

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: University Grounds
 Map and Parcel: 15-1
 Census Track & Block:
 Present Owner: University of Virginia
 Address:
 Present Use: Chapel
 Original Owner: University of Virginia
 Original Use: Chapel

BASE DATA

Historic Name: University Chapel
 Date/Period: 1385-1390
 Style: Gothic Revival
 Height to Cornice:
 Height in Stories: 1, with 3-story tower
 Present Zoning:
 Land Area (sq.ft.):
 Assessed Value (land + imp.):

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This charmingly picturesque building is a rugged example of Gothic Revival styling. It is cruciform in plan, with the eastern transept flanked by a three-stage tower on the south and a semicircular vestry on the north. The whole is faced with rough-faced random-laid stone, with dressed stone used for accent on buttresses, door and window reveals, and copings. The trefoil, both free-standing and in relief, is a frequently-used ornamental device. The impressive tower has an open upper stage topped with battlements and gargoyles. Penetration throughout is in the form of lancet windows of various sizes, singly and in diverse groupings. Inside, a small, low narthex leads into the main sanctuary, which gains a surprising richness from its splendid woodwork and stained glass.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Collection of funds for a chapel began in 1872, but progress was agonizingly slow until the formation of the Ladies' Chapel Aid Society was formed in 1883. This group collected most of the \$30,000 used in the erection of this building. The cornerstone was laid in 1885, the dedication sermon preached in 1889, and the completed chapel turned over to the University in 1890. Originally, the University chaplain conducted morning prayers here each day, with afternoon services on Fridays and Sundays. After the chaplaincy was discontinued, guest clergymen held Sunday services. Today the chapel is used for weddings and occasional concerts.

GRAPHICS

169 (L)

169 (R)

CONDITIONS

Good

SOURCES

O'Neal, Pictorial History of the University of Virginia (1968)
 Patton & Doswell, The University of Virginia (1900)

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: University Grounds
Map and Parcel: 15-1
Census Tract & Block:
Present Owner: University of Virginia
Address:
Present Use: Chapel
Original Owner: University of Virginia
Original Use: Chapel

BASE DATA #135

Historic Name: University Chapel
Date/Period: 1885-1890
Style: Gothic Revival
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 1, with 3-story tower
Present Zoning:
Land Area (sq.ft.):
Assessed Value (land + imp.):

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The walls are constructed of squared square
This charmingly picturesque building is a rugged example of Gothic Revival styling. It is cruciform in plan, with the eastern transept flanked by a three-stage tower on the south and a semicircular vestry on the north. ~~The whole is faced with rough-faced random-laid stone,~~ with dressed stone used for accent on buttresses, door and window reveals, and copings. The trefoil, both free-standing and in relief, is a frequently-used ornamental device. The impressive tower has an open upper stage topped with battlements and gargoyles. Fenestration throughout is in the form of lancet windows of various sizes, singly and in diverse groupings. Inside, a small, low narthex leads into the main sanctuary, which gains a surprising richness from its splendid woodwork and stained glass.

The steep gabled roof is covered with corrugated slate.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

When the room in the Rotunda set aside for religious services was no longer adequate, the construction of an 800-seat Gothic chapel at the southern end of the lawn was proposed in 1835. Plans were drawn & were approved by the Board of Visitors, but a site could not be decided upon.

~~The Civil War temporarily interrupted~~

The matter was brought up again after the Civil War. A fund-raising drive was begun in 1872 & pursued by the Ladies' Chapel Society formed in 1883. A site was approved in 1884,

the dedication sermon preached in 1889, and the completed chapel turned over to the University in 1890. Originally, the University chaplain conducted morning prayers here each day, with afternoon services on Fridays and Sundays. After the chaplaincy was discontinued, guest clergymen held Sunday services. Today the chapel is used for weddings and occasional concerts.

in 1896,

