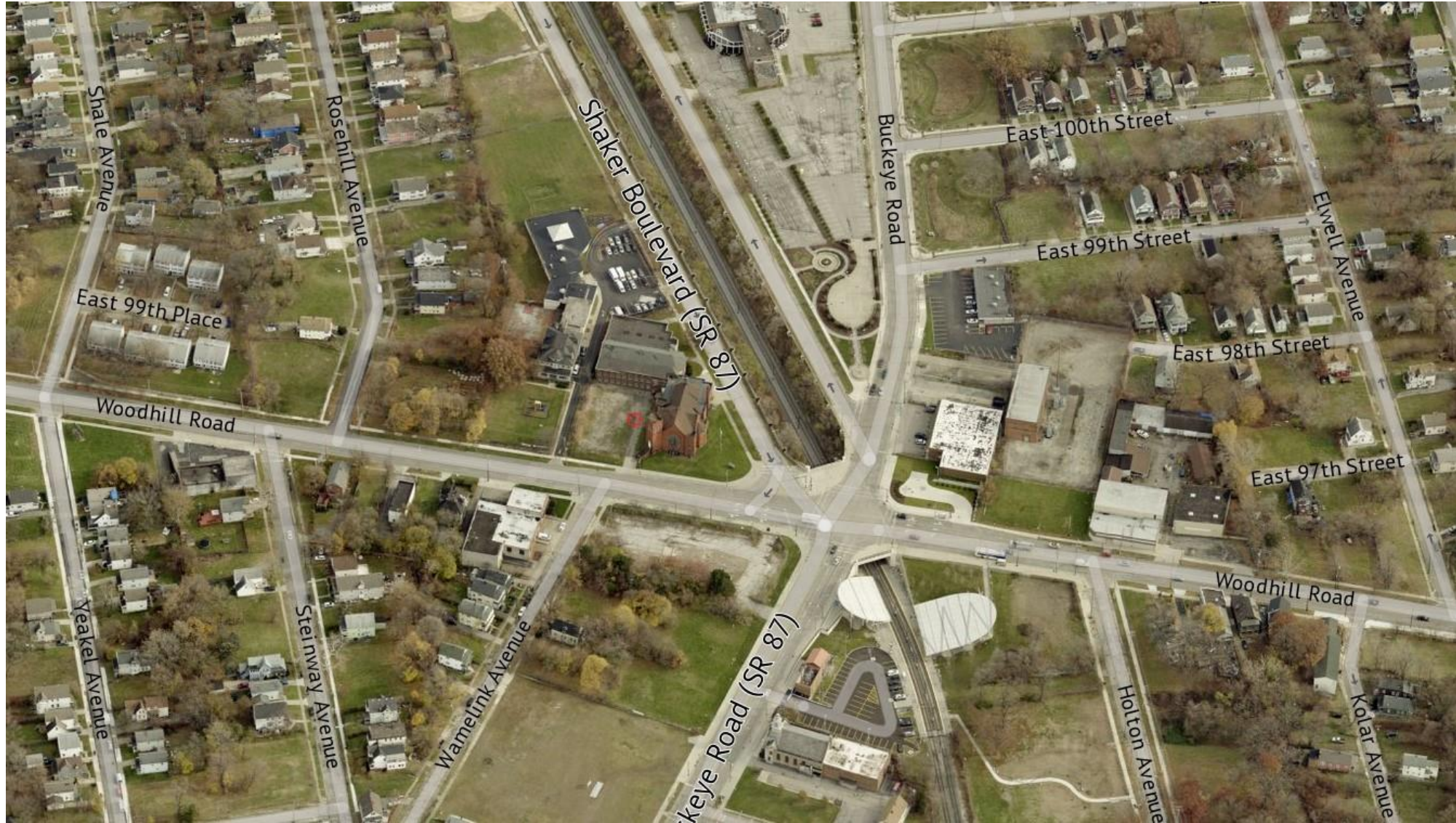


Calvary Hill
Church of God in Christ
2765 Woodhill Road

Cleveland Landmark Nomination
September 8, 2022





History United Methodist Denomination

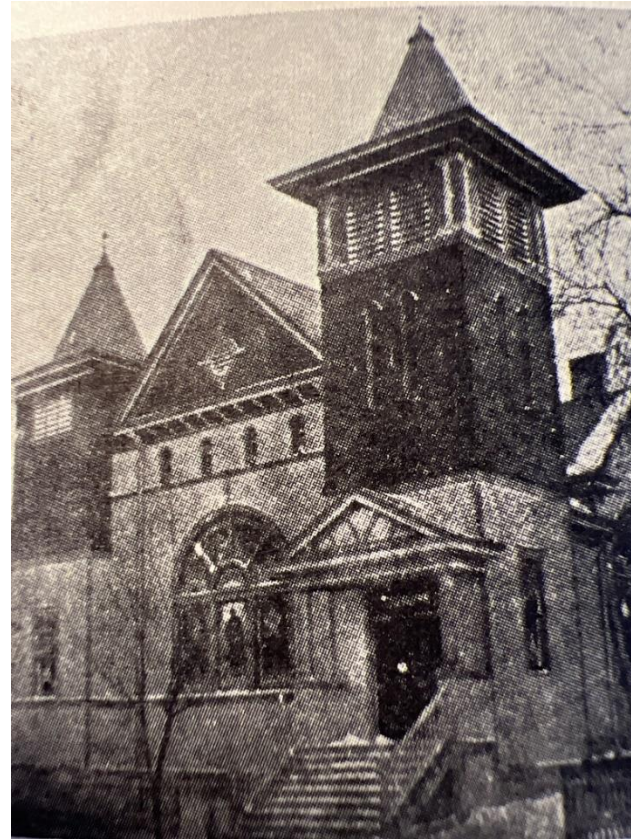
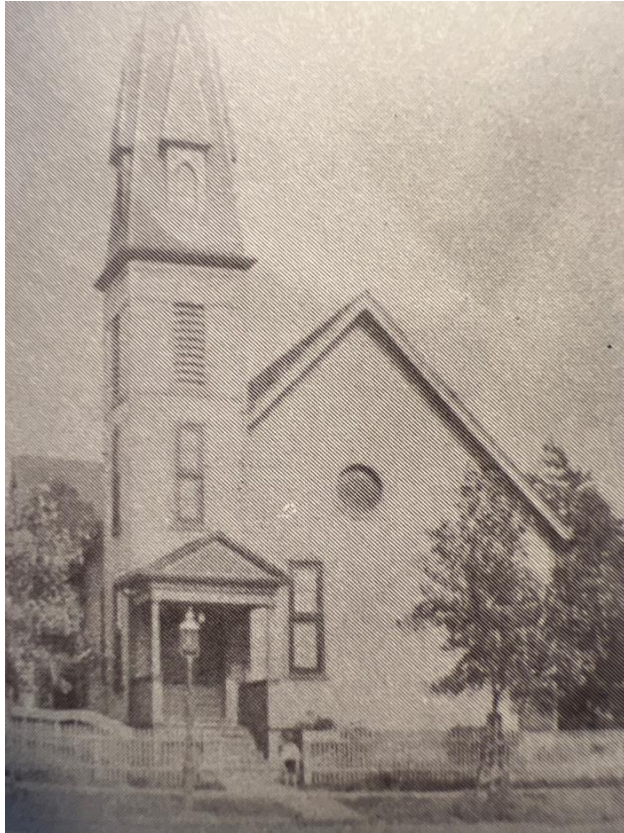
- 1767 – United Brethren founded by Marten Boehm, Mennonite preacher, and Wilhelm Otterbein, German Reformed pastor; active in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Ohio.
- 1803 – Evangelical Denomination organized by Jacob Albright.
- 1946 – Evangelical Church and United Brethren Church merged to form Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church.
- 1968 – EUB Church and Methodist Church merged to become United Methodist Church.

History Calvary United Methodist

- 1841 – Evangelical work began in Cleveland; no English-speaking congregation in Cleveland
- 1862 – Pittsburgh Conference of Evangelical Association established English Mission at Woodland Ave and E. 19th St.
- June 8, 1862 – New English Mission, Cleveland and Independence official organized with 30 charter members; first public worship service in Mayflower Presbyterian Chapel on Orange Street.
- February 25, 1864 – congregation incorporated as Kinsman Street (later Woodland Ave.) Evangelical Church.
- April 1864 – Evangelical Church moved to its own small chapel at Kinsman and Perry Streets (now Woodland Ave. and E. 22nd St.); 1866, foundation laid; January 1870, auditorium dedicated.

History Calvary United Methodist

- 1865 – Church was transferred from Pittsburgh Conference to Ohio Conference.
- 1871 – Name changed to Calvary Church of the Evangelical Association.
- 1886 – Calvary erected a frame building on Oakdale Ave. (now E. 93rd St.) near Steinway Ave.



