From: Scala, Mary Joy

**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 2:54 PM **To:** Megan Phillippe (megan@profile-ai.com)

Subject: BAR Action - 500 PArk Street - May 16, 2017

May 18, 2017

Megan Phillippe 302 Park Street, Suite 300 Charlottesville, VA 22902

RE: Preliminary Discussion
BAR 17-05-02
500 Park Street
Tax Parcel 530131000 and 530131100
First Presbyterian Church of Charlottesville, Owner/ Megan Phillippe, Applicant Proposed new addition and parking area

#### Dear Applicant:

The above referenced projects were discussed before a meeting of the City of Charlottesville Board of Architectural Review (BAR) on May 16, 2017. The following action was taken:

The BAR had a preliminary discussion so no action was taken. There was a strong preference for Option #1 among BAR members. There was a strong preference not to expand the parking in the proposed location on the knoll. The playground expansion could work, provided street trees along Maple Street are not disturbed. There was a suggestion to look at terracing the playground. Other individual suggestions were: to look at the site plan carefully; to explore adding the addition on the north side; use valet parking for HC persons; put playground where parking was proposed; prepare a site section; don't conceal the historical evolution of the building; parking lot would require a strong landscape plan (but site planning more important); move parking lot away from Park Street; review the guidelines for additions and for parking lots.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 434-970-3130 or scala@charlottesville.org.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Joy Scala, AICP
Preservation and Design Planner

Mary Joy Scala, AICP

Preservation and Design Planner
City of Charlottesville
Department of Neighborhood Development Services
City Hall – 610 East Market Street
P.O. Box 911
Charlottesville, VA 22902
Ph 434.970.3130 FAX 434.970.3359
scala@charlottesville.org

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW STAFF REPORT May 16, 2017



Preliminary Discussion
BAR 17-05-02
500 Park Street
Tax Parcel 530131000 and 530131100
First Presbyterian Church of Charlottesville, Owner/ Megan Phillippe, Applicant Proposed new addition and parking area

### **Background**

The First Presbyterian Church and adjoining Carriage House are contributing structures in the North Downtown ADC District. When the neo-classical church was constructed in 1955 (designed by Stainback & Scribner), three significant 19th century structures were demolished. The carriage house is a surviving outbuilding from that time period. (Historic Survey attached)

<u>July 21, 2009</u> - The BAR approved (8-0) the application for a wood bench as submitted with the contingency that the finish shall be white or light paint.

<u>December 21, 2010</u> - The BAR approved (7-0) the applicant's request to defer consideration of five streetlights. The BAR approved (6-1 with Hogg against) removal of 3 of the 4 trees requested, excluding the healthy hemlock located at the SW corner of the church portico.

<u>April 17, 2012</u>- The BAR approved (6-1 with Knight against) the applicants changes to the Memorial garden including the removal of several plants, installation of lighting, replacement of benches, and planting of tree. The BAR requested dark sky compliant lighting reconsideration of the species of the proposed tree.

#### **Application**

The applicant is requesting a preliminary discussion for the addition of a new parking lot area and building addition. The applicant has brought 3 options for the addition:

- 1) A new fellowship hall on Park Street, a rear addition with elevator, and addition to the courtyard
- 2) A rear addition with elevator and connector hallway between the buildings
- 3) A new fellowship hall in the courtyard, rear addition with elevator, and the addition of classrooms and offices in the courtyard

#### Criteria, Standards, and Guidelines

#### **Review Criteria Generally**

Sec. 34-284(b) of the City Code states that.

In considering a particular application the BAR shall approve the application unless it finds:

- (1) That the proposal does not meet specific standards set forth within this division or applicable provisions of the Design Guidelines established by the board pursuant to Sec.34-288(6); and
- (2) The proposal is incompatible with the historic, cultural or architectural character of the district in which the property is located or the protected property that is the subject of the application.

#### Pertinent Standards for Review of Construction and Alterations include:

- (1) Whether the material, texture, color, height, scale, mass and placement of the proposed addition, modification or construction are visually and architecturally compatible with the site and the applicable design control district;
- (2) The harmony of the proposed change in terms of overall proportion and the size and placement of entrances, windows, awnings, exterior stairs and signs;
- (3) The Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation set forth within the Code of Federal Regulations (36 C.F.R. §67.7(b)), as may be relevant;
- (4) The effect of the proposed change on the historic district neighborhood;
- (5) The impact of the proposed change on other protected features on the property, such as gardens, landscaping, fences, walls and walks;
- (6) Whether the proposed method of construction, renovation or restoration could have an adverse impact on the structure or site, or adjacent buildings or structures;
- (8) Any applicable provisions of the City's Design Guidelines.

