

Certificate of Appropriateness
BAR #HST25-0053
500 Park Street, TMP 530123000
North Downtown ADC District
Owner: First Presbyterian Church of Charlottesville, Inc
Applicant: Richard Lutz
Project: Playground fence

The CoA for the above referenced project was approved by the City of Charlottesville Board of Architectural Review on January 22, 2025. The following action was taken:

Mr. Bailey moved to approve the consent agenda, and this was seconded by Ms. Lewis. Please note that approval of the consent agenda results in approval of the following:

Having considered the standards set forth within the City Code, including the ADC District Design Guidelines, I move to find the proposed fence at 500 Park Street satisfies the BAR's criteria and is compatible with this property and other properties in this ADC District, and that the BAR approves the application as submitted.

Motion: Mr. Bailey **Second:** Ms. Lewis **Vote:** 7-0

For specifics of the discussion, the meeting video is on-line at:
<https://boxcast.tv/channel/vabajtzeuuyv3iclkx1a?b=smalwch0nzfeo4l9idjm>

Per the provisions of City Code, this CoA is valid for 18 months from the date of BAR approval; upon written request and for reasonable cause, the director of NDS or the BAR may extend that period by one year; and this CoA does not, in and of itself, authorize any work or activity that requires a building permit or compliance with other provisions of the City Code.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Jeff Werner (wernerjb@charlottesville.gov).

Sincerely,
Kate



Kate Richardson
Historic Preservation & Design Planner II
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City of Charlottesville
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City of Charlottesville
Board of Architectural Review
Staff Report
January 22, 2025



Certificate of Appropriateness Application

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Background

Year Built: 1954 (Fellowship Hall 8th Street constructed in 1986)
District: North Downtown ADC District
Status: Contributing

First Presbyterian Church is designed in the Colonial Revival style and based on James Gibbs' 1722 Saint Martin-in-the-Fields in London.

Prior BAR Reviews (Also listed under 506 Park St)
(See Appendix)

Application

- Submittal: *Playground Fence*, undated with narrative, plan, and photographs.

CoA request for installation of a 5-ft tall, metal fence at the southeast corner playground. (Corner of Maple Street and 8th Street, NE.)

Discussion and Recommendations

Black, metal fences are common in this district. The design is consistent with other new fences approved in the district. Staff recommends approval as submitted.

Suggested Motion

Approval [with approval of the consent agenda]: Having considered the standards set forth within the City Code, including the ADC District Design Guidelines, I move to find the proposed

fence at 500 Park Street satisfies the BAR's criteria and is compatible with this property and other properties in this ADC District, and that the BAR approves the application as submitted.

Criteria, Standards and Guidelines of the City Code, under Major Historic Review

Note re: BAR authority: Per Code, the BAR is charged only with the authority to approve or deny a design review CoA, following an evaluation applying the criteria under Code Sec. 34-5.2.7. *Major Historic Review*. The BAR does not evaluate a proposed use. Additionally, per Code Sec. 34-5.2.7.E.2., the issuance of a CoA "cannot, in and of itself, authorize any construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, demolition, or other improvements or activities requiring a building permit. Where a building permit is required, no activity authorized by a [CoA] is lawful unless conducted in accordance with the required building permit and all applicable building code requirements."

Review Criteria Generally

Per Chapter 34, Div. 5.2.7. C.2:

- a. In considering a particular application the BAR will approve the application unless it finds:
 - i. That the proposal does not meet specific standards set forth within this Section or applicable provisions of the City's design guidelines; and
 - ii. The proposal is incompatible with the historic, cultural or architectural character of the district in which the property is located or the IPP that is the subject of the application.
- b. The BAR will approve, approve with conditions, or deny applications for Certificates of Appropriateness in accordance with the provisions of this Section.
- c. The BAR, or City Council on appeal, may require conditions of approval as are necessary or desirable to ensure that any new construction or addition is compatible with the scale and character of the Architecture Design Control District, Individually Protected Property, or Historic Conservation District. Prior to attaching conditions to an approval, due consideration will be given to the cost of compliance with the proposed conditions as well as the goals of the Comprehensive Plan. Conditions may require a reduction in height or massing, consistent with the City's design guidelines and subject to the following limitations: [not germane to this request.]

Standards for Review and Decision

Per Chapter 34, Div. 5.2.7. D.1:

- a. Review of the proposed construction, reconstruction, alteration or restoration of a building or structure is limited to exterior architectural features, including signs, and the following features and factors:
 - i. 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 District;
 - ii. The harmony of the proposed change in terms of overall proportion and the size and placement of entrances, windows, awnings, exterior stairs, and signs;
 - iii. 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;
 - iv. The effect of the proposed change on the adjacent building or structures;

- v. The impact of the proposed change on other protected features on the property, such as gardens, landscaping, fences, walls, and walks;
- vi. Whether the proposed method of construction, renovation, or restoration could have an adverse impact on the structure or site, or adjacent buildings or structures;
- vii. When reviewing any proposed sign as part of an application under consideration, the standards set forth within Div. 4.11. Signs will be applied; and
- viii. Any applicable provisions of the City's design guidelines.