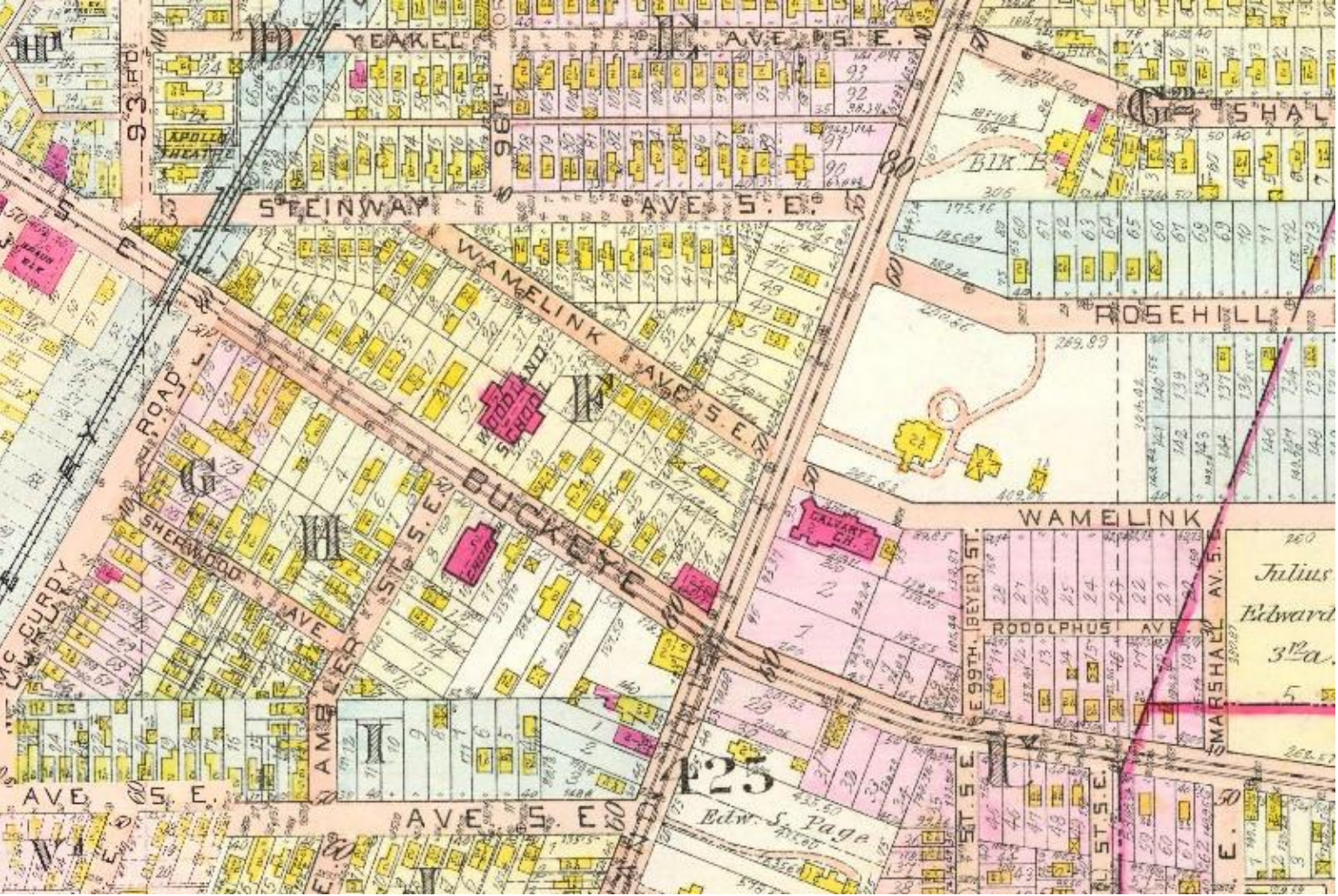
Enlarged Oakdale Building - 1902

History Calvary United Methodist

- 1892-1906 – Rapid growth: 1892, Sunday School added; 1901, Madison Ave. (Trinity) Church merger; 1902, building renovated and enlarged; 1906, Wesley Methodist (Ferncliff) merger.
- 1907 – Calvary EUB forced to make way for construction of the Belt Line Railroad. New and larger structure erected on crest of hill at Woodland Hills Ave. (now Woodhill Rd.) and Wamelink St. (now Shaker Blvd.); cornerstone laid December 1, 1907.

