

RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL SURVEY REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCE
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY FORM*Reviewed by Margaret Peters*

DHR Identification Number: 104-0339

Other DHR Number: Property Date(s) 1924

PROPERTY NAMES

Alexander House (110 13th St.)

EXPLANATION

Historic/Location

Alex Sawyer House

Current

County/Independent City: Charlottesville

State: Virginia

Magisterial District: N/A

Tax Parcel: 10-21

USGS Quad Map Name: CHARLOTTESVILLE EAST

UTMs of Boundary:

Center UTM:

Restrict location and UTM data? N

ADDRESSES

Number	Thoroughfare Name	Explanation
110 -	13th St. NW	

Vicinity: Town/Village/Hamlet:

Name of National Register Historic District:

Name of DHR Eligible Historic District:

Name of Local Historic District:

Physical Character of General Surroundings: City

Site Description/Notable Landscape Features:

House stands on a side street connecting W. Main with Wertland St. and the Wertland Street Historic District. The area is transitional residential/commercial with University Baptist Church on the south side, a parking lot on the north side, and a large yard extending to the rear east side.

Ownership: Private

NR Resource Type: Building

WUZITS

Seq. #	# of	Wuzit Types	Historic?
1.0	1	Single Dwelling	Historic

TOTAL: 1
Historic: 1
Non-Historic: 0

PRIMARY RESOURCE EXTERIOR COMPONENT DESCRIPTION

Component	#	Comp Type/Form	Material	Material Treatment
Structural System	0	Masonry	Brick	Stretcher Bond
Roof	0	Gable: side	Slate	Shingle
Dormer	3	Pedimented	Slate	Shingle
Window(s)	0	Sash, double-hung	Wood	6/6
Porch	0	1-story, 3-bay	Wood	Classical

INDIVIDUAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

SEQUENCE NUMBER: 1.0 WUZIT: Single Dwelling

Primary Resource? Yes

Estimated Date of Construction: 1924

Source of Date: Oral History

Architectural Style: Colonial Revival

Description:

Large two- or three-room-deep house with symmetrical three-bay front elevation, porch with round Doric columns and balustrade shelters front entry with sidelights and an elliptical fanlight, several small casement windows on side elevations, integral two-story rear wing, brick flue, rear shed dormer.

Condition: Good

Threats to Resource: None Known

Additions/Alterations Description:

The two-story rear porch was glassed in at an early date.

Number of Stories: 2.5

Interior Plan Type:

Accessed?

Interior Description:

Relationship of Secondary Resources to Property:

DHR Historic Context: Architecture/Community Planning
Commerce/Trade
Domestic

Significance Statement:

The Alexander House is a representative example of a Colonial Revival family dwelling/boarding house dating to the early 20th c., and it contributes to the historic and architectural character of the West Main Street Corridor. The house was built in 1924 for Susan Ellen Alexander and her sisters Ida Tilden and Annie Alexander to serve as their family home and as a boarding house for students. A half-uncle of the Alexanders, Willis Alexander, was foreman on the construction project. Willis probably worked with the Charlottesville Lumber Company, a construction firm that was later chosen to enclose the back porch of the house. A Mr. Ruebush, who was also involved in the house's construction, lived in the house with the Alexanders. From about

1936 until the house was sold to University Baptist Church in 1964, it was known as the Virginia Lee Tourist (home), and was on the "approved list" of lodgings for out-of-town female student visitors to UVA.

GRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

Medium	Medium ID #	Frames	Date
B&W 35mm Photos	14635	10 - 12	2/ /1996
B&W 35mm Photos		-	/ /1996

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA

Sequence #: 1.0 Bibliographic Record Type: Letter
Author: MacLaughlin, Margaret H.
Citation Abbreviation:

Notes:

Sequence #: 2.0 Bibliographic Record Type: Oral History
Author: Harris, Mrs. William H.
Citation Abbreviation:

Telephone Interview, Charlottesville, VA, May 1996

Notes:

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT EVENTS

Date: / /1996

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey
Organization or Person: J. Daniel Pezzoni, Preservation Con

ID # Associated with Event:

CRM Event Notes or Comments:

MAILING ADDRESS

Honorif:

First :

Last :

Suffix :

Title :

Company: University Baptist Church trustees

Address: 1223 W. Main St.