### Pertinent Design Review Guidelines for New Construction and Additions

#### P. Additions

Many of the smaller commercial and other business buildings may be enlarged as development pressure increases in downtown Charlottesville and along West Main Street. These existing structures may be increased in size by constructing new additions on the rear or side or in some cases by carefully adding on extra levels above the current roof. The design of new additions on all elevations that are prominently visible should follow the guidelines for new construction as described earlier in this section. Several other considerations that are specific to new additions in the historic districts are listed below:

#### 1. Function and Size

- a. Attempt to accommodate needed functions within the existing structure without building an addition.
- b. Limit the size of the addition so that it does not visually overpower the exisiting building.

#### 2. Location

- a. Attempt to locate the addition on rear or side elevations that are not visible from the street.
- b. If additional floors are constructed on top of a building, set the addition back from the main façade so that its visual impact is minimized.
- c. If the addition is located on a primary elevation facing the street or if a rear addition faces a street, parking area, or an important pedestrian route, the façade of the addition should be treated under the new construction guidelines.

#### 3. Design

- a. New additions should not destroy historic materials that characterize the property.
- b. The new work should be differentiated from the old and should be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

#### 4. Replication of Style

- a. A new addition should not be an exact copy of the design of the existing historic building. The design of new additions can be compatible with and respectful of existing buildings without being a mimicry of their original design.
- b. If the new addition appears to be part of the existing building, the integrity of the original historic design is compromised and the viewer is confused over what is historic and what is new.

#### 5. Materials and Features

a. Use materials, windows, doors, architectural detailing, roofs, and colors that are compatible with historic buildings in the district.

- 6. Attachment to Existing Building
  - a. Wherever possible, new additions or alterations to existing buildings should be done in such a manner that, if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the buildings would be unimpaired.
- b. The new design should not use the same wall plane, roof line, or cornice line of the existing structure.

### Pertinent Design Review Guidelines for Site Design and Elements

#### B. PLANTINGS

Plantings are a critical part of the historic appearance of the residential sections of Charlottesville's historic districts. The character of the plantings often changes within each district's sub-areas as well as from district to district. Many properties have extensive plantings in the form of trees, foundation plantings, shrub borders, and flowerbeds. Plantings are limited in commercial areas due to minimal setbacks.

- 1. Encourage the maintenance and planting of large trees on private property along the streetfronts, which contribute to the "avenue" effect.
- 2. Generally, use trees and plants that are compatible with the existing plantings in the neighborhood.
- 3. Use trees and plants that are indigenous to the area.
- 4. Retain existing trees and plants that help define the character of the district, especially street trees and hedges.
- 5. Replace diseased or dead plants with like or similar species if appropriate.
- 6. When constructing new buildings, identify and take care to protect significant existing trees and other plantings.
- 7. Choose ground cover plantings that are compatible with adjacent sites, existing site conditions, and the character of the building.
- 8. Select mulching and edging materials carefully and do not use plastic edgings, lava, crushed rock, unnaturally colored mulch or other historically unsuitable materials.

#### C. WALLS AND FENCES

There is a great variety of fences and low retaining walls in Charlottesville's historic districts, particularly the historically residential areas. While most rear yards and many side yards have some combination of fencing and landscaped screening, the use of such features in front yards varies. Materials may relate to materials used on the structures on the site and may include brick, stone, wrought iron, wood pickets, or concrete.

- 1. Maintain existing materials such as stone walls, hedges, wooden picket fences, and wrought-iron fences.
- 2. When a portion of a fence needs replacing, salvage original parts for a prominent location.
- 3. Match old fencing in material, height, and detail.
- 4. If it is not possible to match old fencing, use a simplified design of similar materials and height.
- 5. For new fences, use materials that relate to materials in the neighborhood.
- 6. Take design cues from nearby historic fences and walls.
- 7. Chain-link fencing, split rail fences, and vinyl plastic fences should not be used.
- 8. Traditional concrete block walls may be appropriate.
- 9. Modular block wall systems or modular concrete block retaining walls are strongly discouraged but may be appropriate in areas not visible from the public right-of-way.
- 10. If street-front fences or walls are necessary or desirable, they should not exceed four (4) feet in height from the sidewalk or public right-of-way and should use traditional materials and design.
- 11) Residential privacy fences may be appropriate in side or rear yards where not visible from the primary street.

