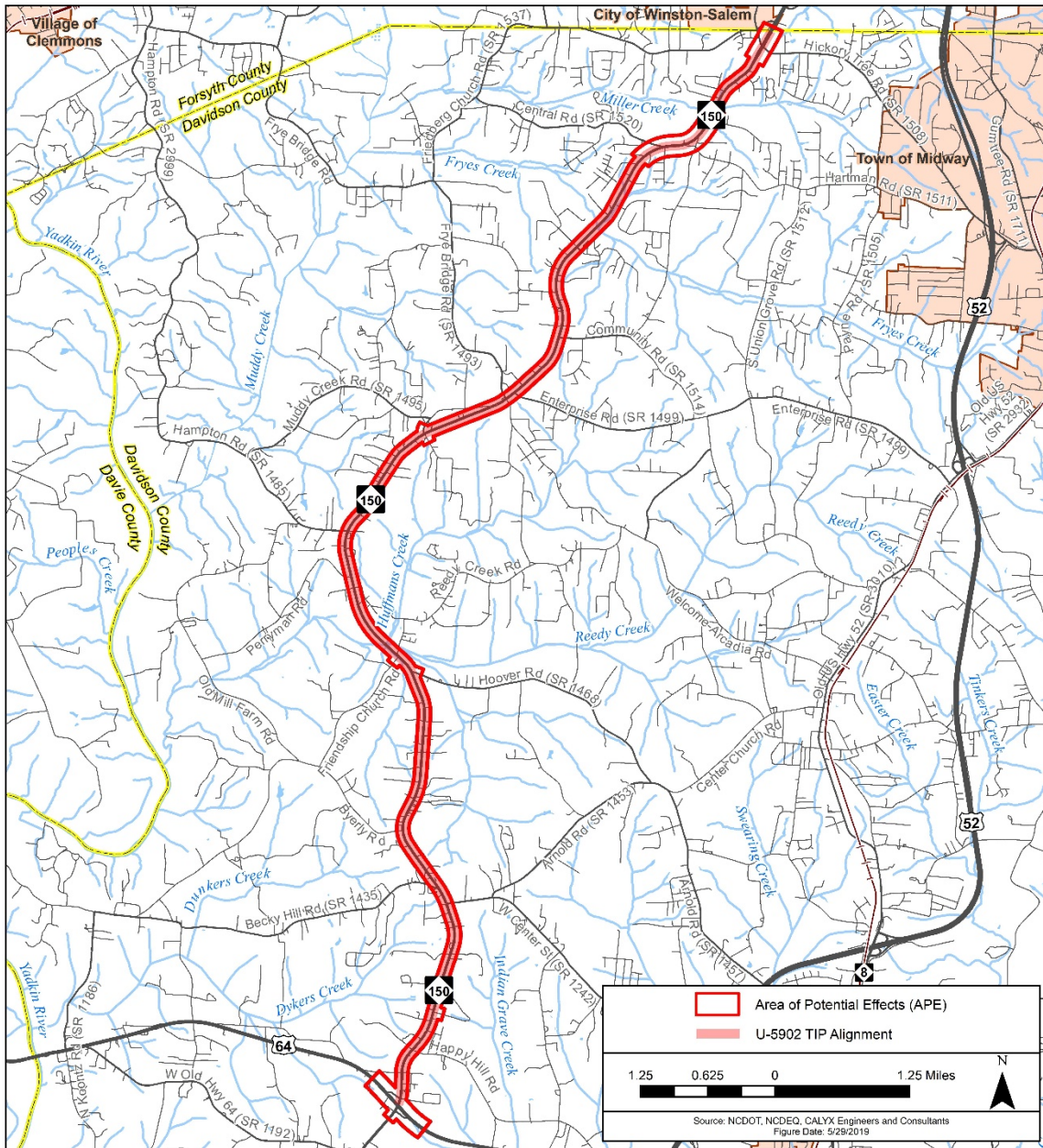
The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NCHPO) determined that because an individual survey number was issued for the 1936 Parsonage in the 2018 report, separate survey numbers should be issued for the other three resources that are the subject of this report. However, documentation on all four resources will be kept in one file at the NCHPO.