City : Charlottesville

State: VA

Zip : 22903- Country: USA

Phone/extension: 804-293-5106

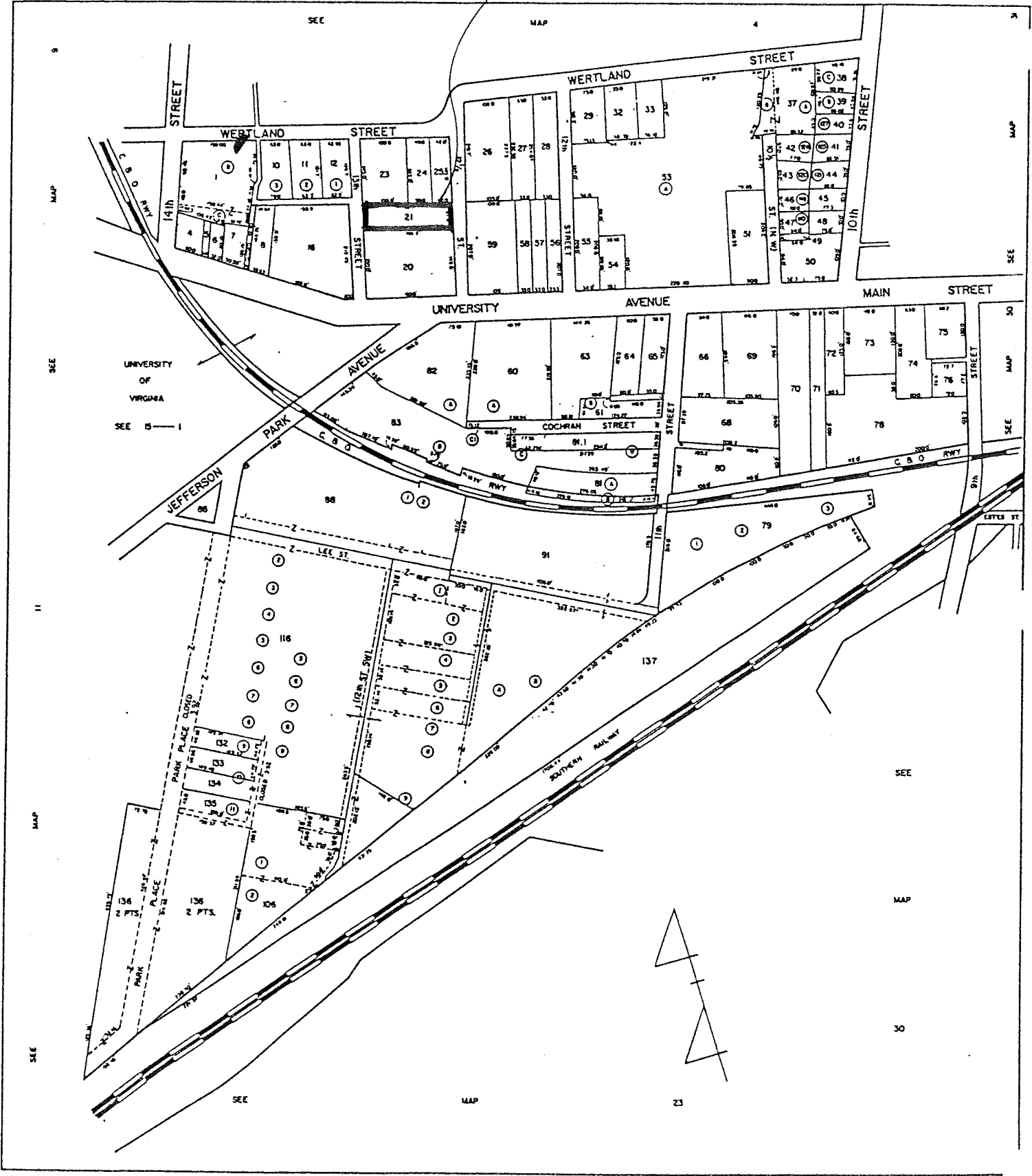
Individual Category Codes:

Mailing Address Notes:

Surveyor's Notes:

104-339

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



SCALE 1" = 100'

SECTION 10

reconnaissance main screen 1 of 7

Where is data filed at DHR? _____
 DHR Iden. # _____ Property date(s) _____
 Other DHR no. _____

Seq. #	Name	Property Names	Explanation*
	Ho - - Jo - - Hotel		

Address	Alternate spelling	Former/current	Historic/location	Original
Address-current	Current	Function/location	Location	VLR listing
Alleged	Descriptive	Historic	NHL listing	
Alternate name	Former	Historic/current	NRHP listing	

County/Ind. City _____ Tax Parcel Number 10-16
 State VA Virginia
 Magis't District _____
 USGS Quad Map Name _____ UTM's of Boundary 1 1 1
 Center UTM-Zone/East/North 1 1

reconnaissance main screen 2 of 7

Restrict Location and UTM data? _____

#	# Suffix	Thoroughfare Name	Addresses	Explanation
		1309 WMS		

Sequence Number	Address Superfield Screen	Address Explanation	Alternate	Name Change
Main Street Number			Current	Number Change
Number Suffix				
Street Name				

