

69-005-06 St. Paul's Baptist Church 4107 47th Street Bladensburg

Built in 1818 to house the Presbyterian congregation of Bladensburg, this church was sold to a black Baptist congregation established by Sarah Miranda Plummer, and was enlarged and remodeled after 1908 in the Romanesque Revival style. The Plummers were once enslaved laborers for the Calvert family at Riversdale (see Historic Site 68-004-05.) A front-gabled brick church with a later bell tower and lower front-gabled addition, its entrance is centered in the base of the tower and flanked by brick pilasters, above which is an octagonal belfry with a steep pyramidal roof. St. Paul's Church is the only surviving historic structure in a densely developed industrial area and is the only remaining resource associated with the historic African-American community in Bladensburg.