The results of the evaluation for this study are as follows:

Resource Name	Church Complex	Cemetery	1967 Parsonage
<b>HPO Survey Site Number</b>	DV1910	DV1911	DV1912
<b>Street Address</b>	943 NC 150	943 NC 150	871 NC 150
<b>PIN</b>	6707-04-81-0189	6707-04-81-0189	6707-04-81-0189
<b>Construction Dates</b>	1960 and 2008	1856	1967
<b>NRHP Recommendation</b>	Not eligible	Not eligible	Not eligible

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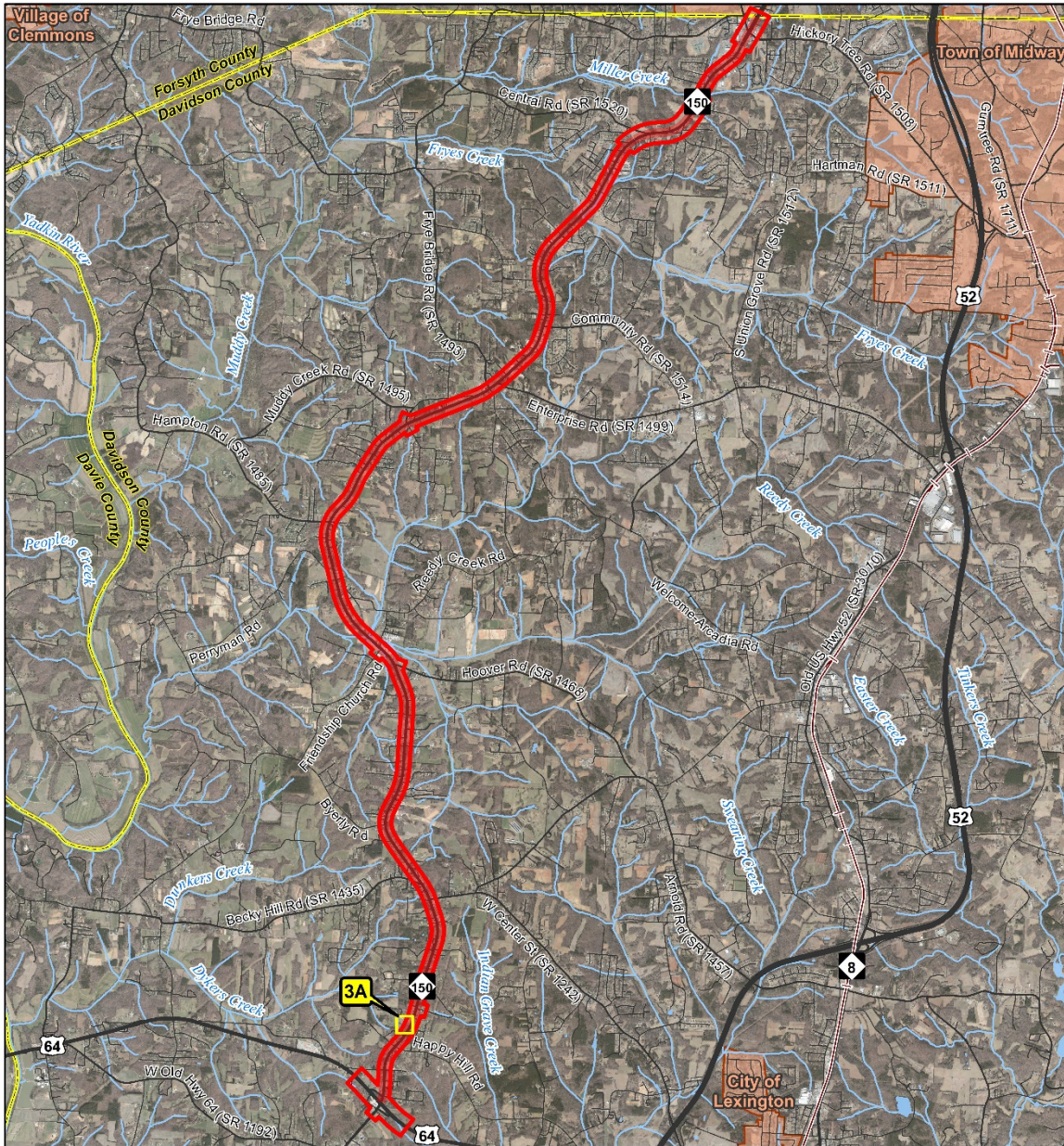

**NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**






**TIP Project U-5902**  
 Davidson County  
*NC 150 from  
US 64 to Forsyth County Line  
Widen to Multilanes*

**Figure 1 - Project Vicinity**

**U-5902: Widen NC 150 from US 64 to Forsyth County Line, Davidson County**


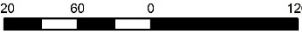





<p>  Survey Site Inset   U-5902 TIP Alignment   APE Boundary         </p>	 <p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p>
<p>           1.25 0.625 0 1.25 Miles              Source: NCDEQ, NCDOT, NC OneMap, CALYX Engineers and Consultants            Figure Date: 5/29/2019         </p>	<p> <b>TIP Project U-5902</b>            Davidson County  <i>NC 150 from            US 64 to Forsyth County Line            Widen to Multilanes</i> </p> <p><b>Figure 2 - Area of Potential Effects (APE)</b></p>