Vicinity of: _____ Town/Village/Hamlet _____

Name of National Register Historic District _____

Name of VDHR Eligible Historic District _____

Name of Local Historic District _____

reconnaissance main screen 3 of 7

Physical Character of General Surroundings
 City _____ Hamlet _____ Rural _____ Suburban _____ Town _____ Village _____

Site Description/Notable Landscape Features

Built up, faces park w/ CR clock stame

Ownership _____ NR Resource Type _____
 F Public-Federal P Private B Building S Site
 L Public-Local S Public-State D District U Structure
 O Object

Seq. #	# of	Wuzit Count	Wuzit Types	Historic?*	Total
					Historic
					Non-Historic

* Historic Non-Historic Undetermined

reconnaissance main screen 4 of 7

Component	#	Comp Type/Form	Material	Material Treatment
chimney(s)	-			
columns	-			
cornice	-			
dormer(s)	-			
foundation	NV			
porch	-			
roof	1	plat	NV	plte reinf d
walls	1	sliding	alum	2-17.
windows	1			

Seq. #	Wuzit	Individual Resource Information	Date Built
		Individual Resource Superfield Screen	

Sequence Number _____ Wuzit _____
 Primary Resource? _____
 Estimated Date of Construction _____ Source of Date _____

Architectural Style	French Colonial	Late Gothic Revival	Prairie School
Art Deco	French Renaissance	Late Victorian	Pueblo
Beaux Arts	Georgian	Mid-19th C.	Queen Anne
Bungalow/Craftsman	Gothic	Mission/Spanish	Renaissance
Chicago	Gothic Revival	Colonial Revival	Romanesque
Classical Revival	Greek Revival	Mixed (more than 3 styles)	Second Empire
Colonial	International Style	from different periods)	Shingle Style
Colonial Revival	Italian Renaissance	Modern Movement	Skyscraper
Commercial Style	Italian Villa	Moderne	Spanish Colonial
Dutch Colonial	Italianate	No Style Listed	Stick/Eastlake
Early Class. Rev.	Late 19th &	Octagon Mode	Tudor Revival
Early Republic	20th C. Revivals	Other	
Exotic Revival	Late 19th & Early	Postmedieval English	
Federal	20th C. Amer. Movements		

balconies
 Multi-story hotel of stripped-down mod. design
 Projecting 1-5 front rest wing w/ Hodo
 A-frame of A. glass vt + vt let, born w/
 truncated spires. br ven w salmon br, some
 metal panel + stone facing.
 putting gar to rear.

Condition	Excellent	Good	Good-Fair	Poor	Remodeled
Demolished	Fair	Good-Excellent	N/A	Rebuilt	Ruinous

Threats to Resource	Demolition	Development	Neglect	None Known	Relocation	Trans. Expan.
Deterioration	Major Alteration	None	Public Util. Expan.	Structural Failure	Vacant	

Additions/Alterations Description

Number of Stories 2A
 Interior Plan Type _____
 Accessed? _____

Conditional Individual Resource Superfield Screen

If not, why not?
 Denied _____ No Trespassing _____ Not Accessible _____

Interior Description _____

Relationship of Secondary Resources _____

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 Historic Context

DHR Historic Context(s):	Ethnicity/Immigration	Recreation/Arts
Agriculture/Subsistence	Funerary	Religion
Architecture/Landscape Architecture/	Health Care	Settlement Patterns
Community Planning	Industry/Processing/Extraction	Social
Commerce/Trade	Landscape	Traffic Engineering
Domestic	Military/Defense	Transportation
Education		Other

Significance Statement _____

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Medium*	Medium ID #	Graphic Documentation Frames	Date
2 x 2 B & W photos	B & W 35 mm photos	Historic photos	Slides
4 x 5 B & W photos	Color 35 mm photos	Measured drawings	

Bibliographic Data

Seq. # _____ Type _____ Citation _____

Bibliographic Superfield Screen

Sequence #: _____ Bibliographic Record Type: _____ Author: _____
 Citation Abbreviation: _____

Notes: _____

Bibliographic Superfield Screen

Sequence #: _____ Bibliographic Record Type: _____ Author: _____
 Citation Abbreviation: _____

Notes: _____

reconnaissance main screen 7 of 7
 Cultural Resource Management Events
 Agency/Individual

Date	CRM Event	Assoc. ID#

CRM Event Superfield Screen

Date: _____ Cultural Resource Management Event: _____
 Organization or Person: _____
 ID# Associated with Event: _____