- 12) Fences should not exceed six (6) feet in height in the side and rear yards.
- 13) Fence structures should face the inside of the fenced property.
- 14) Relate commercial privacy fences to the materials of the building. If the commercial property adjoins a residential neighborhood, use a brick or painted wood fence or heavily planted screen as a buffer.
- 15) Avoid the installation of new fences or walls if possible in areas where there are no are no fences or walls and yards are open.
- 16) Retaining walls should respect the scale, materials and context of the site and adjacent properties.
- 17) Respect the existing conditions of the majority of the lots on the street in planning new construction or a rehabilitation of an existing site.

#### F. PARKING AREAS & LOTS

Most of the parking areas in the downtown consist of public or private surface lots or parking decks. Along West Main Street, Wertland Street, and the Corner, some larger lots have parking areas contained within the individual site.

- 1. If new parking areas are necessary, construct them so that they reinforce the street wall of buildings and the grid system of rectangular blocks in commercial areas.
- 2. Locate parking lots behind buildings.
- 3. Screen parking lots from streets, sidewalks, and neighboring sites through the use of walls, trees, and plantings of a height and type appropriate to reduce the visual impact year-round.
- 4. Avoid creating parking areas in the front yards of historic building sites.
- 5. Avoid excessive curb cuts to gain entry to parking areas.
- 6. Avoid large expanses of asphalt.
- 7. On large lots, provide interior plantings and pedestrian walkways.
- 8. Provide screening from adjacent land uses as needed.
- 9. Install adequate lighting in parking areas to provide security in evening hours.
- 10. Select lighting fixtures that are appropriate to a historic setting.

#### **Discussion and Recommendations**

Option 1: Proposes a new Fellowship Hall to be constructed on the public face of Park Street between the Sanctuary and Chapel. This allows a more direct connection between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. All the existing offices would move to a new two story addition that would be constructed in the existing courtyard at the back of the building that faces the parking lot. The new elevator would be located in the new three story addition and would allow a more direct connection to the sanctuary and classrooms. A new, separate entrance off 7th Street is proposed for the preschool.

Option 2: Proposes a new three story elevator addition at the end of the existing choir room area. A new hallway would be added onto the first-floor level to create a link between the classroom and sanctuary wings.

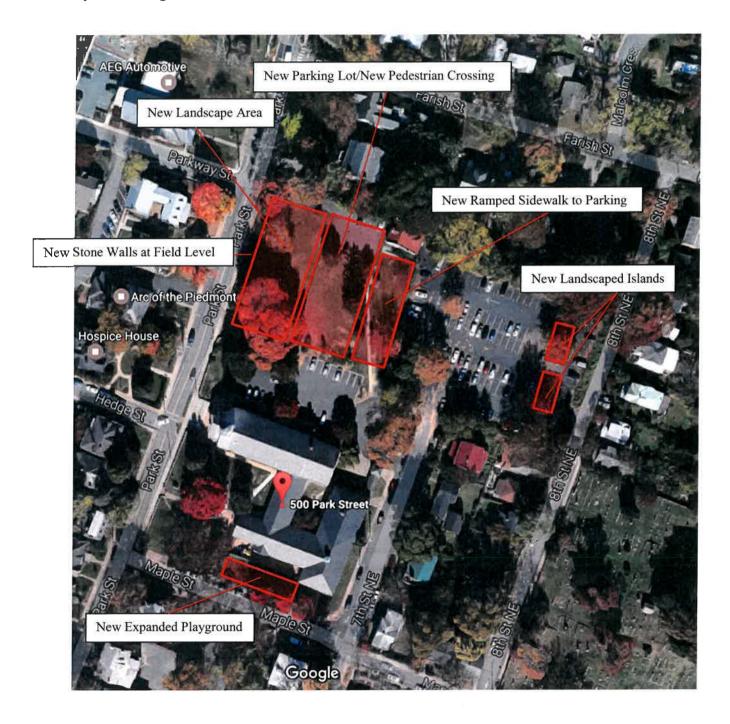
Option 3: Proposes a two-story central Fellowship Hall in the existing internal courtyard, so it is virtually invisible from Park Street. Large skylights, that would not be visible above the existing roofline, would add more lighting from above. This includes the same new components described in Option 1, a two-story addition in the back existing courtyard and a new three story elevator addition would be the same.