<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">★</span> Survey Site</li> <li><span style="border: 1px solid yellow; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> NR-Eligible Boundary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="border-bottom: 2px solid red; width: 20px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></span> U-5902 TIP Alignment</li> <li><span style="border: 2px solid red; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></span> APE Boundary</li> <li><span style="border: 1px solid gray; width: 20px; height: 10px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Property Line</li> </ul>	 <p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</p>
<p><b>TIP Project U-5902</b></p> <p>Davidson County</p> <p><i>NC 150 from US 64 to Forsyth County Line Widen to Multilanes</i></p>		
<p>120    60    0    120 Feet</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">N</p>  <p>Source: NCDOT, NCHPO, NC OneMap, CALYX Engineers and Consultants Figure Date: 6/5/2019</p>		<p><b>Figure 3 - Survey Site Inset</b></p>

## Methodology

On May 23, 2019, CALYX Architectural Historian Kenneth Zogry visited Shiloh United Methodist Church in Lexington, surveyed and photographed the various resources on the property, gained access to the interior of the main church building, interviewed a long-time congregant and the pastor, and drove through the area to locate comparable building types. Further research was conducted in the church archives, published resources on the church's history and the history of Methodism in North Carolina, the files of the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NCHPO), and area newspapers via Newspapers.com. A complete list can be found in the Works and Sources Cited section of this report.

CALYX conducted all fieldwork, research, and evaluations to meet the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800, as well as NCDOT's *Guidelines for the Survey Reports for Historic Architectural Resources*.

## Evaluation: Shiloh United Methodist Church Property



### Description

The Shiloh United Methodist Church Property comprises 10.45 acres on the west side of NC 150 outside of Lexington. The property has grown more than five times from the original gift of two acres in 1856, and now consists of four major architectural and cultural resources: the 1960 and 2008 church complex (DV1910); the original 1856 cemetery (DV1911); the 1967 parsonage (DV1912); and the 1936 parsonage (DV1897).

## DV1910: Church Complex , 943 NC 150 (Figures 4-22)

The church complex sits on the northern third of the property, on a flat grassy knoll. A semi-circular drive and parking area bisects the front lawn between NC 150 and the complex. A double-sided brick sign is present near the road, constructed of a flat wall with square columns at each end laid in common bond, topped by a simple decorative capstone course across all three sections. The sign dates to the 1960s. Between the brick sign and the road, a small electronic billboard-style sign on a post has been erected in recent years.

The church building (DV1910) is comprised of three principal sections oriented from east to west: the sanctuary and cross-wing containing offices and classrooms, both erected in 1960; and a fellowship hall wing constructed in 2008. The overall style is Neo-Georgian, with pared down interpretations of classical ornament influenced by minimalist mid-twentieth century modernist architecture. All three sections are constructed of red brick; the two 1960 structures are laid in common bond, with Flemish bond present in every sixth course. All columns, trim, window frames, and exposed gable ends are of wood, painted bright white. Roofs of the principal sections, front portico, and various smaller covered entries are shingled; the steeple spire is sheathed in sectioned metal panels. The foundation is a combination of poured concrete in sections and masonry basement sections.

The sanctuary faces NC 150, and is essentially a front-gabled rectangular form. The façade features a double-story neoclassical pedimented portico of the Doric order. Four slightly tapered wooden columns support the portico across the front, along with two semi-engaged columns (or pilasters) at the point the portico meets the front brick wall. The columns support a simplified, academically correct, tripartite entablature faced in thin vertical wooden sections, consisting of a cornice, architrave, and frieze. The exposed gable-end of the portico pediment is also faced in a similar manner and finished with a thin notched cornice along the inside roofline that resembles dentil molding.

Behind the wooden portico, the front mass of the brick sanctuary is fairly shallow and stepped-back from the main structure; it contains the front entry and interior narthex (vestibule) and supports the tower and steeple structure above. The entry consists of a pair of solid-wood single-leaf opposing doors finished with three vertical rectangular panels created with applied molding. A raised wooden surround frames both sides of the double-door opening and forms the base of a tripartite entablature finished with dentil molding. Above is a large broken-triangular pediment, finished with a stylized carved wooden pineapple finial in the center. There is no other fenestration on the façade. The only other ornaments are a single opaque glass pendant light centered above the front entry with a simple tracery frame of brass, and the carved granite cornerstone, located on the front wall's southern end next to one of the pilasters.

The steeple structure consists of a brick tower, wooden belfry, and spire sheathed in sections of metal. A small metal crucifix crowns the spire. The belfry contains louvered wooden panels on each of its four sides, to allow sound to emanate from the electronic carillon inside. Surrounding the base of the belfry is a low paneled wooden wall, capped on each corner with a stylized neoclassical urn.