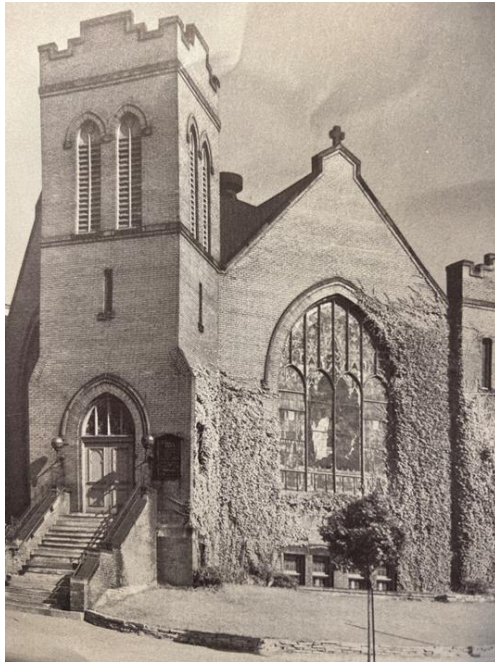


1912



History Calvary United Methodist

- September 20, 1908 – Calvary Church building dedicated.
- 1946 – Calvary EUB Church renamed Calvary United Methodist Church with merger of the Evangelical Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.
- 1981 – Calvary United Methodist Church merged with Church of the Savior United Methodist Church, 2537 Lee Rd. in Cleveland Heights.



Calvary EUB Congregation 1962

History Calvary Hill COGIC

- 1979 – Building sold to Lee Road Church of God in Christ, Robert S. Fields, pastor and Bishop of Ohio North Jurisdiction Churches of God in Christ; name changed to Calvary Hill Church of God in Christ (COGIC)
- Building served both as home for Calvary Hill COGIC, and, from 1979-1988, as Headquarters Building for Ohio North Jurisdiction Churches of God in Christ.
- 1988 – Dr. Ernest L. Fields appointed pastor of Calvary Hill COGIC.



