

RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL SURVEY REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCE  
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY FORM

Reviewed by Margaret Peters

DHR Idenfication Number: 104-0318

Other DHR Number:Property Date(s) 1935ca

PROPERTY NAMES	EXPLANATION
Charlottesville Motors Inc. (856 W. Main St.)	Historic/Location
Merchant's Tire & Auto Center	Current

County/Independent City: Charlottesville  
State: Virginia  
Magisterial District: N/A

Tax Pa

Tax Parcel #  
should be 30.

USGS Quad Map Name: CHARLOTTESVILLE EAST

UTMs of Boundary:  
Center UTM:

Restrict location and UTM data? N

ADDRESSES

Number	Thoroughfare Name	Explanation
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856 -	W. Main St.	
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Vicinity:Town/Village/Hamlet:

Name of National Register Historic District:

Name of DHR Eligible Historic District:

Name of Local Historic District:

Tax Parcel # 30-3  
to 30-7

Physical Character of General Surroundings: City

Site Description/Notable Landscape Features:

Built-up, railroad tracks run to the south of the building (behind).

Ownership: Private

NR Resource Type: Building

WUZITS

Seq. #	# of	Wuzit Types	Historic?
1.0	1	Service Station	Historic

TOTAL:1  
Historic:1  
Non-Historic:0

# PRIMARY RESOURCE EXTERIOR COMPONENT DESCRIPTION

Component	#	Comp Type/Form	Material	Material Treatment
Structural System	0	Masonry	Concrete	Poured
Roof	0	Flat		Not visible
Window(s)	0	Fixed	Metal	

## INDIVIDUAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

SEQUENCE NUMBER: 1.0 WUZIT: Service Station

Primary Resource? Yes

Estimated Date of Construction: 1935 ca

Source of Date: Written Data

Architectural Style: Moderne

Description:

This sprawling complex of automobile showrooms and repair garages appears to have developed primarily during the 1930s, although the section on the corner of West Main and 9th may date to the 1920s. The various wings of the building are constructed of poured concrete or concrete blocks with simple massing and either unrelieved wall surfaces or window walls. A concrete-block curved ramp leads from 9th street to a roof-top parking deck.

Condition: Good

Threats to Resource: None Known

Additions/Alterations Description:

Metal siding has been applied to the corner showroom section of the building, and the showroom windows appear to have been modernized.

Number of Stories: 2.0

Interior Plan Type:

Accessed?

Interior Description:

Relationship of Secondary Resources to Property:

DHR Historic Context: Transportation/Communication

Significance Statement:

This sprawling complex is the king of the automobile-oriented buildings constructed on West Main Street in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. The 1929 Sanborn map suggests some portion of the complex had been built by that time, and aerial photographs of the ca. 1940 period suggest the complex had reached its current size and configuration. In 1940 Charlottesville Motors Inc. occupied the address. The building contributes to the historic character of West Main Street.

## GRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION

Medium	Medium ID #	Frames	Date
B&W 35mm Photos	14633	13 - 18	2/ /1996

## BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA

Sequence #: 1.0 Bibliographic Record Type: Map  
Author: Sanborn Map Company  
Citation Abbreviation:  
Sanborn maps of Charlottesville, 1891+  
Notes:

Sequence #: 2.0 Bibliographic Record Type: Newspaper  
Author: Charlottesville Daily Progress  
Citation Abbreviation:  
January 12, 1940  
Notes:

#### CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT EVENTS

Date: 2/ /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: Brasco Bay Corp.  
c/o Peyton  
Address: Box 3387  
  
City : Charlottesville  
Zip : 22903- Country: USA  
Phone/extension:

