

## JOHN WESLEY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH DEAL ISLAND, MARYLAND

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Gillis Gilkerson was able to assist the John Wesley M.E. Church of Deal Island, when the historic church needed assistance in the first phase of restoration; removing, crating and storing historic artifacts, including stained glass windows and erecting temporary framing to stabilize the church tower. The late Victorian tee-plan church is extremely similar to contemporary black churches in other parts of the county, where the Gothic Revival finishes were used until the post-World War I period. The above-ground cemetery is not unusual in Somerset County. A black congregation has continuously occupied this site as a place of worship since the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Further restoration is planned in coming years.