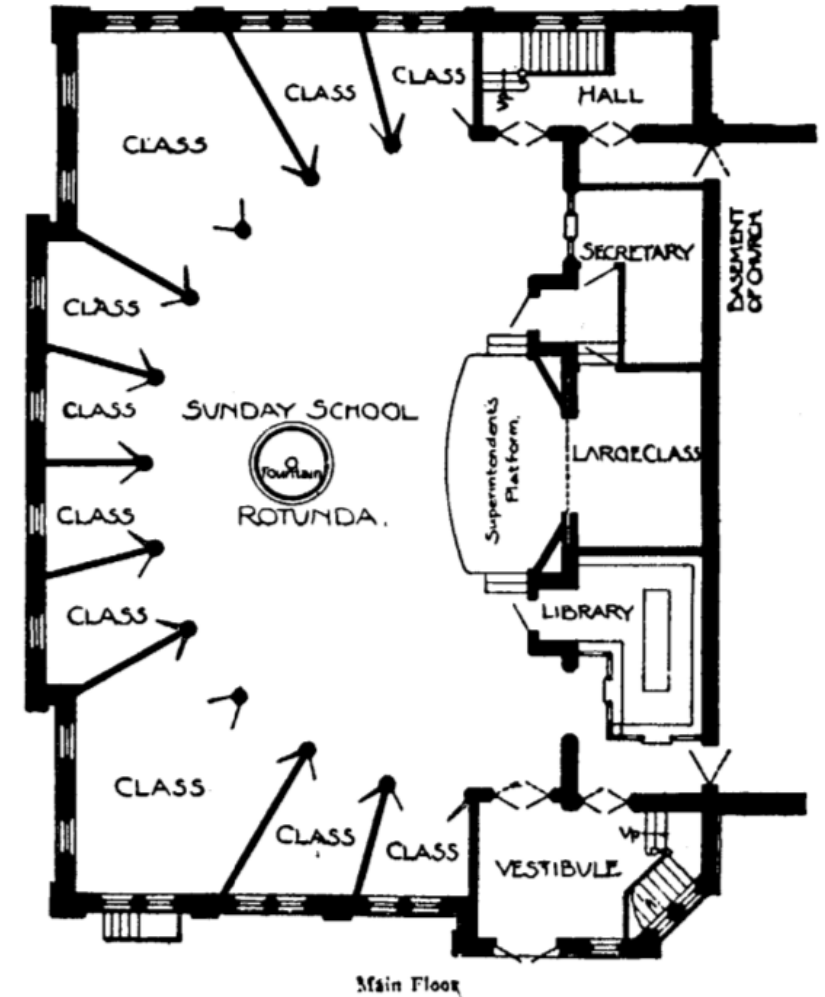


Architectural Significance

- Design incorporates the Akron Plan
- Akron Plan invented at First Methodist Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio in 1866-67.
- Invented by nationally known Methodist Sunday School Superintendent, Lewis Miller, along with his minister, John Heyl Vincent.
- Miller worked with architects Walter Blythe and Jacob Snyder to develop the plan.

Architectural Significance

- Plan features: Wedge shaped classrooms radiating from the central superintendent's platform; moveable doors or partitions closed to separate classes, opened to allow superintendent to address entire Sunday School body.
- Plan designed to accommodate change from single-room-for-all-ages format used until 1860 to separate classes for different ages.
- Akron Plan was adopted by thousands of churches, mostly Methodist, but also Baptist, Presbyterian, and Congregationalist churches.



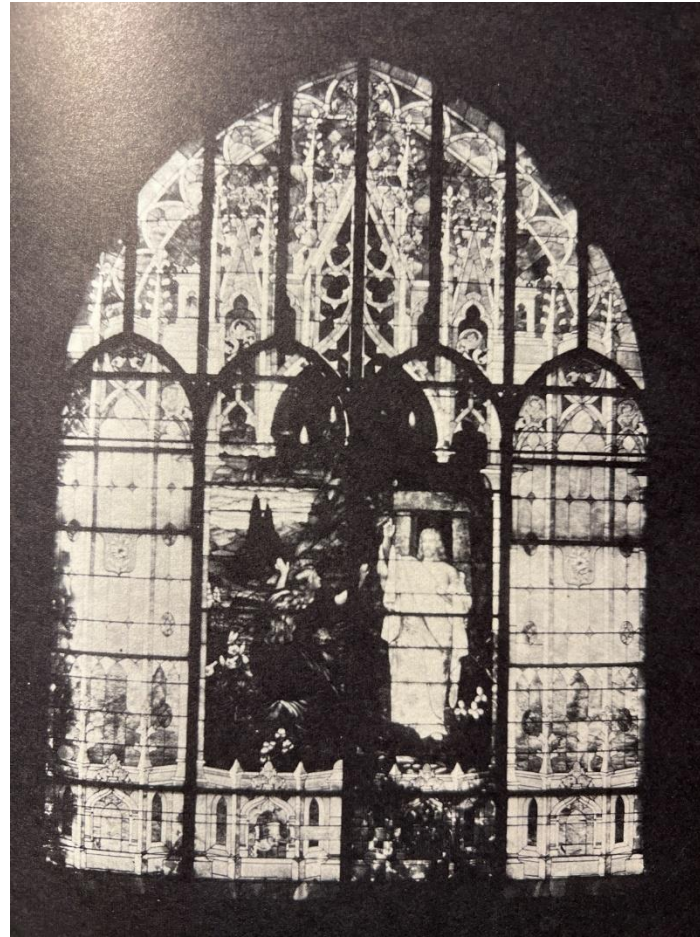
Architect

- Paul Matzinger - Documented 128 buildings in the Greater Cleveland area, among them, numerous churches, apartment buildings, terraces, and theaters.
 - Examples include individually designated Landmarks or within Local Historic Districts