Site Study (attached picture): One Site Option was also included to look at expanding the upper parking lot for more handicapped and accessible parking areas. The existing handicapped entrance is located at the sanctuary level. Some alternate pedestrian walkway options are also suggested to get people safely from the lower to upper parking lots. The recessed preschool play area was also

drawn in all options to include an expansion that would double its current size (in the same location, just move the retaining wall out closer to Maple Street).

This is a preliminary discussion and does not require a motion. The BAR should look at each addition option, and then discuss the site plan separately.

The applicant should clarify: What are the goals of each addition? How will loss of open/green space be mitigated?



# LANDMARK



# SURVEY

### IDENTIFICATION

500 Park Street Street Address:

Map and Parcel: 53-123

Census Track & Block: 3-416

Present Owner: Presbyterian Church of Ch'ville.

Address . 500 Park Street

Present Use:

House of Worship

Original Owner:

First Presbyterian Church

Original Use:

House of Worship

### BASE DATA

Historic Name:

First Presbyterian Church

Date/Period:

1955

Style:

Colonial Revival

Height to Cornice:

Height in Stories: 1

Present Zoning:

Land Area (sq.ft.): 170  $\times$  270

Assessed Value (land + imp.): 28,000 + 255,960 = 283,960

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The First Presbyterian Church is a 1955 Neo-Georgian church based on James Gibbs' 1722 masterpiece St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. Unlike Wren's churches with the adjunct steeple, Gibbs unified the plan and placed the spire at the west end of the church between the portico and the nave. The plan remains a classic to this day. Large, circular headed windows link the sanctuary with the educational wing to the south. The brickwork is very fine and the structure is nicely integrated with its site.

## HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

In 1819 the Presbyterians of Charlottesville and the neighboring district joined together to form the South Plains Presbyterian Church. The church lacked regular ministerial services until 1824 when the Rev. Francis Bowman, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, became the pastor. He resided at 416 Park St. Their first Meeting House was built on the southeast corner of Market and 2nd St. N.E. in 1827. In 1856 this structure was replaced with a Gothic Revival building. In 1898 the congregation moved to a new building on the southwest corner of Market and 2nd St., N.E. In 1951 the church secured the John Kelly and Drury Wood property on Park St. with construction commencing in 1955. The decision to locate on Park St. resulted in the destruction of 3 architecturally and historically significant 19th century structures and an interruption of the residential scale and rhythm of the neighborhood. The local architectural firm of Stainback & Scribner designed the Neo-Georgian Church

GRAPHICS

CONDITIONS

SOURCES

Good

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City Records First Presbyterian Church Annaul Report, 1973

### Scala, Mary Joy

From:

Frances Walton <mfhwalton@earthlink.net>

Sent:

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 8:32 AM

Cc:

Scala, Mary Joy

Subject:

Preliminary Discussion BAR 17-05-02

#### Dear BAR Members:

We are very concerned to learn that a new parking lot is sought near our front yard property line and close to Park Street.

We have lived with the following problems with the current parking lot in front of the church's carriage house at the rear corner of the lot for some time and worry about doubling the impacts:

Liquor and beer bottles thrown into our yard by people socializing on the parking lot in front of the carriage house especially when homeless accommodations are being provided by the church at the carriage house.

Headlights shining into our windows as cars park oriented to the north and our property line.

Motorcycles being started up late at night after social gatherings end.

Extensive damage to the retaining wall holding up the earth in front of the carriage house when snow was vigorously plowed from the parking lot onto our property.

Our personal concerns aside, we hope that the BAR will strongly question pavement and parked cars in plain view in one of our historic neighborhoods. We believe parking is more suited to areas around the church building itself or in the huge lot between the carriage house and Eighth Street.

Respectfully,

William B. & Mary Frances Walton 532 Park St Charlottesville, VA. 22902 (434) 293-9990

cc: Mary Joy Scala

# RECEIVED

APR 25 2017

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**



# **Board of Architectural Review (BAR)** Certificate of Appropriateness Please Return To: City of Charlottesville

Department of Neighborhood Development Services

P.O. Box 911, City Hall

Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Telephone (434) 970-3130

Email scala@charlottesville.org

Please submit ten (10) hard copies and one (1) digital copy of application form and all attachments. Please include application fee as follows: New construction project \$375; Demolition of a contributing structure \$375; Appeal of BAR decision \$125; Additions and other projects requiring BAR approval \$125; Administrative approval \$100. Make checks payable to the City of Charlottesville.