Notes or Comments

Mailing Address Superfield Screen

HONORIF: _____ Record Created: _____
 FIRST: _____ Last Updated: _____
 LAST: _____
 SUFFIX: _____
 TITLE: _____
 COMPANY: _____ PHONE/EXTENSION: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____
 CITY: _____ COUNTRY: _____
 ZIP: _____

Individual's Category Codes

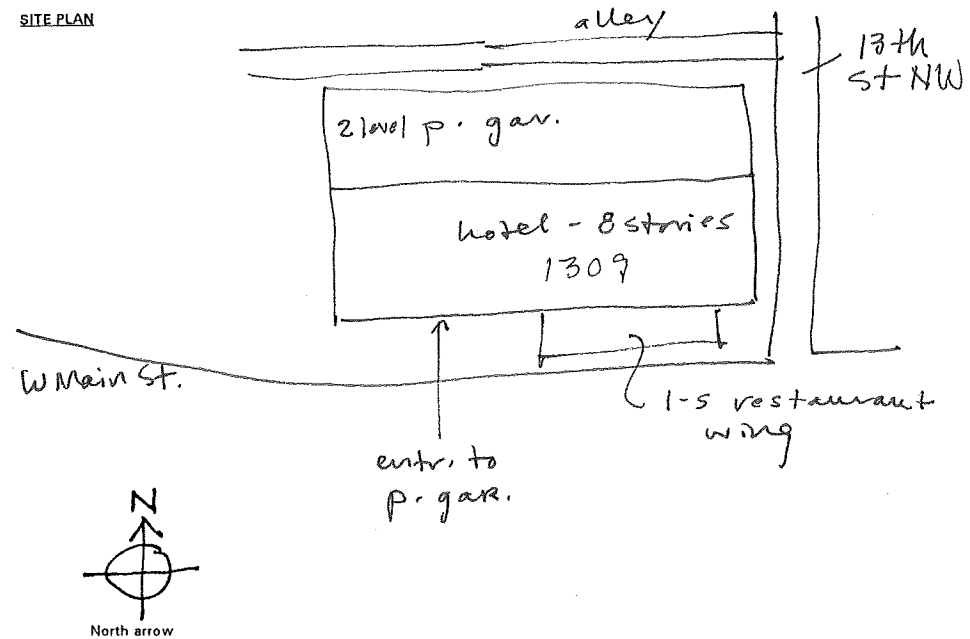
Informant	Occupant	Owner	Specimens (owner of specimens)	Tenant

Notes _____

Surveyor's Notes

Date	Event	Data Processing Events Person

SITE PLAN



N.T.S.
 Date: _____
 SES - 2/96

Drawn by: _____
 Agency: _____

Gladys "Mrs. Wm. H." Harris 5.1.96
Can. w/ ~~Wm. H.~~ Harris 5.1.96
pix in w/ socy calendar
(804) # 293-2589

90 yr old genealogist knows very little

"Virginia Lee Tourist" - name

~~was~~ fr 1936-37 til 1964

Sold by Mrs. Harris to Church.

student housing rm + bd.

~~boarding~~

on the approved list for lodgings for out of town girls.

3 maiden sisters - Susan Ellen Alexander House
Ida Tilden " "
Annie " in Susan's name

Betty Alex. Harris, my ma-in-law.

she helped run it
she sold it to church

2 of the sisters
seamstresse \$+I
1 wkd in stove A

fr. 1924 on

Char. ville Lumb. Co. probly built hs.

Mrs. Alex. used them, she had them envelope
some porches

Willis Alex'r - ^{half-uncle} did some carving on mantel of
fake t-place
in 1924 foreman

Mr. Ruebush - lived in hs. of Alexrs
he maoo

not sure of
archt.

wkd for a lumb. Co.

either Barnes or CV Lumb Co.

Wm, Andrew Alexander -

built h.s.s in Alb. Co. - not sure w/c ones in
C-ville

Mr. O'Brien

72 Robbins Road
Watertown, Massachusetts 02172
April 07, 1996

Mr. Daniel Pezzoni
P.O. Box 7825
Roanoke, Virginia 24019-0825

Dear Mr. Pezzoni:

In response to an inquiry about historic preservation in Charlottesville, Mr. W. James Eddins of Preservation Piedmont has referred me to you. He explained that you are conducting an architectural survey of buildings for Charlottesville and that the City is considering the establishment of a West Main St. Historic District.