Architectural Significance

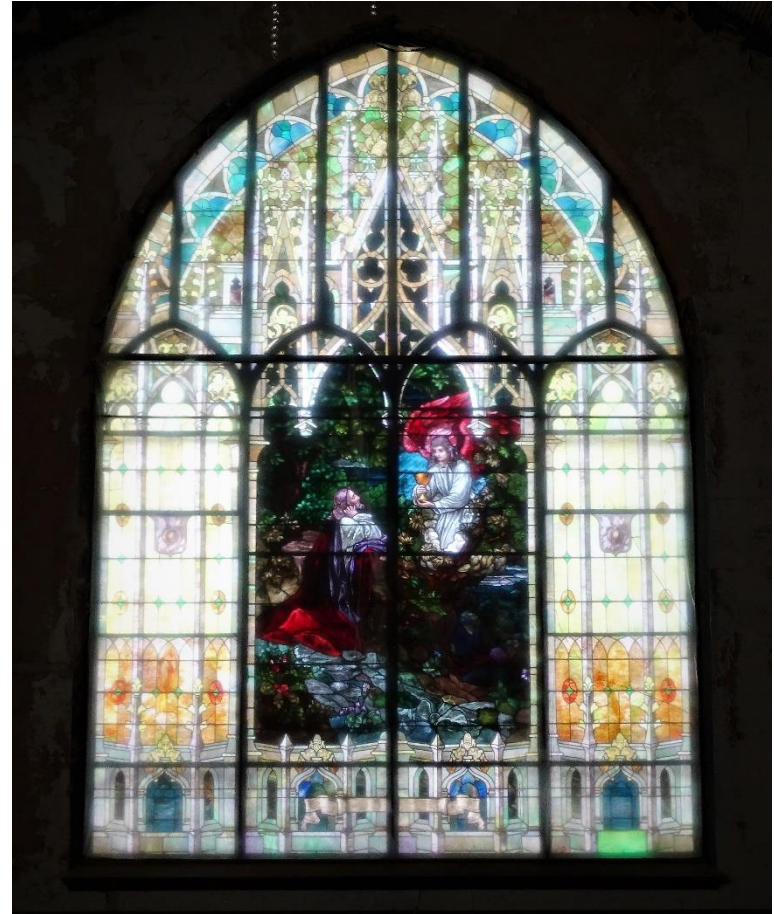
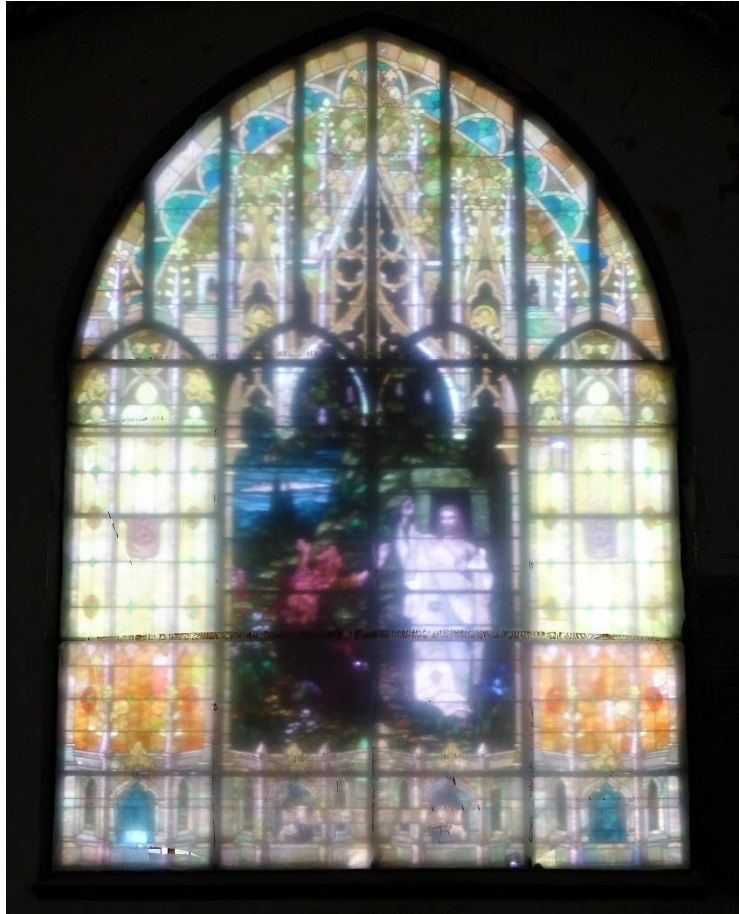
- Hammer and Yost Memorial Stained Glass Windows (William H. Hammer was Calvary's long-time Sunday School superintendent; William Yost was Calvary's Building Committee treasurer when the church was enlarged and beautified in 1902)



