

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic ~~Historic Resources of~~ Charlottesville, Virginia, MRA

and/or common (Partial Inventory: Historic and Architectural Properties)

2. Location

street & number The Incorporated Limits of Charlottesville N/A not for publication

city, town Charlottesville (independent city) N/A vicinity of congressional district Seventh

state Virginia code 51 county (IN CITY) code 540

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number N/A

city, town N/A N/A vicinity of state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charlottesville City Court House

street & number 315 East High Street

city, town Charlottesville state Virginia 22901

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Charlottesville Historic Landmark Study has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976-80 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Community Development, City Hall, P. O. Box 911

city, town Charlottesville state Virginia 22902

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair <u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Description

The Charlottesville Multiple Resource Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places encompasses the entire municipal limits of the City in a comprehensive approach towards preservation. Made up of 88 structures and two districts, the nomination is a compilation of six years of surveying efforts by City staff and the Charlottesville Historic Landmarks Commission. Several properties and districts within the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Nomination are already on the National Register. These include the Albemarle County Courthouse Historic District, the Oaklawn estate on Cherry Avenue, the Rotunda at the University of Virginia, and the University of Virginia Historic District. In addition, a downtown district surrounding the Albemarle County Courthouse District has been designated a Virginia Historic Landmark and is pending nomination to the National Register (see enclosed map).

The City of Charlottesville has a population of about 40,000. Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the City's rolling terrain has had a major influence on its development. The home of the University of Virginia, growth in the City has traditionally focused between downtown and University grounds. The area surrounding these two focal points was originally dominated by large estates and farms, many of whose houses have been included in this nomination. Today, these areas are characterized by single family residential neighborhoods.

The physical growth and development of Charlottesville has been influenced not only by the character of the land, but the social, cultural and economic make-up of its community as well. The type of land that surrounds the City has traditionally provided for good agricultural development, as well as local clay for building materials. However, natural resources for industrial uses are few, and this has limited the development of industry. In early Charlottesville, the predominant building material was brick, with vast quantities of wood available for framing, roofing, interiors, and detailing. Climatic conditions in Charlottesville dictate that buildings provide high ceilings, large shaded windows and single-pile structures to help cope with hot, humid summers. Generations of builders have adapted to the varied topographical conditions. Variations of level and slope have been ignored due to the grid pattern established by the early community. As a result, builders have taken advantage of the situation by building high basements into the slope and elevating the main floors above it, keeping structures cool and dry. These conditions helped to create a continuity of building forms in Charlottesville's early history.

The social, cultural and economic composition of the citizenry of Charlottesville has been equally important to its physical growth, and is readily apparent in the type of structures that have been built. The majority of people who settled in Charlottesville before the Civil War were from the Tidewater area of Virginia. They were primarily of English extraction, with Scots, Irish and Welsh included. With the newly formed county seat to attract them, the leaders were drawn from a professional class of doctors, lawyers, and merchants. Influenced by the tastes of the Tidewater area, their economic limitations (most of the wealth was centered on the various plantations in the County), and the traditional conservatism of their class, their structures reflected their attitudes by being solid, well-proportioned, and simply embellished. These attitudes prolonged the Federal style, tempered the excesses of the Greek Revival, and discouraged the exuberance of the nineteenth century Victorian ideas. Even with the diversity of post-Civil War Charlottesville-

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The structures and districts included in the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Nomination represent a cross section of all the City's historic periods, from the founding of Charlottesville in the 1760's through the advent of the automobile and the impact it had on the City's expansion. Also included are structures that have played an important part in the history of Charlottesville's black community. The significance statement below includes an overview of the historic significance of the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area, a review different from previous City histories in that it does not detail the evolution of downtown Charlottesville, a district already nominated to the National Register. Included within the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Nomination are two historic districts: the Ridge Street District and the Wertland Street District near the University of Virginia. These areas are included as districts because of their relative homogeneity and the lack of nonconforming structures within them. A separate significance statement for each can be found in a later section of this nomination.

Historical Background

Charlottesville, the home of Thomas Jefferson and the University of Virginia, is one of the most historically significant cities in Virginia. The City, named for Queen Charlotte Sophia of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, wife of George III, was founded in the early 1760's just west of the Rivanna River watergap on the region's principal east-west route, the Three Notched Road. As laid out in an act of the Virginia General Assembly on December 23, 1762, fifty acres of land around the Albemarle County Courthouse were divided into half acre lots with four east-west streets and five north-south streets. It is this area that now forms the center of downtown Charlottesville, an area currently nominated to the National Register as the Charlottesville and Albemarle County Courthouse Historic District.