The BAR meets the third Tuesday of the month.

Deadline for submittals is Tuesday 3 weeks prior to next BAR meeting by 3:30 p.m.

•	
Owner Name First Presbytanen Church of Charle Applicant Name Negan Philippe, PROFILE AI  Project Name/Description First Presbytanen Church Parcel Number 5312300 53131100	
Project Name/Description Filst Presbyting Ch	Parcel Number 53/2300
Project Property Address 500 Purk St. Chanotheville, VA 22902.	
Applicant Information	Signature of Applicant
Address: 302 Park St Suitu 300 Charlotte Alle, VA 22902 Email: megan & postile - ai com Phone: (W) 424-944-4000(C) 317-408-7168	7 0
Property Owner Information (if not applicant)	MELAN PHILLIPPE 4/24/1 Print Name Date
Address: 500 Park St.  Charlotts alle VA 2.2902  Email: Info & first prescharlethanlle. org  Phone: (W) 434-296-7131 (C)  Do you intend to apply for Federal or State Tax Credits for this project?	Property Owner Permission (if not applicant) I have read this application and hereby give my consent to its submission.  Signature  David Forney  Print Name  Date
Description of Proposed Work (attach separate narrative if necessary): Preliminary Discussion of Muster Plan Option - proposed new parking little	
List All Attachments (see reverse side for submittal requirements):	
For Office Use Only  Received by: A. Barriou  Fee paid: \$375° Cash/Ck. #) 21967  Date Received: 4 25 3017  Revised 2016  P17 - 0064	Approved/Disapproved by:  Date:  Conditions of approval:



5 May 17

### **BAR NARRATIVE**

#### Dear Board of Architectural Review.

We have been working with First Presbyterian Church for over a year now to develop some conceptual master plan concepts. We were advised to have a preliminary discussion in order to determine if any of our concepts were potentially problematic to the BAR. These options are described below:

### Option 1: Fellowship Hall on Park Street

This option proposes a new Fellowship Hall (with storage area on the lower level below) to be constructed on the public face of Park Street between the Sanctuary and Chapel. This orientation would allow a more direct connection between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall to be created. All the existing offices would move to a new two story addition that would be constructed in the existing courtyard at the back of the building that faces the parking lot. The new elevator would be located in the new three story addition and would allow a more direct connection to the sanctuary and classrooms. A new, separate entrance off 7<sup>th</sup> Street is proposed for the preschool.

#### **Option 2: Elevator Addition**

This most simplified scheme proposes a new three story elevator addition at the end of the existing choir room area. A lounge is suggested on the lowest level, adjacent to the courtyard, to create a more welcoming area to enter the elevator. A new hallway would be added onto the first-floor level to create a link between the classroom and sanctuary wings.

#### Option 3: Central Fellowship Hall

Option 3 proposes a two-story central Fellowship Hall in the existing internal courtyard, so it is virtually invisible from Park Street. Large skylights, that would not be visible above the existing roofline, would add more lighting from above. The same new components described in Option 1, a two-story addition in the back existing courtyard and a new three story elevator addition would be similar.

#### Site Study:

One Site Option was also included to look at expanding the upper parking lot for more handicapped and accessible parking areas. The existing handicapped entrance is located at the sanctuary level. Some alternate pedestrian walkway options are also suggested to get people safely from the lower to upper parking lots. The recessed preschool play area was also drawn in all options to include an expansion that would double its current size (in the same location, just move the retaining wall out closer to Maple Street).

We look forward to reviewing these concepts with you at the May meeting and in the meantime, we hope you will reach out if you have any concerns or questions on these options. We assume that stylistically we must stay in keeping with the existing architectural style, but would like to hear your thoughts as a board on how adding modern elements to a significant historical building has been successful in the past. Also, we should conclude our summary with a reiteration that these design options are still in a very schematic stage. Thank you again for your consideration and help in this process.