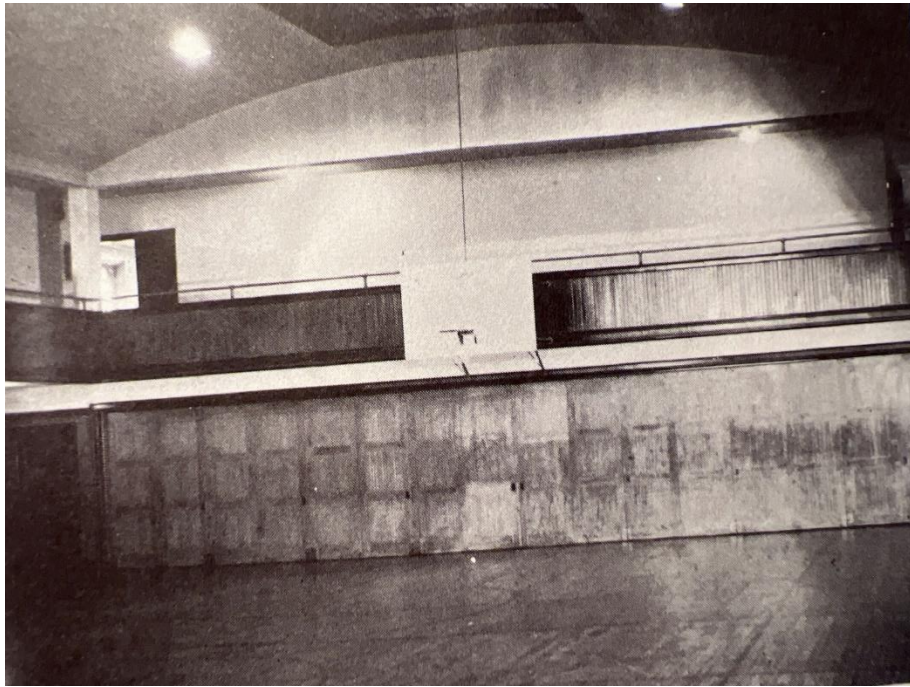
Hammer Memorial Window



Yost Memorial Window



- 1925 – Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Edwards, non-member residents of Buckeye Rd., contributed \$40,000 of \$125,000 to construct Edwards Memorial Annex, including regulation gym, 20 class and meeting rooms, and kitchen to serve the community.