Between the period of 1760 to 1800, Charlottesville grew very slowly. Even though the Three Notched Road passed through town, the center of economic activity in Albemarle County was Scottsville, which had the strategic advantage of being located on the James River. Named for the three notches chopped in nearby trees to identify its route, the Three Notched Road was one of the principal overland routes between the Shenandoah Valley and Tidewater Virginia. Through Charlottesville, the road followed what is now West Main Street and East Market Street down to Secretary's Ford on the Rivanna River. During the Revolutionary War, British troops traveling on the Three Notched Road noted that Charlottesville was no more than a courthouse with about a dozen houses surrounding it. The only remaining structures known in Charlottesville to date from this period are the Keith House (ca. 1760) on Keith Valley Road and the Nicholas Lewis House (1770) at 309 Twelfth Street, NE

With the beginning of the construction of Thomas Jefferson's "Academical Village" at the University of Virginia in 1817, Charlottesville began to experience a greater amount of growth outside the central area immediately around the County Courthouse. Because it was

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet #10

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 10.4 square miles (entire area, see individual survey sheets)

Quadrangle name Charlottesville East and West

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References Found on individual survey sheets

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

N/A

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

The incorporated limits of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia

(entire area, see individual survey sheets)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
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state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title N/A

organization Department of Community Development

date March 1981

street & number City Hall, P. O. Box 911

telephone 804/295-4177

city or town Charlottesville

state Virginia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date March 15, 1982

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area - Description

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ville, the architecture remained the conservative brick square style that had served the community for over a century.

With advances in transportation and communication coming in the twentieth century, the continuity of building forms in the 18th and 19th centuries became disrupted. Builders and architects made use of new materials and fresh ideas. The appearance of stone and marble in the early 1900's reflected a more cosmopolitan flavor in the styles.

Architecture, as with other fine arts, reflects the society which produces it. In Charlottesville, the history of building illustrated the conservative nature of her citizens. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, buildings were built of brick with white trim and designed for simplicity, economy and strength. While the rest of the nation fell under the spell of the nineteenth century eclectic revivalism, Charlottesville continued to build the simple architectural forms which were so familiar. The influence of the Greek and Gothic revivals, for example, was muted under the persistence of the Georgian style of architecture, which lasted up to the time of the Civil War. Before and after the war, economics prohibited innovative experimentation with the unrestrained Second Empire and Romanesque styles so prevalent in northern cities. By the turn of the century, however, the architecture of Charlottesville began to keep pace with current national styles. The Victorian, Colonial Revival, and Neo-Classical Revival styles are represented within the City, while domestic structures reflect the City's regained prosperity. In our own time, the architecture of Charlottesville remains basically conservative, with the persistence of simple traditional design. An explanation of the various major architectural styles is given in the following list.

A. Georgian:

Georgian buildings are characterized by a formal arrangement of parts employing a symmetrical composition, often with classical detail. Sliding or double-hung sash windows are common, as is Flemish bond brickwork. One of the few late-built survivors of this period is the 1803 portion of the Albemarle County Courthouse in the Downtown Historic District. Locust Grove at 810 Locust Avenue is also an example of the late Georgian style.

B. Federal Styles:

The later Georgian or Federal style was dominant in the United States during the eighteenth century, but because of the conservative nature of Charlottesville builders, it lasted here well into the nineteenth century. The style derives its name from the reigns of the first three kings of England who ruled the colonies before independence. Basic to the Federal style is symmetry, or the regular placement of windows and doors on an even facade. Windows usually have six or nine panes of glass per sash and the doors are always paneled. The cornice (where the wall meets the roof) usually has a row of modillion blocks, or, in later examples, "mousetoothing" or projecting bricks set on edge to repre-

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sent modillions. Chimneys are placed symmetrically and are sometimes connected with a low brick wall or curtain. In the nineteenth century, gables are stepped in an almost New York Dutch fashion. In Charlottesville, Federal buildings were built of local, hand-made brick. It was often laid in "Flemish" bond, with long bricks (stretchers) alternating with short bricks (headers). Because of the many variations of the Federal style found in Charlottesville, it is useful to divide it into several categories.