SINCERELY,

Mayon They

MEGAN PHILLIPPE AIA. NCIDQ

NATALIE FEAVER, AIA, LEED AP

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# BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Preliminary Discussion dated 25 April 2017 for

# First Presbyterian Church

500 Park Street Charlottesville, VA 22902



Submitted by

# PROFILE AI

302 Park Street, Suite 300 Charlottesville, VA 22902 www.profile-ai.com [P] 434.244.4660

# SECTION ONE: DEPICTION OF PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN OPTIONS

Existing Conditions Aerial





view from Park Street Entrance



view from Park & Maple Streets

## Park Street Fellowship Hall Aerial





view from Park Street Entrance - no change

- •New Fellowship Hall proposed on Park Street
- •New Three Story addition, including elevator
- •New Addition at Existing Courtyard, including new classrooms and offices



view from Park & Maple Streets

### New Elevator Addition





view from Park Street Entrance

- •New Three Story addition, including elevator
- •New Connector Hallway from Sanctuary to Education Wing



view from Park & Maple Streets - no change

### New Central Addition





view from Park Street Entrance

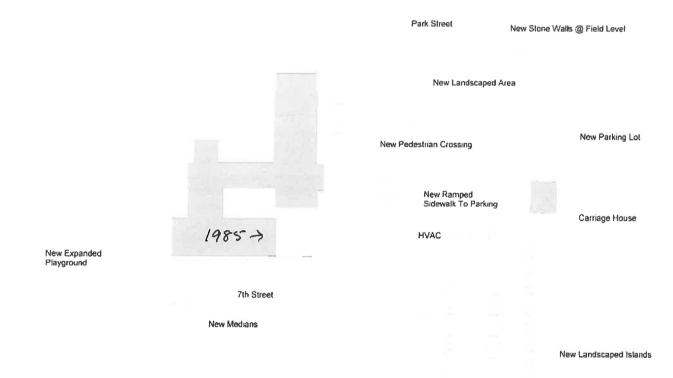
- •New Fellowship Hall proposed in central courtyard
- •New Three Story addition, including elevator
- •New Addition at Existing Courtyard, including new classrooms and offices



view from Park & Maple Streets - no change

# SECTION ONE: DEPICTION OF PROPOSED SITE PLAN CONCEPT

New Upper Parking Lot



Existing Park Street facade



Existing Maple and 7th Street facade



Existing Park Street Entry



Existing Carriage House



Existing Courtyard View - 7th Street



Existing View from Lower Parking Lot





 Boyle Bain Reback & Slayton Law Offices - 420 Park Street



• Anchor Health Properties 425 7th Street NE



• Tarleton Square Apartments 701 E High St (corner of Maple & 7th)



• Residence = 701 Maple Street



Residence - 506 7th Street NE



Residence - 508 7th Street NE



• Residence - 520 7th Street NE



• Residence - 532 Park Street



• Office Buildings - 421 Park Street (Law, Therapy, Photography, Architects)



 ILEX Contractors - 433 Park Street & Haugh & Haugh, Attornies at Law - 435 Park Street



• Hospice House - 501 Park Street & Arc of the Piedmont -509 Park Street



- James Foundation Social Services 517 Park Street
- & Apartment Building 601 Park Street

# SECTION FOUR:

## HISTORY OF THE EXISTING BUILDING

On November 22, 1954, the congregation of the Charlottesville Presbyterian Church gave its approval to construct a new Colonial Revival church on property the Church had acquired in 1950, the northeast corner of Park and Maple Streets. The new church was designed with a seating capacity of 620 in the sanctuary and 140 seats in the balcony by architects Stainback and Scribner. Three hundred members of the Church attended the ground breaking ceremony on November 28, 1955.

On October 25, 1964, the congregation voted to purchase the Haden property adjoining the Church on the north. The parcel included 2.29 acres with 200 feet on Park Street and running back to 8th Street. The rear part was later improved and turned into a parking lot. The original house dating from 1845, was a large Victorian style that the church demolished in 1969, but the carriage house was spared. In 2002, after many years of neglect, the carriage house was transformed into usable space for various programs. The carriage house is one of only two such structures remaining in the City of Charlottesville and must be maintained with historical integrity.

At a congregational meeting on June 2, 1985, it was agreed to construct a 4,000 square-foot addition to the educational wing of the Church. Also included were projects to air condition the entire church facility, refurbish the existing building, and to provide for mission aid and outreach. On August 25, 1986, the ground was broken for this new 4,000 square-foot addition at the back of the church facing 7th Street. The addition was designed by VMDO Architects.

In 2002, the north entry pavilion was added to the Sanctuary to provide a better accessible entrance from the Park Street parking lot.

(Information obtained from "The History of the First Presbyterian Church Charlottesville, Virginia" by Robert E. Simpson)



Cornerstone Installation, 1955



During Construction, 1956



Educational Wing Construction, 1987



Carriage House Opening, 2002



North Entry, 2002