Calvary EUB Gym

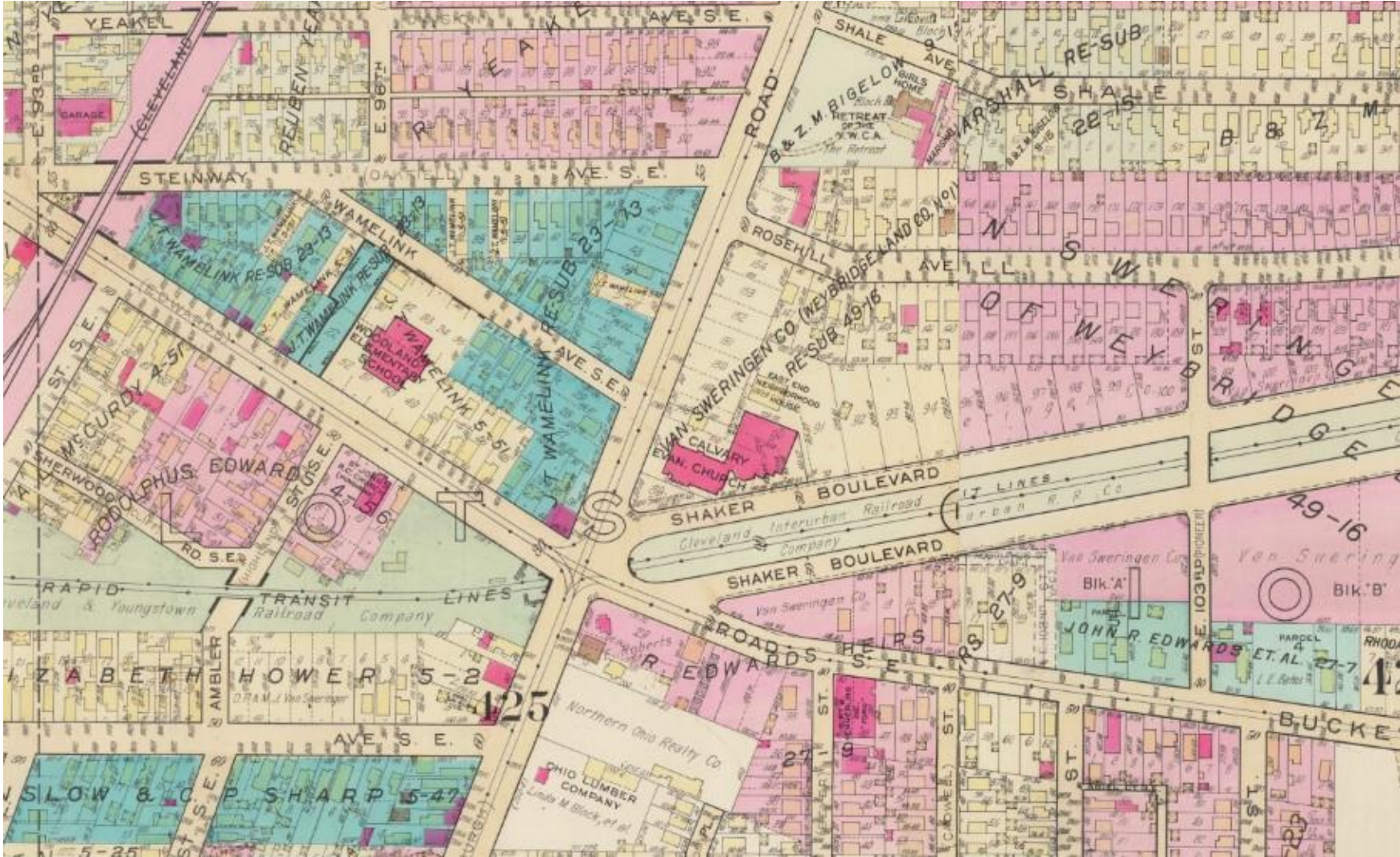


Calvary EUB Basketball Team



Edwards Wing

1937



- Cleveland Public Library branch at Calvary EUB, and “English for Foreigners” classes assisted assimilation to American culture.



Ohio North Jurisdictional Women's Convention

Significant Congregation Members

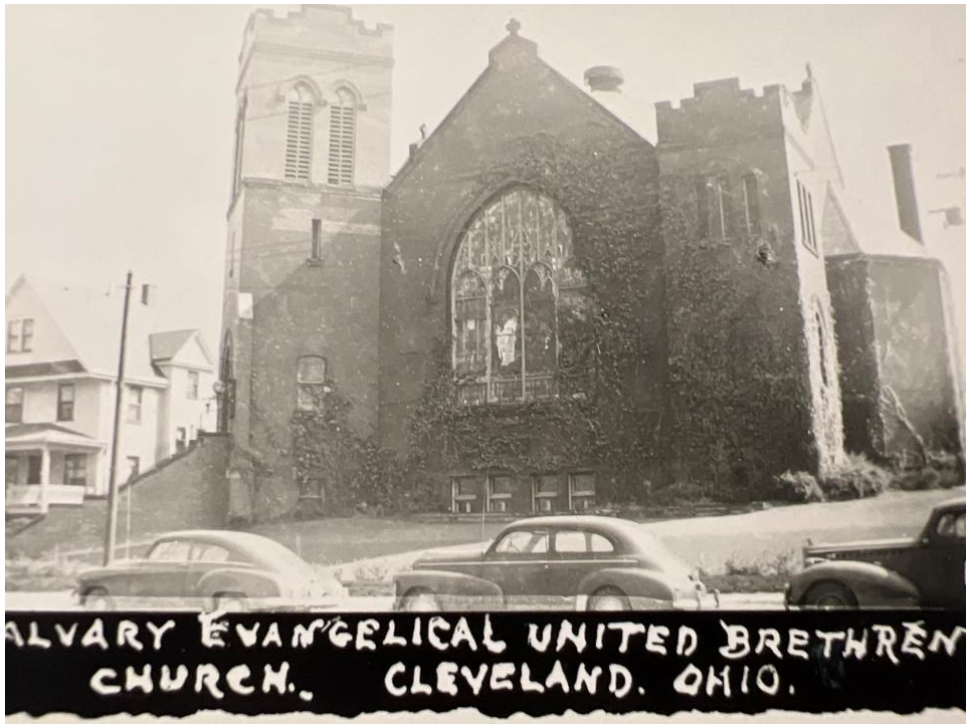
- Lawrence Seager, President, Northwestern College, Naperville, IL
- Harold Heining, President, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Naperville, IL
- Robert Fields, pastor 1979-1988, served as Bishop of Ohio North COGIC
 - Under Bishop Fields Calvary Hill COGIC was also Ohio North Jurisdictional Headquarters for Ohio COGIC churches; Jurisdiction grew to over 150 churches.

Building is a Significant and Familiar Community Feature



Building is a Significant and Familiar Community Feature

- Dubbed “the Lighthouse on the Hill” in 1907



Calvary Hill COGIC 2022