The north and south exterior elevations of the sanctuary are identical. A single sixteen-over-sixteen, double-hung, sash window is located on each side of the stepped-back brick section behind the portico; and lights the narthex inside. Fenestration on the sanctuary's main portion consists of five thirty-six-over-sixteen, single-hung sash windows (the upper sashes are fixed) with arched tops, equally spaced along each elevation. A single row of half-bricks creates both a base for the bottom sash and frames the arch above for each large window. Cast concrete keystones are present at the summit of each window arch, and a pair of matching concrete springers are located at the bottom of each side of the arch segment.

The interior of the sanctuary section consists of a narthex, nave, and chancel. All are double-height and restrained in design, featuring simplified Neo-Georgian ornament. The narthex features a floor of large alternating black-and-white tiles laid in a diamond pattern. A pair of center double doors, and single doors at each end of the interior west wall, provide access to the sanctuary.

The sanctuary itself consists of a nave and chancel. The nave has a center aisle, with rows of pews on either side. The pews are painted white on their end panels but are otherwise stained natural wood. The chancel is located at the western end of the sanctuary, separated from the nave by a low carved wood railing. Behind the railing the floor is raised slightly and accessed by two steps; this entire area is covered in dark burgundy carpeting. At the front of the chancel are the baptismal font and a pair of low raised panel walls framing each side, topped by lecterns. A choir box is located to the left rear. An altar is placed along the center of the back wall, with a large stained-glass window depicting Jesus Christ above. The window, on an interior wall, is artificially lit from behind. Ten opaque glass pendant fixtures light the sanctuary, each with delicate brass Gothic style frames, suspended from long brass chains from the ceiling.

The complex's rear cross-wing section behind the sanctuary is also constructed of brick with exposed gable ends and a shingled roof. It is situated perpendicular to, and off-center from, the rear of the sanctuary, with the largest portion to the north. The wing is two stories in height, and all windows are eight-over-eight, double-hung sash. The north end's east elevation is four bays across the first floor with a central single-leaf door under a small gable-end portico, and the second floor is five bays across. The north elevation is three stories in height and has a single-leaf door again under a small gable-end pediment on the first floor, and three window bays across the second and third floors. The west or rear elevation has ten bays across the second floor, and eight bays across the first floor. A small brick "hyphen" or enclosed corridor is located on the west elevation's southern end, connecting the 1960 and 2008 buildings (and accounting for the two fewer windows on this elevation). The south elevation features four bays on the first and second floors, evenly spaced but set off center to the west, and a single window between the two floors on the eastern side provides light to the interior staircase. This part of the complex includes the pastor's and church offices, seventeen classrooms, a small "parlor," a small archive room, and restrooms.

West of the 1960 structure is a large brick fellowship hall addition built in 2008. Its overall appearance, particularly in the brickwork, fenestration, and exposed gable roof ends, are sympathetic with the 1960 sections of the church.

Modern recreational facilities, consisting of a small playground, basketball court, and picnic area are located to the west, or rear, of the church buildings.

#### DV1911: Cemetery, 943 NC 150 (Figures 23-30)

The cemetery (DV1911) is the oldest extant portion of the Shiloh United Methodist Church property, with interments dating back to the 1850s. It contains several hundred graves laid out in a grid pattern on a flat, grassy section of land in the center of the 10-acre property, between the church complex to the north, and the 1967 parsonage to the south. A grove of trees also stands to the south. A narrow, paved road traverses the cemetery in a “U” shaped configuration.<sup>1</sup>

The gravestones are mostly of marble and granite and are arranged primarily in neat rows. The oldest stone on which a date can be read is 1861. The markers are predominantly modest slabs, though there are a few obelisk forms dating from the late nineteenth century. Many of the stones bear the names of prominent local families in the congregation, including Michael, Leonard, Sink and Fritts.

In 2008, a small columbarium was erected at the front (eastern side) of the cemetery, a few feet from the parking area, to receive cremated remains. A flagpole is placed next to the columbarium.

A fence marks the cemetery’s western end. The open grassy land beyond the fence is used for large outdoor church events.

#### DV1912: 1967 Parsonage, 871 NC 150 (Figures 31-36)

The 1967 parsonage is located south of the cemetery and facing NC 150 to the east. It is accessed by a semi-circular driveway that encircles the building. Woods are present to the west of the house. It is one story with a lower basement level exposed at the rear by the slope of the property. The building is a proto-typical American brick ranch house of the period, essentially a rectangle in form, with a wooden portico extending off the east façade center and a carport on the rear elevation’s northern end. The side-gable main roof, as well as the roofs of the front portico and rear carport, are shingled. A large rectangular brick chimneystack rises though the roofline at the back of the house, slightly off-center.

