

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: 620 Park Street
 Map and Parcel: 52-185
 Census Track & Block: 3-405
 Present Owner: Lloyd Smith
 Address: 620 Park Street
 Present Use: Residence
 Original Owner: Carrie Marshall
 Original Use: Residence

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Marshall-Rucker House
 Date/Period: 1894
 Style: Victorian
 Height to Cornice:
 Height in Stories: 2 1/2
 Present Zoning: R-3
 Land Area (sq.ft.): 88 x 393
 Assessed Value (land + imp.): 5550 + 22,770 = 28,320

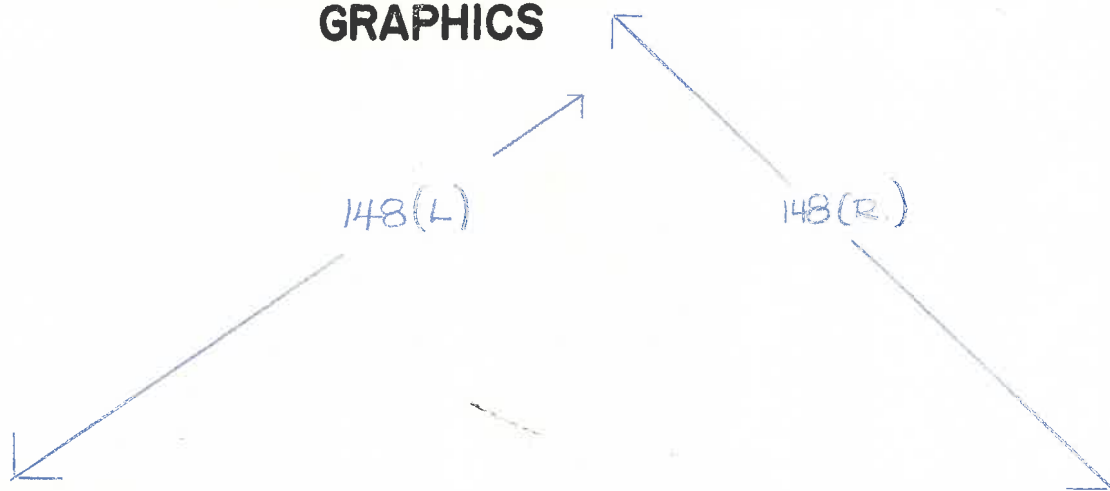
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This extremely fine brick Victorian structure is possibly the most notable building on Park Street. While the architect remains unknown, the house bespeaks of a sophistication and high styling approached only by the Duke House. The octagonal tower is juxtaposed with the wide gable of the garret with an open Romanesque arcade. The second floor fenestration is linked with a continuous shallow drip moulding. The first floor windows have sandstone lintels. A Colonial Revival porch with coupled columns on a raised brick pedestal and roof balustrade may have originally wrapped around to the south side of the house. It is believed that Mr. Rucker devised the present arrangement. Mr. Rucker added the southern wing containing a solarium and paneled library above about 1930. The spacious interior is lavishly appointed with robust walnut woodwork. The wide dog leg stair that rises to the attic is set at the rear of the entrance hall and separated from the entrance by a walnut arch. The double parlours on the north side of the house have the finest carved walnut mantles with mirrored overmantles in the historic district. This house is truly one of the finest examples of late nineteenth century elegance in the city. It was built by William T. Vandegrift, a contracting firm of several generations with a reputation for excellent work.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Carrie Marshall's dream of a large, elegant house became a reality in 1894. Lavishly detailed, the house was so expensive to construct that her husband J. W. Marshall's fortune never recovered. He was a successful merchant. Carrie Marshall purchased the lot on the east side of Park Street in 1892 from J. Samuel McCue, trustee for Robert A. Pretlow (DB 3-458). The Marshalls remained in their handsome home until 1913 when they sold to William J. Rucker, a wealthy philanthropist who married a Charlottesville native. He resided here until his death in 1941. Mr. Rucker left the house to the Martha Jefferson Hospital who sold it to Lucille S. Kersey in 1943 (DB 114-286). In 1947, Mary Davis Cleveland Thomas, the Rucker's housekeeper, purchased the house that she had so capably managed. The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith, purchased the house from Mrs. Thomas in 1962.

