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Arts

Picture of the Day: Howard County History

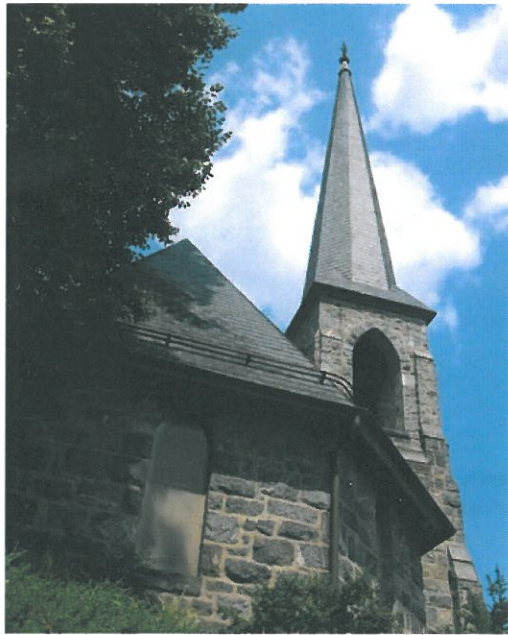
By [Mark Shrader](#) [Email the author](#) August 2, 2011 [Print](#) **0 Comments**

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1 of 1



The Howard County Historical Society is housed in the former First Presbyterian Church, a building constructed in the Gothic style with a 100-foot bell tower, a roof characterized by steeply pitched intersecting gables with the south end of the building being semi-hexagonal in shape and having a semi-conical roof. The original structure begun in 1837, but collapsed during renovations in 1894. The new structure was designed by George Archer. Frederick A. Wayland was the builder and Thomas Kirby the stone quarrier. The new church was dedicated December 23, 1894. The windows are stained and leaded glass and include a rose window picturing two angles behind the organ. (Two cherubs depicting Henry and Melissa, children of Rev. Branch, who died in infancy.) The organ was originally built in 1885 by the A.B. Felgemacher Organ Company of Erie, Penn. Credit [Brandie Jefferson](#)

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Mark Shrader has lived in Ellicott City for 13 years. He takes his camera everywhere he goes and loves photographing Howard County. You can also see his photographs on www.facebook.com/markshrader.

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