

## Dilworth Methodist Church South (1829 Cleveland Ave.)



The 1915 Dilworth Methodist Church South is the oldest church building in the Dilworth Historic District, Charlotte's first streetcar suburb. It is also the first known and documented building designed by Marvin W. Helms, one of Charlotte's most notable 20th century architects who, over a 60-year career, designed some 900 buildings across North Carolina. Originally a mission church set up by Charlotte's Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church to serve Atherton Mill workers, its congregation (which included evangelist Billy Graham's father William F. Graham) soon outgrew the building, moving to a new church on East Boulevard. Charlotte's then-newest religious denomination – the Church of the Nazarene – purchased the church in 1926, making this the first permanent home of that denomination's first Mecklenburg County congregation. Since 1973, the building has changed hands several times, and is now the home of the Lelua Hall restaurant. The recommended designation is for the exterior of the building and the associated parcel of land.