State: VA

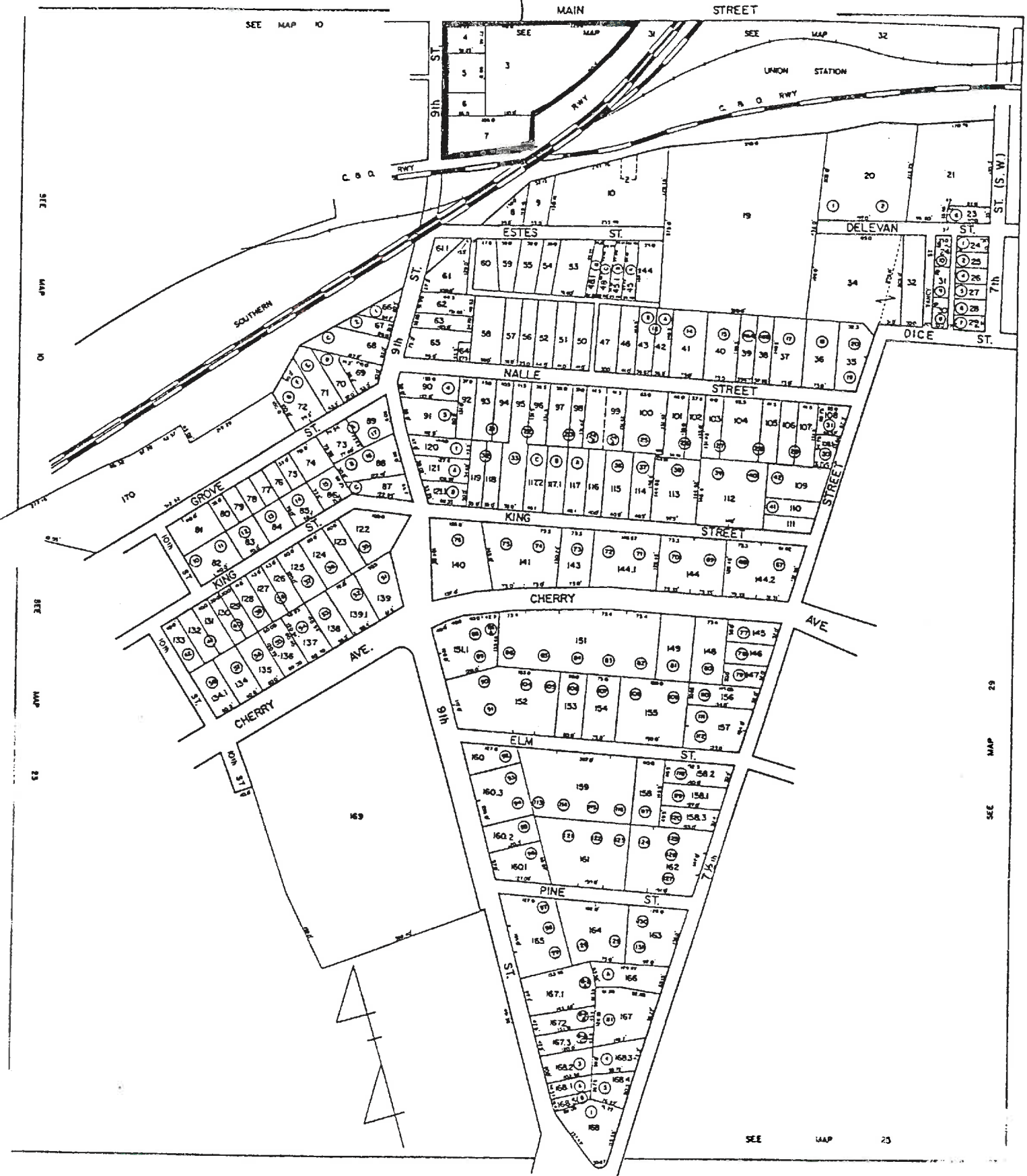
Individual Category Codes:

Mailing Address Notes:

Surveyor's Notes:

104-318

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE



Number of Stories: 2  
 Interior Plan Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accessed? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Denied \_\_\_\_\_ No Trespassing \_\_\_\_\_ Not Accessible \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interior Description \_\_\_\_\_

attics

Relationship of Secondary Resources \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

reconnaissance main screen 6 of 7  
Historic Context

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

\_\_\_\_\_

reconnaissance main screen 6 of 7  
Graphic Documentation  
Frames

Medium*	Medium ID #	Date
2 x 2 B & W photos	8 & W 35 mm photos	Historic photos
4 x 5 B & W photos	Color 35 mm photos	Measured drawings
		Slides

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

Date	CRM Event	Agency/Individual	Assoc. ID#
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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: \_\_\_\_\_