GRAPHICS



CONDITIONS

Excellent

SOURCES

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith
 Miss Helen Duke
 City/County Records

OPEN MONDAY, APRIL 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ten houses in downtown Charlottesville. Block ticket \$10.00, separate admissions, \$2.00. Block tickets are available at all houses. **NO BUSES ON NORTH FIRST STREET AND SECOND STREET N.E.** (North of High Street). Buses park at Christ Church parking lot on North First Street between Jefferson and High Streets.

Historic Christ Church will be open and the women of the Church will serve a light lunch from 11:30 to 2:00 p.m. Advance reservations required for buses. Telephone (804) 296-6201. Christ Church is on High Street between Second Street N.W. and North First Street.



LOCUST GROVE — 810 Locust Avenue. This handsome brick house on a large city lot was built in 1844. Some original outbuildings, including the kitchen and smokehouses, are still standing. On the lawn are boxwood, hollies and a specimen dogwood over 100 years old. For several years the owner has planted the Rivanna Garden Club's test collection of daffodils. Mr. and Mrs. Downing L. Smith, owners.

737 LOCUST AVENUE — Brick Victorian structure begun in the early 1900's. Renovations begun in January, 1979. The totally rebuilt kitchen features stucco walls, old beams, barn red woodwork and cabinets, stenciled floors and walls, and punched tin cabinet doors and lights. Victorian ceiling decoration and classic wood cornices, hand cut stencil decoration highlight the walls and high ceilings throughout the house. The owners are currently re-landscaping the lot, restoring the original garden and ponds, and completing a gazebo. Mr. and Mrs. William H. Conn, owners.

957 LOCUST AVENUE — This brick house is both the home and studio of an interior designer, and shows it is possible to live and work in a rather small area without overlapping of activities. The different rooms serve distinct functions, and are furnished with both contemporary and traditional furniture. Sally Worthington, owner.

605 WATSON AVENUE — The house was built in 1859 as part of the Enderly Estate, and contained the servant quarters and summer kitchen. Originally a rectangle consisting of two rooms over two, the house was increased to its present size during World War I by adding four rooms to the front. The present owners are continuing restoration of the house as well as major landscaping changes. Mr. and Mrs. James L. Camblos, owners.

ENDERLY — **603 WATSON AVENUE** — Built about 1859, Enderly is a typical three storied brick dwelling of the period. There has been little structural change in the building, though the original front stoop was replaced with a porch that extends across the entire front. The house is furnished with antique furniture with emphasis on Early American. It is surrounded by handsome old trees, with plantings of tulips and azaleas. Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Ponton, owners.



KELLER HOUSE — **751 PARK STREET** — This frame Colonial Revival residence is the only one of its kind in the downtown Charlottesville Historic District. The Georgian facade contrasts with picturesque roof treatment. The spacious interior with twin parlors set on either side of a wide hall retains much of its original fabric including a fine open staircase. The dwarf evergreen garden remains colorful throughout the year. Other special perennial gardens emphasize spring and fall bloom. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fishbane, owners.

627 PARK STREET — A traditional house of the Edwardian period, set among a profuse variety of shade and ornamental trees. The handsome fan window over the front entrance and the vertical windows to each side are repeated at the inner doorway. The house is furnished in eclectic fashion combining a gracious tradition of fine antique furniture with notions of contemporary living — the qualities that have made possible the renaissance of downtown Charlottesville's residential district. Mr. A. E. Dick Howard, owner.

MARSHALL-RUCKER HOUSE — **620 PARK STREET** — Late Victorian brick residence built in 1894. The most notable architectural features are five porches representing three building styles and a three-story octagonal tower. The wide gable of the garret is accented by a triple Romanesque arch. The spacious yard contains plantings of native shrubs and trees. An unusual garden beneath a large sugar maple features random paths and borders designed to fit between the large surface roots of the tree. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd T. Smith, Jr., owners.