The east façade is six bays across. All windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash. White wooden shutters are affixed to each side of the front façade windows. A gabled, wooden portico supported by four Doric columns is centered on the façade, and a single leaf front door is located under the portico. The inset door surround contains three-paned sidelights on each side and is topped by a low broken-arch pediment. Overall, the elements of the portico and front door echo, in smaller scale, those on the sanctuary's façade.

The south elevation has two windows on the first floor, and one window below where the basement level is exposed by the slope of the property. The north elevation also has three windows but is

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<sup>1</sup> Author’s interview with Steven Fritts, May 23, 2019. Jane Elmore, *150 Years: Shiloh United Methodist Church* (Published by the Church: 2006), p. 9.

extended to the rear by the brick carport. The carport supports are unusual and may be a local design. They consist of bricks that begin in a narrow course midway up a solid lower wall and increase to the point where the supports meet the roof. Two such facing supports create an arch.

The west or rear elevation of the house includes the carport on the northern end, and, somewhat unusually, a door for a single-car garage on the basement level's southern end, where the property slopes. Along the first floor are also a wooden deck, two exterior doors, and eight windows. One window is located on the exposed portion of the lower level, near the single garage door.

The interior of the 1967 parsonage was not available for evaluation.

#### DV1897: 1936 Parsonage (Figure 37)

Located south of the 1967 parsonage, the 1936 parsonage (DV1897, 813 NC 150) was previously described and evaluated for NCDOT by CALYX architectural historian Sarah David in 2018. It is a diminutive brick bungalow. Brick soldier courses trim the windows and create a water-table. The house has a gable-front roof form with a side-gable wing projecting to the north. On the façade, the gable-front block has a lower gable-front projection with a pair of original six-over-one sash windows, while the taller portion of the gable-front block has a gable-end finished with pebbledash and a pair of three-light attic windows. The side-gable wing engages a full-width porch with brick posts, a brick balustrade, and a concrete floor. The porch projects beyond the north wall plane and the resulting gable end is finished with pebbledash. The front door is a single-leaf French door with sidelights. A pair of windows is located on the façade, to the north of the front door.



*Figure 4: Looking north along NC 150, past entrance to Shiloh United Methodist Church*



*Figure 5: Signs along NC 150, looking southeast*



*Figure 6: East elevation*





*Figure 7: Detail of entrance to sanctuary*



*Figure 8: Cornerstone detail*



*Figure 9: Belfry and spire detail*



*Figure 10: South elevation of sanctuary*





Figure 21: Sanctuary window detail



Figure 12: Interior view of narthex (vestibule)





Figure 13: Nave of the sanctuary, looking east



Figure 14: Looking west toward chancel, with altar at rear, choir box to right, podiums, railings, and baptismal font in foreground

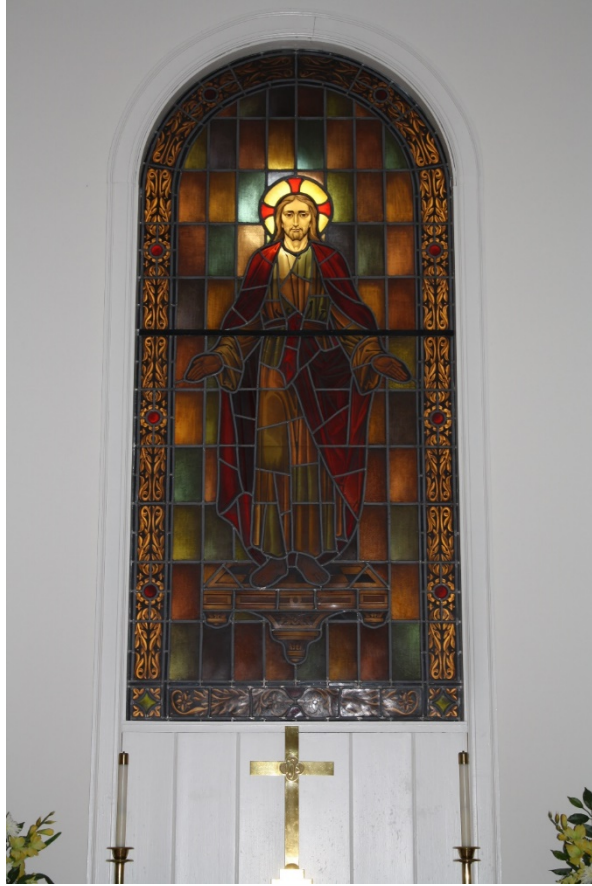


Figure 15: Detail of stained-glass window above altar in the chancel



Figure 16: South elevation of 1960 office and classroom wing to the right, 2008 fellowship hall wing to the left