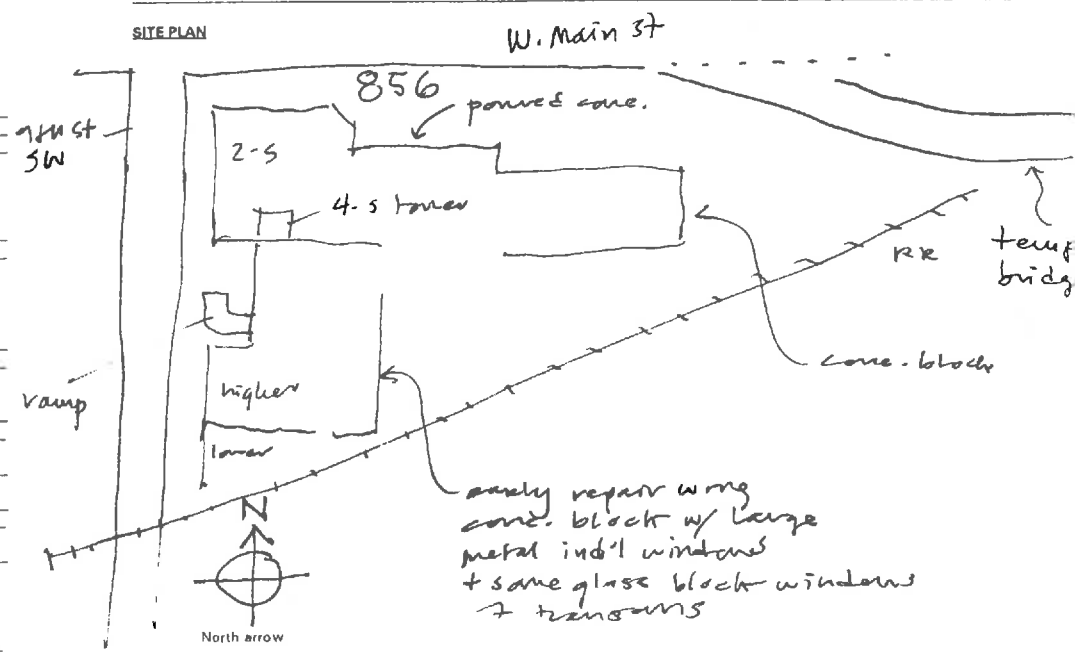
Individual's Category Codes

Informant	Occupant	Owner	Specimens (owner of specimens)	Tenant

Surveyor's Notes

Date	Event	Data Processing Events Person
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SITE PLAN



N.T.S.  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SES - 2/96  
 Drawn by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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\*

*merchants fire & auto center* *cu*

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

State *VA Virginia*

Majors District

USGS Quad Map Name

Center UTM-Zone/East/North

Tax Parcel Number

*31-3 thru 7*

UTMs of Boundary

## reconnaissance main screen 2 of 7

Restrict Location and UTM data?

# *856* *WM*

Address

Explanation

Address Superfield Screen

Address Explanation

Sequence Number

Main Street Number

Number Suffix

Street Name

Alternate

Current

Name Change

Number Change

Vicinity of:

Town/Village/Hamlet

Name of National Register Historic District

Name of VDH 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, 12 tracks to S*

Ownership

F Public-Federal

L Public-Local

P Private

S Public-State

NR Resource Type

B Building

D District

O Object

S Site

U Structure

Seq. #

# of

Wuzit Count

Wuzit Types

Historic?

Total

Historic

Non-Historic

Historic Non-Historic

Undetermined

## reconnaissance main screen 4 of 7

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description

Component

#

Comp Type/Form

Material

Material Treatment

chimney(s)

columns

cornice

door(s)

foundation

porch

roof

walls

windows

NV

NV

was

fixed

conc

metal

p'd

display

## Individual Resource Information

Primary?

Date Built

Seq. # Wuzit

## Individual Resource Superfield Screen

Sequence Number

Wuzit

Primary Resource?

Estimated Date of Construction

Source of Data

Architectural Style

Art Deco

Beaux Arts

Bungalow/Craftsman

Chicago

Classical Revival

Colonial

Colonial Revival

Commercial Style

Dutch Colonial

Early Class. Rev.

Early Republic

Exotic Revival

Federal

French Colonial

French Renaissance

Georgian

Gothic

Gothic Revival

Greek Revival

International Style

Italian Renaissance

Italian Villa

Italianate

Late 19th &amp;

20th C. Revivals

Late 19th &amp; Early

20th C. Amer.

Movements

Late Gothic Revival

Late Victorian

Mid-19th C.

Mission/Spanish

Colonial Revival

Mixed (more than 3 styles

from different periods)

Modern Movement

Moderns

No Style Listed

Octagon Mode

Other

Postmedieval English

Prairie School

Pueblo

Queen Anne

Renaissance

Romanesque

Second Empire

Shingle Style

Skyscraper

Spanish Colonial

Stick/Eastlake

Tudor Revival

*Sprawling accretive complex w/ traces of orig'l Modern,  
p'd conc piers + p.pets, ext modern materials  
w/ metal shattering, 4-story row tower  
2nd-st p. lot w/ curved ramp to 9th st,  
conc. b. garages to rear*

Condition

Demolished

Deteriorated

Excellent

Fair

Good

Good-Excellent

Good-Fair

N/A

Poor

Rebuilt

Remodeled

Ruinous

Threats to Resource

Demolition

Deterioration

Development

Major Alteration

Neglect

None

None Known

Public Util. Expan.

Relocation

Structural Failure

Trans. Expan.

Vacant

## Additions/Alterations Description



14633

Date 2.1996 File No. 104-318