My concern focuses on a house at 110 13th Street in Charlottesville, between West Main St. and Wertland St. Built in 1924, the house was my father's family home. Although it was a private home, it was also intended to be a boarding house. For many years my great-aunts and grandparents maintained it as a tourist home. Then, under the new ownership of the neighboring University Baptist Church, it was leased to Ronald MacDonald House, a hostel for families of hospital patients. Currently, the property is occupied by Alex Sawyer House, a hostel for self-care patients.

The house at 110 13th Street is a good example, in my opinion, of the colonial revival style in brick. It is sufficiently valuable for preservation. My family would like to see the house included in a historic district or zone that would prevent inappropriate alteration or demolition.

At this time I do not have much specific information to send you about the property. There is limited documentation. However, my parents, who live near Charlottesville, are assembling some dates and family memories that might be relevant to the survey. If you are using a particular written form for recording information, perhaps you would send a copy to my parents, as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Harris
1578 Dudley Mountain Road
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-9715 tel.: (804) 293-2589

They may be contacting you and would find it helpful to know what sort of information is needed for the survey.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Margaret H. MacLaughlin

April 11, 1996

Margaret H. MacLaughlin
72 Robbins Rd.
Watertown, MA 02172

Dear Mrs. MacLaughlin:

Thank you very much for providing the information on 110 13th Street. I look forward to receiving more information from your parents. Some additional facts that would be helpful:

* Name(s) of the builder and/or architect of the house, or whether the house was built from magazine or pattern book plans.

* The name of the tourist home, and details of its operation.

Its interesting that the house had the dual functions of private residence and boarding house--many of the homes on Wertland Street were built or retrofitted for the same purpose.

As for whether the house is located in an area that would qualify as a city, state, and national historic district, its too early for me to say for certain, since I completed the field work phase of the project two weeks ago. My personal, unofficial opinion is that the property is located in an area with potential for historic designation. The recommendations I will make to the city by the end of June will go through several tiers of review before any historic districts are (or are not) designated. I suggest you contact Alice Pool at the Charlottesville Dept. of Community Devt. (804/971-3182) at the end of the summer for an update on the property's status.

Again, thanks for contacting me.

Sincerely,

Daniel Pezzoni

cc: Mr. and Mrs. William L. Harris

*J. Daniel Pezzoni, Preservation Consultant
PO Box 7825, Roanoke, VA 24019-0825
(540) 366-0787*

72 Robbins Road
Watertown, MA 02172
June 3, 1996

Mr. Daniel Pezzoni
P.O. Box 7825
Roanoke, Virginia 24019

Dear Mr. Pezzoni:

Thank you for contacting my parents about the house at 110 13th Street in Charlottesville. As my mother may have told you, we have a report that the University Baptist Church intends to evict Alex Sawyer House after the end of June 1996, this month. Furthermore, the Church plans to demolish the house and construct a parking lot or multi-story garage on the property.

We are of course very concerned and are now contacting the Dept. of Community Development, as well as the University Baptist Church.

I would like to bring to your attention another building in Charlottesville with some connection to my family. 909 W. Main Street, near the intersection of Main St. with 10th Street, is a brick house with a low hipped roof and a porte-cochère. It appears to be the last vestige of an old residential neighborhood on that section of Main. Perhaps it has already been covered in the architectural survey. If not, it should have sufficient merit to be included. It is older than the house at 110 13th Street; my great-grandparents owned and lived in it at some period of time prior to 1924.

Unfortunately I cannot give you any more facts about 909 W. Main Street, and my parents probably have little more information to offer.

Thank you again for your work on 110 13th Street.

Sincerely,



Margaret Harris MacLaughlin

Jan 2, 1996

Dear Mr. Peapack

This article appeared in today's paper showing a copy of photograph of Georgea O'Keefe taken by the publisher in 1946 to a lady who lived on Westland Street for many years. She now in the Colonades Retirement Village. Her apartment building is the O'Keefe Apartment. Others have familiar names such as Joe. Perhaps Georgea O'Keefe attended UVA at some time, or maybe took summer courses.

She writes to an elderly cousin who spent a lot of time in Charlottesville so he may have heard of O'Keefe living on Westland. His memory some times is vague but he still has an interest in history and genealogy. His 9th.

The land on which the Colonades is built belongs to University Foundation, but is leased to Marriott Hotel chain for 99 years.

Miss Paul returned a call to us about house at 110 13th St. She was unaware that the Baptist Church has asked the current resident to vacate the end of the month. She appeared with too late to stop any demolition plans but appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,
Gladys Davis
1348 Rolling Mt Rd

14635

Date 2.1996 File No. 104-339
Name Alexander House
(110 13th St.)
Town _____
County Charlotteville
Photographer Dan Pezzoni
Contents 3 ext. views