*Figure 17: Looking east to west and south elevations of 2008 fellowship hall wing*



*Figure 18: Looking west behind 2008 fellowship hall wing to picnic and recreational area*





*Figure 19: North and west elevations of 2008 fellowship hall wing*



*Figure 20: North elevation; connection between 1960 (left) and 2008 (right) wings*





*Figure 21: North and west (rear) elevations of 1960 office and classroom wing*



*Figure 22: Facing south to the east elevations of education wing, sanctuary to the east*





*Figure 23: Cemetery, looking southwest from church portico*



*Figure 24: Cemetery, looking southeast toward rear of 1967 parsonage*





Figure 25: Cemetery looking southeast



Figure 26: Earliest readable gravestone, 1861





Figure 28: Typical nineteenth-century gravestone



Figure 27: Typical nineteenth-century gravestone





*Figure 29: Typical nineteenth-century gravestone*



*Figure 30: 2005 columbarium and landscaping, looking west from driveway and parking area*





*Figure 31: Front façade of 1967 parsonage*



*Figure 32: North elevation of 1967 parsonage*





*Figure 33: West (rear) elevation of 1967 parsonage*



*Figure 34: Detail of brick supports 1967 parsonage's carport*





*Figure 35: South and east elevations of 1967 parsonage*



*Figure 36: Looking west from rear of 1967 parsonage*





Figure 37: 1936 parsonage, looking southwest

## History and Architectural Context

Founded in England by followers of John Wesley in the eighteenth century, Methodism was one of the evangelical Protestant denominations to gain strength in the early United States during the so-called “Second Great Awakening” from the 1790s to the 1840s. Various strains of the denomination developed, generally emphasizing man’s direct relationship with God and rejecting most of the hierarchy, ritual, and structure held over from the Catholic Church after the Reformation. That included the use of lay preachers, and the holding of prayer meetings and revivals in any location, often outdoors, without the benefit of a permanent building. This message and accessible approach to organized religion was especially appealing to rural farm families in places like the backcountry of North Carolina.<sup>2</sup>

As early as 1739, Methodist revivalist George Whitefield was spreading that message across the southern colonies, and legend holds that he passed right by what is today the Shiloh United Methodist Church as he traversed Davidson County. Regardless of the veracity of that account, small groups of area residents began to organize outdoor Methodist meetings by the early nineteenth century. In the 1840s, plantation owner John Michael offered land on his property to one such group, and a small open-air arbor was created for prayer meetings and revivals. Just before his death in 1848, Michael sold two acres of that land to the worshippers for the sum of \$1. In 1856, the group formally founded Shiloh

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<sup>2</sup> For more on the history of Methodism in the South and in North Carolina, see Donald G. Mathews, *Religion in the Old South* (University of Chicago Press, 1977); and William A. Link, *North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State* (Harlan Davidson, 2009), pp. 87-89, 170, and 183-185.

Methodist Church, named for the biblical city north of Jerusalem where the Israelites kept the Ark of the Covenant. Traditionally, “Shiloh” is also translated as “tranquility.”<sup>3</sup>

John Michael was buried on the property, and the first interment of the new congregation in the cemetery, still in use today, occurred in 1857.<sup>4</sup>

The first permanent church building was erected in 1864, during the Civil War. No images survive of that structure, but it would have likely been small, constructed of wood, and very simple in design, owing to the size of the congregation and the ongoing war. In 1909, the congregation razed the original structure, and on the site built a new gable-end wooden church consisting of a sanctuary and an engaged entrance tower topped by a belfry. That structure, originally painted white with darker trim, featured a few simplified Gothic Revival details, including arched-top windows with panes of stained “swag” glass (pieces of which are housed in the current church archives). The 1909 building served the congregation for fifty years.<sup>5</sup>

With growing membership, the congregation added a frame fellowship hall to the rear of the building in 1953 and decided during its centennial in 1956 to begin planning for a modern new facility. The plan included removing the existing 1909 structure from its foundation, donating it to another nearby congregation, and constructing the new church on the original site (see Figure 38). The 1953 wing was to remain behind the new edifice. Church leaders chose Lexington resident Fred L. Williams as architect. According to Williams’ obituary, he trained as a draftsman in Washington, D.C. and Charlotte, and settled in Lexington to practice. During a fifty-year career he designed “hundreds of churches” across North Carolina and was involved with congregations supported by the Duke Endowment (which donated \$3,000 for the new Shiloh United Methodist Church). An internet search revealed only his association with one other church in Thomasville, though he very likely also designed the Tyro United Methodist Church in Lexington, where he was a member. Although Shiloh United Methodist Church retained Williams as architect in 1959, he did not actually receive his license to practice until 1963.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Elmore, p. 8.