Pertinent ADC District Design Guidelines

Link: [Chapter 2 Site Design and Elements](#)

Pertinent Guidelines for Site Design and Elements

C. Walls and Fences

[...]

- 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.

[...]

12) Fences should not exceed six (6) feet in height in the side and rear yards.

Appendix

July 21, 2009 - BAR approved a wood bench, to be white or light paint.

December 21, 2010 - BAR approved requested deferral re: of five streetlights. BAR approved removal of three trees, excluding hemlock located at the SW corner of the church portico.

April 17, 2012- BAR approved 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.

March 19, 2019 – BAR approved CoA for entrance and ADA ramp at Fellowship Hall.

June 2019 – BAR approved CoA for modifications to ADA entrance at east elevation.

July 2020 – BAR approved CoA for three-story addition to the Fellowship Hall, including new terrace and modifications to driveway. Renovate west elevation of Gathering Hall:

March 16, 2021 - BAR approved CoA (amending July 2020 plan) to enclose existing arcade, construct hyphen, construct elevator tower, raze the concrete plaza, revised landscaping plan.

March 28, 2023 – BAR approved requested deferral re: memorial garden.

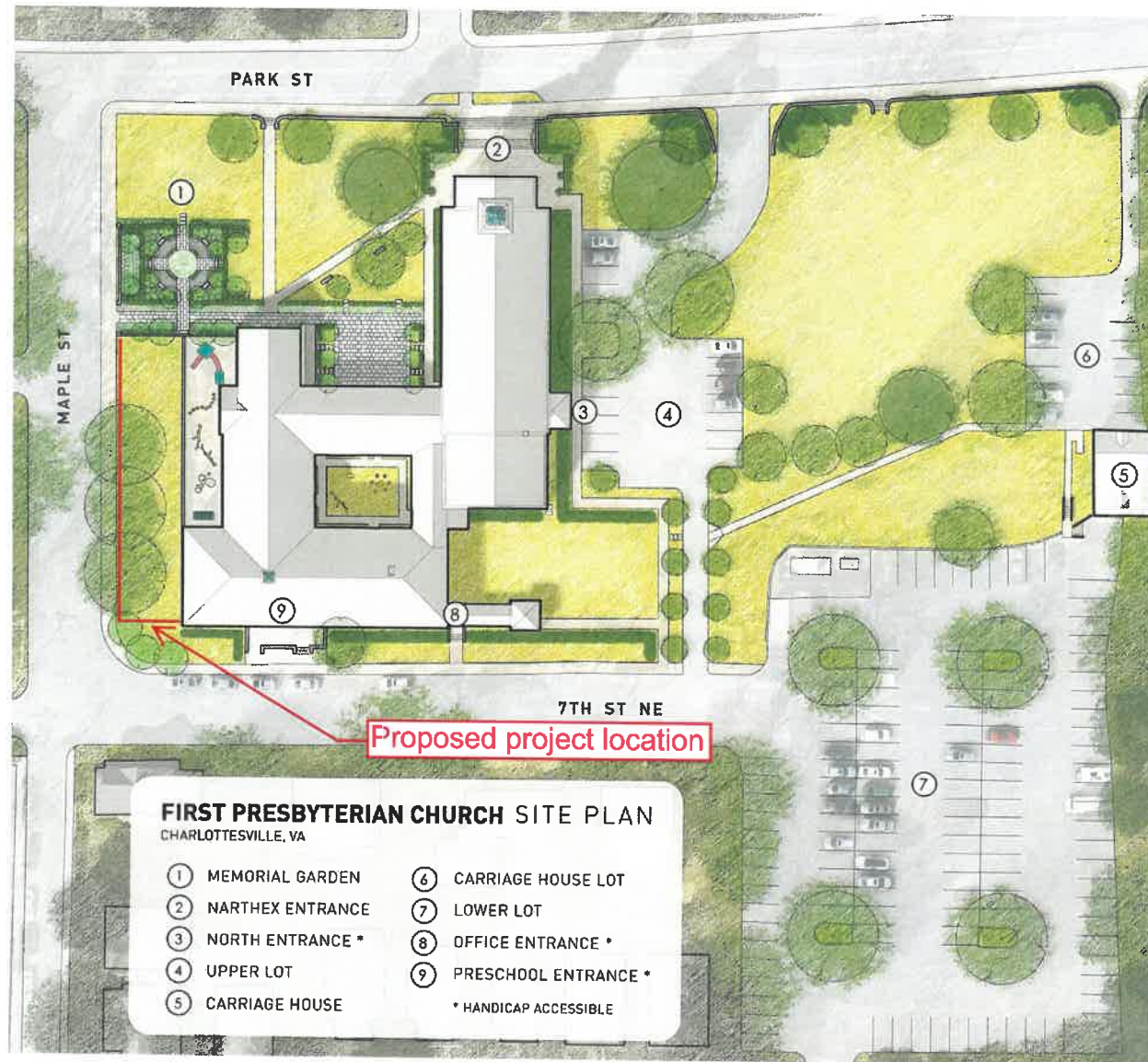
April 18, 2023 – BAR approved alterations to memorial garden tree replacement plan.

