

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

The Belmont Methodist Church (BEL-82-17-20) is in the late Gothic Revival style, typical of many early 20th-century churches in suburban New England.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The parish organized in 1921, meeting in temporary quarters in the Benton Chapel, (Form 8/4-2). The Belmont Methodist Church's establishment in Belmont, as a young congregation surviving the Depression, represents both the commitment of its members, and the tremendous growth of Belmont as a residential suburb able to support churches and other institutions.

The congregation first met in their present location in 1923, meeting through 1940 in what is now the basement of the imposing Gothic Revival Church. Dr. Joseph Imler was the first pastor, remaining until 1959. He and his wife, Ruth, are responsible for the existence of the building as well as the faith of the congregation, guiding the members through a long and difficult building campaign which was to last seventeen years.

In 1937, the first service was held in the new Church.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Belmont Citizen, Feb. 11, 1966, p.11
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Belmont Room, Belmont Methodist Church Folder