Sophisticated examples of the Federal Style: These examples are rare in the City due to the fact that the wealthy builders were located on plantations in the county. There are, however, two examples which are exceptions:

1. The Carter-Gilmer House at 802 East Jefferson Street (1830). This is a splendid, yet simple, brick Federal town house, three stories high, two rooms deep, with a side hall plan.
2. "Number Nothing" (1823). This building shows the pleasing effects of a simple, yet beautifully proportioned design. The windows are evenly spaced and there are simple transoms over each doorway. The low pitch of the roof allows the gabled end, which faces Court Square, to resemble a Classical pediment such as those on the Lawn at the University of Virginia. This building is located at 240 Park Street.

B-1 Federal Vernacular: These structures illustrate provincial interpretations of the more costly "High Style" Federal buildings. They are less formal, more utilitarian, and less pretentious than either the Carter-Gilmer House or "Number Nothing". The architecture, however, is still rooted in the same Georgian design tradition. Examples of Federal Vernacular are: 220-224 Court Square, 211-215 Fourth Street, NE, and 410 East Jefferson Street in the Downton Historic District, as well as Vowles house at 1111-1113 West Main Street.

B-2 Federal Detached House: This type of Federal architecture is quite sophisticated and represents the finest and most common "High Style" domestic structures in Charlottesville. The style is distinguished by its ever present one story entrance porch with columns, low pitched roof, simple cornice, and center hall plan. Two windows almost always flank the center door on each side. So popular was this form that it was revived several times during the twentieth century. Four of the finest examples are: Redlands Club (1832), the Lipop House (1836), and "The Old Manse" (1839) in the Downton Historic District, and the Livers House (1830) at 1211 West Main Street.

C. Jeffersonian:

This style draws heavily on Jefferson's interpretations of the great sixteenth century Italian architect, Andrea Palladio. It is usually characterized by the use of domes. Major elements of the Jeffersonian Style are (1) the use of classical orders (columns, entablatures, etc.), (2) high first floors with low mezzanine levels above for secondary

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bed chambers, (3) alcove beds and small stairs to conserve space, and (4) octagonal rooms or room ends. The finest domestic expression of the Jeffersonian style is Monticello, which exercised great influence over the domestic architecture of the ante-bellum South. The Roman Revival was usually expressed in red brick with white porticos on monumental buildings. The most notable examples in Charlottesville are Oak Lawn located at Cherry Avenue and 9th Street, Montebello at 215 Montebello Circle, and, of course, Jefferson's masterpiece, the Lawn at the University of Virginia.

D. The Greek Revival:

Greek Revival architecture became dominant in the United States during the 1830's and 1840's and remained popular throughout the south until the Civil War. It is characterized by the use of Greek (as opposed to Roman) orders supporting either a flat roof or a low pitched roof in the form of a classical pediment. Entrance doors usually feature narrow side lights and a rectangular transom window. Examples of the Greek Revival in Charlottesville include the 1860 portico of the Albemarle County Courthouse and the Hughes House (1850's).

The most frequent expression of the Greek Revival in the city is the unique "Pilastered House". As the name suggests, its most distinguishing characteristic is the use of the two story high pilaster (square columns attached to the wall) on the facade of a building and sometimes of the rear facade. By their very nature, pilasters are cheaper and easier to build than free standing columns and by this fact reaffirms the conservative nature of the local building industry. Examples of the "Pilastered House" include the Levy Opera House (1852), the Gleason House (1859), and the Lyons House (1858) on Lyons Court.

E. The Gothic Revival:

The Gothic Revival, which began in England during the eighteenth century, reached its height of popularity in this country during the 1840's, although it survived in a somewhat different form up to our own time. Its most prominent feature is the pointed arch used for doors and windows. Steep pointed gables, often with sawn gingerbread bargeboards, towers, turrets, and verandas are also characteristic. Two charming examples of this style are the Perkins House at 433 North First Street (c. 1850) and the Bailey-Parrott-Fowler Cottage (1862) at 204 Ridge Street.

F. The Victorian Period

The Victorian period is characterized by its architectural variety and vitality. Victorian architects were influenced by different historical periods and foreign styles, the result of which is a number of distinct architectural styles that flourished during this period. The beginning of the Victorian period saw an evolution of rich ornamentation and complexity. Near the end of the century, design became more simple with less detailing, but structures still contained many of the characteristics of shape and marring that gave the Victorian period its flavor.