Board of Architectural Review Certificate of Appropriateness Application

Playground Fence
First Presbyterian Church
500 Park Street
Charlottesville, VA 22902

First Presbyterian Church Playground Fence

- First Presbyterian Church seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Board of Architectural Review to fence a portion of the church property and expand the outdoor play area to be utilized by the church preschool and Sunday School attendees.
- The area to be fenced runs along the Maple Street sidewalk beginning at an existing brick wall and continuing eastward towards 7th Street NE where the fence turns northward and terminates at the end of the church preschool.
- The fence will be 5 feet in height and constructed of black aluminum. A gate will be located on the northern section of the fence.
- The fence will be similar in appearance to many other metal fences located along Park Street, Farish Street and Lyon Court.



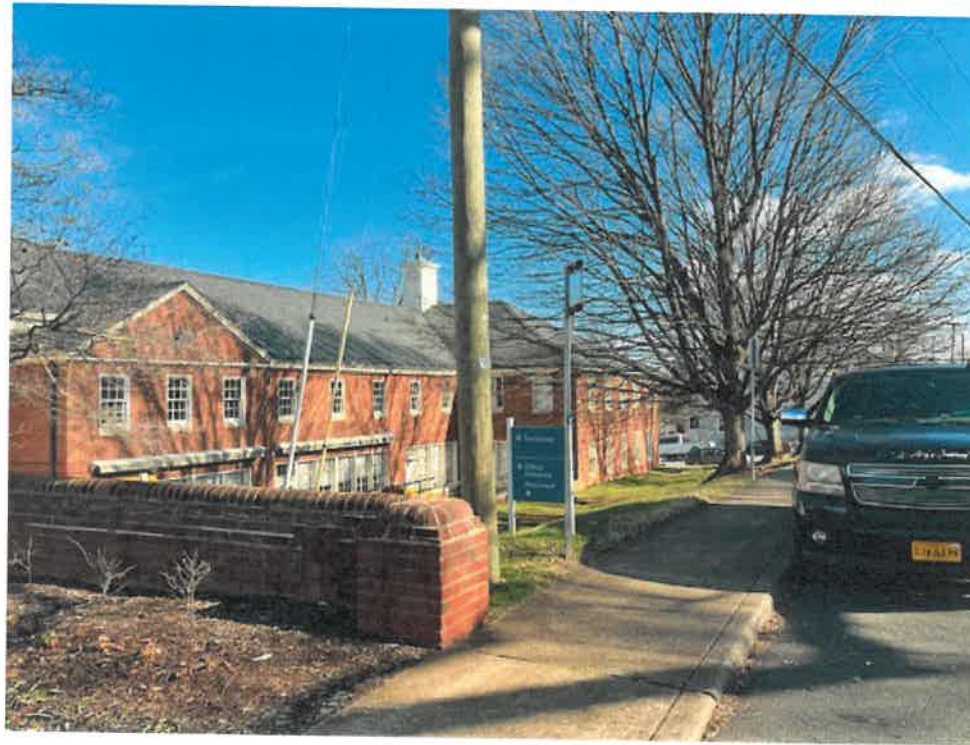
Site plan showing the layout of the playground area. Key features include:

- Sidewalk**: Located along the top and bottom edges of the area.
- Grass**: Areas labeled "GRASS" are shown on the left and bottom.
- Brick Wall**: A section of the brick wall is shown in the center.
- Brick Structure**: A circular brick structure is located on the left side.
- Proposed Gate Location**: Indicated by a red arrow and a red box near the top right corner.
- Proposed Fence Location**: Indicated by a red arrow and a red box near the bottom right corner.
- Dimensions and Bearings**: Various measurements are provided, including:
 - Top boundary: $FF=495.0$, $145.8'$
 - Left boundary: $N 21'23'13'' E 67.24'$
 - Bottom boundary: $N 68'37'54'' W 244.91'$
 - Right boundary: $A=38.05'$, $R=24.00'$, $D90'50'26''$
 - Internal dimensions: 494 , 492 , 490 , 488 , 486