409 SECOND STREET, N.E. — This two-story weatherboard house built in 1892 was enlarged and extensively renovated in 1975. A new rear wing was added which contains a large modern kitchen with master bedroom suite above. An open deck overlooks the garden which was landscaped by Neil Roberts and contains a treasure of plantings which provide color and beauty from early spring through fall. Extensive use of ground cover makes for easy maintenance. Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Richardson, owners.

521 NORTH FIRST STREET — Residence built in 1859, basically Federalist in form and Greek Revival in style, with unusual Italianate cornice brackets. The house was undoubtedly designed with the help of a builder's handbook. Of particular interest are the large exterior pilasters. The interior has been renovated to reflect the present owners' needs and varied activities. Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Vickery, owners.

MORVEN — **Open Saturday April 18 through Saturday April 25** — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$2. Private estate on Route 627, four miles south of Monticello. A picturesque drive through natural woods of pine, dogwood and redbud leads to the magnificent house, built from plans drawn by Thomas Jefferson. The gardens, superbly restored in 1930 to the original design, are on two terraces with rolling hills and a vista of Monticello in the distance. A charming cottage built in 1796, the old kitchen, carriage house

with collection of horsedens are open. A Virginia Whitney Stone, owner.

LUJ

Box lunches will be served by Church at Ashlawn from 10:00 April 18, through Saturday, April 19, (reservations required for buses.) Telephone 296-7020.

Four houses and garden OPEN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Single admission \$2.00.



THE CURATOR'S HOUSE (Special Garden Week ticket) — The main gate to Monticello, the gardens, grounds, and Monticello in addition to the curator's house. This charming contemporary house on the eastern slope of Monticello offers beautiful views. The spacious floor are furnished with Bear is Daffodil Test Collection. Garden Club. Daffodils, be-ized, abound. There is an herb garden. Residence of Bear, Jr. Thomas Jefferson owner.

SUNNYFIELDS — on Route 627. The present house was the foundations of an earlier original slave quarters are house underwent major alterations of Victorian architectural wing in the back. Restored with the present owner. Collection of Italian contemporary paintings. The grounds feature large trees and a swimming pool. Carabelli, owner.



1 mile from Sunnyfields. In 1755, Tufton remodeled for over 70 years. He added a story-and-a-half. The brick portion which the house was constructed of is typical mid-18th century rooms each, with spacious main rooms are beautifully finished and are charmingly furnished. Grandquist, residents.

Over 1,000 acres, 3.5 miles from the city. The present house is a masterpiece of architecture. The house demands of contemporary design. The house has been given to detail, for rare 18th century architecture. The house has a cutting garden, pool and tennis court with log cabin, fountain garden, and greenhouses. John G. Jones, owner.

OF VIRGINIA

(admission fees) from the Rotunda, (804) 924-7969 or University Hall, \$.25 - bus pass to \$1.50.

Restored by The Garden Society from Historic Garden Week. Tours available.

Local and Virginia Historic

Open, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Professor and Mrs. David

Dr. and Mrs. William H.

OPEN TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
PAVILION I - West Lawn, Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Crispell
PAVILION IX - West Lawn, Dr. and Mrs. Norman J. Knorr

OPEN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
PAVILION II - East Lawn, Professor and Mrs. Edwin E. Floyd
PAVILION VI - East Lawn, Professor and Mrs. Robert D. Cross

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, - Candlelight Tour of Lawn, 7 to 9:30 p.m. Leaving South Portico of the Rotunda every 15 minutes. Student guides in 19th century costumes.

OPEN FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
CARR'S HILL - Corner of Rugby Road and University Avenue. Home of President and Mrs. Frank L. Hereford, Jr.

MOREA - 214 Sprigg Lane, off Emmet Street. Built in 1835 by John Patten Emmet, one of the first professors chosen by Mr. Jefferson for the University of Virginia. The spacious brick house was given to the University as a residence for distinguished visitors. There is a beautifully landscaped botanical collection started by the Albemarle Garden Club in 1964. It consists of flowering native trees and shrubs as well as many beautiful hybrid lilacs, tree peonies and spring bulbs. House and garden open. Present occupants are The Honorable Richard Parker, diplomat in residence and Mrs. Parker.