<sup>4</sup> Elmore, p. 9.

<sup>5</sup> Elmore, p. 9; Fritts interview.

<sup>6</sup> Elmore, pp. 13-15; Fred L. Williams obituary, *Winston-Salem Journal*, August 17, 2017.





Figure 38: 1960 photograph, showing the new church (right), and the 1909 structure (left) being moved off the property

Ground was broken in July of 1959, and the sanctuary sufficiently completed for services in May of 1960, with the cornerstone installed that September. The *Lexington Dispatch* reported that the new facility consisted of a sanctuary that sat 425 worshippers, a wing of 17 classrooms and offices, and was completely air-conditioned. The newspaper also noted that the church spire was the third highest in Lexington. The entire cost of the new facility was \$180,000, and through fundraising by various church groups, the debt was retired in December of 1964.<sup>7</sup>

In 1961, Alvin Sink, a master carpenter and church congregant, handcrafted and donated all of the furniture in the narthex, sanctuary, and chancel, including the pews, altar, lecterns, railings, and baptismal font. All of those items remain in use today.<sup>8</sup>

The 1960 sanctuary and rear cross wing remain today essentially as constructed, with few changes other than mechanical upgrades (notably the electronic chimes in the belfry) and routine maintenance. However, the 1953 fellowship hall wing was “bricked in” in 1971, and then replaced with a larger modern brick structure in 2008. Cemetery improvements undertaken by the congregation include a concrete walkway added in the 1980’s, and in 2005 a columbarium on the north side by the semi-circular church drive and parking area. Over the past twenty years a playground, basketball court, and picnic area were added to the west end of the property behind the church complex.<sup>9</sup>

In terms of architectural context, the 1960 elements of the church are designed in Neo-Georgian style with pared down ornamentation influenced by mid-century modernism. This includes the sanctuary structure (consisting of front pediment, belfry and steeple tower, and interior fittings and furnishings),

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<sup>7</sup> Elmore, pp. 13-16; *Lexington Dispatch*, April 6, 1960.

<sup>8</sup> Elmore, pages 16 and 26.

<sup>9</sup> Elmore, pages 18 and 21; Fritts interview.

and the rear cross wing housing offices and classrooms. Architect Fred L. Williams employed the simplest of the classical orders, Doric, for most ornamentation. Influenced by minimalist mid-twentieth century modern aesthetic, he further reduced certain elements to almost abstracted simplicity (i.e. the carved pineapple finial over the front entrance, the use of vertical wooden siding as ornamentation on the portico entablature, the notched cornice inside the pediment to suggest full dentil molding, and the simplified classical urns framing the belfry). Even Flemish bond, the brick pattern most associated with the Neo-Georgian style, was restrained and used only every six rows, between courses of simpler common bond.

Neo-Georgian architecture was considered particularly appropriate for churches and other types of public buildings during most of the twentieth century. The restoration of Colonial Williamsburg beginning in the early 1930s did much to influence this trend, which was particularly prevalent in the South. Protestant churches in variants of this style can be found in virtually every city and hamlet in North Carolina.<sup>10</sup>

The 1967 parsonage is typical example of a mid-twentieth century brick American ranch house. It is slightly larger than usual regional models and does have a few distinguishing features. The traditional front-gabled pedimented portico and columns, of painted white wood, relates visually to the more architecturally correct portico on the church. The presence of both a rear integral garage and appended carport is somewhat unusual. Most notably, the stepped-back brick roof supports on the carport are a unique feature and may be a local variant, as another example was located a few miles away and is included in the Comparable Examples section.

The 1936 parsonage, located south of the 1967 parsonage and still owned by the church, is a typical later example of a Craftsman-style bungalow (see the 2018 Historic Structures Survey Report for U-5902).

## Comparable Examples

Shiloh United Methodist Church is one of twenty Methodist congregations in Lexington, and along with numerous other denominations in the area, comparable architectural examples are readily available. Many Protestant congregations in the area built complexes similar to Shiloh between the mid-1950s and the early 1980s. Most include a large rectangular sanctuary building with steeple tower, office and education wing, and fellowship hall. Many also have an adjacent cemetery and brick ranch-style parsonage.

The ca. 1958 Wesley Heights United Methodist Church (Figure 39) at 101 Western Boulevard in Lexington, is only a short distance from Shiloh. Its sanctuary building is also Neo-Georgian in design, though the steeple tower is located in the rear. Two auxiliary wings for offices, classrooms, and a fellowship hall, were built on either side of the sanctuary in the early 1970s. Although there is no adjacent cemetery, there is a ca. 1960 brick ranch house across the street that serves as the parsonage (Figure 40).