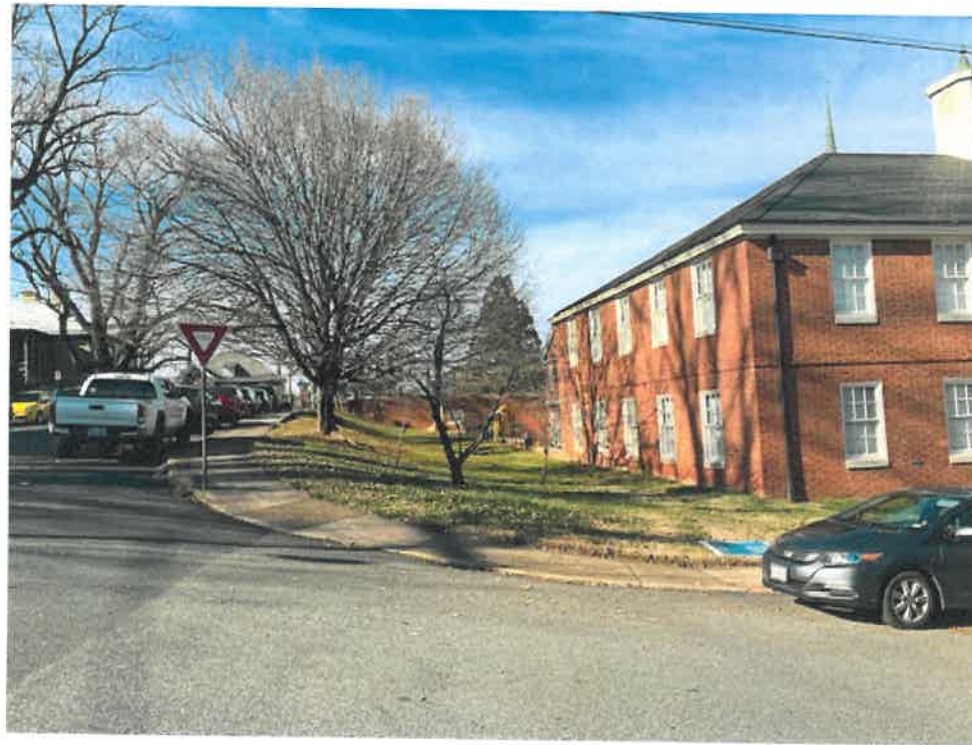
Area to be fenced



View from Maple Street facing 7th Street NE



View from corner of Maple and 7th Street NE



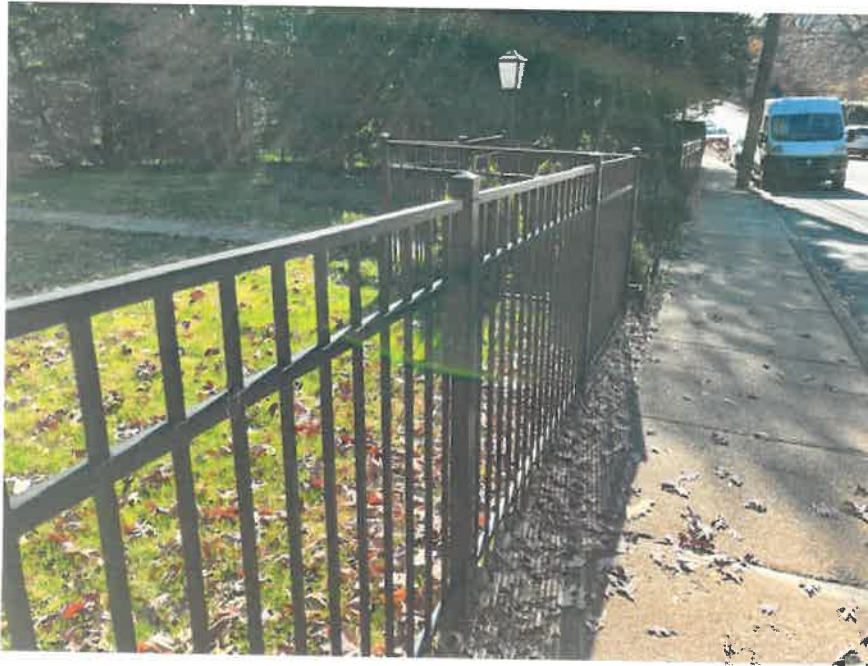
Contiguous properties on 7th Street NE



Contiguous properties on Maple Street



Fencing examples on Park Street



Fencing examples on Farish Street



Fencing examples on Lyons Court



Sample fencing material for project