LAWN ROOMS: West Lawn - Number 27, Catherine Powers; Number 55, Art Coleman
 East Lawn - Number 18, Scott Blackwell; Number 50, Leslie Eliason

OTHER AREA PLACES OF HISTORIC INTEREST
 OPEN DAILY

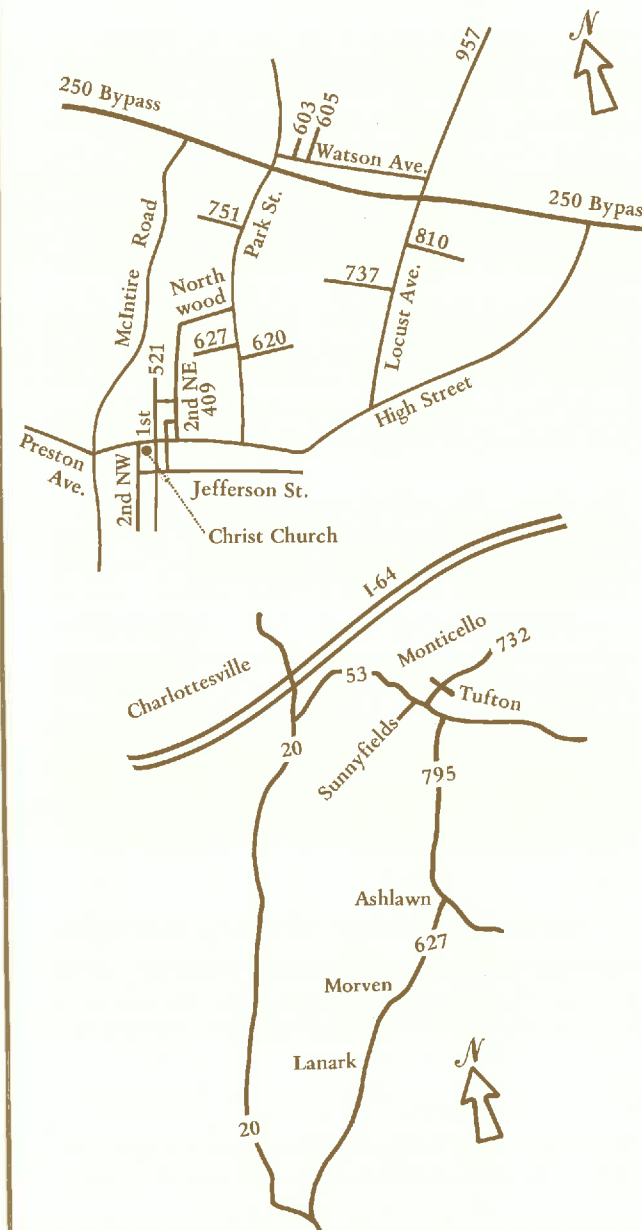
MONTICELLO - Home of Thomas Jefferson - Route 53.
HISTORIC MICHIE TAVERN - Route 53.
ASHLAWN - Home of James Monroe - Route 795.
CASTLE HILL - Home of Dr. Thomas Walker - Route 231.

INFORMATION CENTERS
Western Virginia Bicentennial Center
 Route 20 South and Interstate 64
 Charlottesville, 22902 - (804) 977-1793

Chamber of Commerce
 Commonwealth Building
 Preston Avenue and McIntire Road
 Charlottesville, 22901 - (804) 295-3141

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK
Charlottesville-Albemarle County
 Information and Advance Sales: Mrs. Linton R. Massey,
 Kinloch, Keswick, VA 22947; Telephone (804) 296-6201

Chairmen:
 Mrs. Harry T. Marshall, (804) 296-9418
 Mrs. Frederick E. Nolting, (804) 295-3869



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Historic Garden Week
CHARLOTTESVILLE
ALBEMARLE
 1981



MARSHALL-RUCKER HOUSE

Tours sponsored by: Albemarle Garden Club, Charlottesville Garden Club, Rivanna Garden Club. To benefit The Garden Club of Virginia Restorations.