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<sup>10</sup> James Martson Fitch, *American Building: The Historical Forces that Shaped it* (Houghton Mifflin, 1966), pp. 252-253



Bethel Baptist Church (Figure 41) just off US 64 outside of Asheboro consists of a sanctuary building, fellowship hall, cemetery (Figure 42), and parsonage (Figure 43). This church complex is comparable to Shiloh in overall form and style. The sanctuary is a rectangular structure with a front steeple tower, and the building is designed in the simplified brick Neo-Georgian mode. The ca. 1955 brick ranch parsonage is also comparable to Shiloh's 1967 brick parsonage.

The non-denominational Heath Church complex in Lexington (Figure 44), just off US 64, consists of a sanctuary building, fellowship and education building, cemetery, and brick ranch parsonage. Although not as old as Shiloh, this property has a similar architectural history. The cemetery dates to the mid-nineteenth century, though the first church building on the property was not constructed until 1956. Since that time the sanctuary has been rebuilt and expanded twice, most recently in 1986. The adjacent parsonage, very similar to the one at Shiloh, was built in 1971 and expanded in 1977.

Located in Trinity, between Lexington and Asheboro just off US 64, is Tabernacle United Methodist Church (Figure 46). Built in 1960, it generally follows the Neo-Georgian rectangular sanctuary building form with front steeple tower, though the vestigial brick buttresses and stained-glass windows on the façade are quasi-Gothic elements. This church also has an attached education and fellowship wing, and an adjacent brick ranch-style parsonage, built in 1960 (Figure 47). Across the street is the church cemetery. Next to the cemetery is another brick ranch-style house, built about 1970, which has the same style carport supports at Shiloh's 1967 parsonage (Figure 48). This was the only other house observed in the vicinity with this feature.



*Figure 39: Wesley Heights United Methodist Church, 100 Western Boulevard, Lexington*



*Figure 40: 101 Western Boulevard, Lexington*



*Figure 41: Bethel Baptist Church, 1950, 4818 Robbins Circle, Asheboro*





*Figure 42: Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery, 4818 Robbins Circle, Asheboro*



*Figure 43: Bethel Baptist Church Parsonage, ca. 1960, 4818 Robbins Circle, Asheboro*





*Figure 44: Heath Church Complex, 1375 Heath Church Road, Lexington (left to right; cemetery, auxiliary wing, sanctuary)*



*Figure 45: Heath Church Parsonage, 1399 Heath Church Road, Lexington*





*Figure 46: Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 1960, 213 Tabernacle Road Extension, Trinity*



*Figure 47: Tabernacle Methodist Church parsonage, 1960, 199 Tabernacle Church Road Extension, Trinity*





Figure 48: Ca. 1970 brick ranch, 6262 Gallimore Town Road, Trinity

## National Register Evaluation

### Integrity

The Shiloh United Methodist Church property, consisting of the Church Complex (DV1910), Cemetery (DV1911), 1967 Parsonage (DV1912) and 1936 Parsonage (DV1897), retains integrity of location, setting, association and feeling. All resources remain in their original historic location and setting and continue to serve the purpose for which they were originally created. All resources also remain intact and so retain a high degree of integrity of design, workmanship, and materials.

### Criteria Evaluations

The Shiloh United Methodist Church property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. Although it is an early congregation, the church property is not known to be associated with any specific significant historical event and is one of a number of churches associated with the development of Methodism in Davidson County.

The Shiloh United Methodist Church property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the church was a significant figure in history, and no significant historical figures are known to be interred in the cemetery.

The Shiloh United Methodist Church property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C or Criteria Considerations A or D. While the 1960 building, including sanctuary furnishings and fittings, are highly original and uncompromised, and although the overall Neo-Georgian design is well executed, it is a typical example of hundreds of similar Protestant church facilities in rural North Carolina. There are few unique features to distinguish it from many other extant examples in similar condition. Within the cemetery, the gravestones and markers are well maintained, but there are no examples of unique or distinguished funerary design. While the 1936 parsonage does incorporate Craftsman details, it is not outstanding and is one of many examples finished to a similar stylistic level.



Additionally, because it was built in 1936, it is a very late example. While the main form of the 1967 parsonage is intact, it is one of many thousands of similar brick American mid-twentieth century ranch-style houses in North Carolina. Aside from the somewhat unusual carport supports, there are no unique or distinguishing architectural features. Collectively or individually, the Shiloh United Methodist Church property and its components do not represent unusual or significant design characteristics, as the resource is similar to other mid-twentieth-century church complexes in the project area and throughout North Carolina.

The Shiloh United Methodist Church Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important to history or prehistory.

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