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F-1 Second Empire: This style is based on that of the Second Empire in France, and is identified by the use of Mansard roofs, bracketed cornices and towers. Examples are The Armstrong knitting mill off Preston Avenue and the Peyton House at 205 Fourteenth Street. The Brooks Museum on the University Grounds is also of this style.

F-2 Romanesque Revival: The Romanesque Revival was generated by H. H. Richardson, who practically invented the style. Great sloping roofs banked with windows and towers, usually for stairs, along with natural materials including brick and stone, are hallmarks of this style which was present in the First Baptist Church and on Delevan Baptist Church at 632 West Main Street.

F-3 Italianate Styles: The nineteenth century's love of exotic, foreign design led to the widespread acceptance of the architecture of other countries, that of Italy being the most enthusiastically adopted. Characteristic of the Italianate style is the tall tower, or campanile, low roof with a wide eave supported by brackets, arched windows and verandas, and heavy rustication (rough surfaced stone work.) The Tower House (c. 1850) at 408 Park Street is a good domestic example as is the Judge Robertson House at 705 Park Street in the Downtown Historic District. A more simple interpretation using Italianate characteristics is "Hard Bargain" at 1105 Park Street.

F-4 Victorian Gothic: This style is characterized by verticality, board and batton siding, steeply pitched gables, wall dormers and elaborate detailing, often called "gingerbread." Perhaps the best example of this style in Charlottesville is the Pendleton House at 526 North First Street in the Downtown Historic District. The Woolen Mills Chapel (1819 East Market Street) is a good example of Victorian gothic ecclesiastical architecture.

F-5 Queen Anne: The Queen Anne style gained popularity in this country in the late 1870's. Steep roofs, vertical and irregular facades, prominent chimneys, intricate lathwork and towers characterize the Queen Anne style. Numerous types of materials are also used. The King-Runkle House (201 Fourteenth Street, N. W.), the Dabney-Thompson House (1602 Gordon Avenue) and the Turner-LaRowe House (#1 University Court) show many Queen Anne characteristics. A later Queen Anne style is called Chateausque named this because steep hipped roofs and cylindrical towers are dominant features. Queen Anne Chateausque style structures in the City include the McConnell-Neve House (228 Fourteenth Street, N. W.,) and Barringer Mansion (1404 Jefferson Park Avenue) and

F-6 Shingle Style: Dwellings of this style are usually large, spreading low against the ground on a stone foundation. The style's chief characteristic is the use of wood shingles that appear to flow across surfaces, though similar qualities are also achieved through the use of stone or clapboard. The Rugby House (908 Cottage Lane) and White Cross/Hurtley Hall (Stribling Avenue.)

F-7 Vernacular Victorian: Many buildings in Charlottesville constructed during the Victorian period exhibit vernacular features. Vernacular style buildings in the City take local styles such as the basic Virginia-I house, and adopt other types of Victorian style to them. Generally, Victorian Vernacular style buildings are simple and compact in layout with detailing at the eaves or around the doors. This detailing

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often reflects various styles of many periods, and in many instances, is a bit dated in relation to the time the building was constructed. Good examples of Victorian Vernacular architecture in Charlottesville include the Rose Cottage/Peyton House (800 Delevan Street,) the Benjamin Tonsler House (327 Sixth Street, S. W.) and 1025 Locust Avenue.

G. The Neo-Classical Period:

This revival style, sometimes called the Beaux Arts, sought to return to simple monumentality of classical architecture advocated by Jefferson a century earlier. Because of the scale and expense of reproducing Roman columns, entablatures, pediments and other detailing, this style was largely confined to large public structures such as the Market Street Post Office (1906), the C & O Station, and the Virginia National Bank on Main Street as well as McIntire Library at Lee Park in the Downtown Historic District.

G-1 The Colonial Revival: The Colonial Revival style developed as a reaction to the supposed disorder and confusion of the later nineteenth century design. It sought to return to the order and discipline of symmetrical and geometric Georgian design. It is also significant to note that this movement revived an American style instead of relying upon European sources. Although many of the architectural elements of the Colonial Revival are directly borrowed from the eighteenth century, they are handled in a heavier, somewhat freer way. Because of its historical associations and because of the conservative nature of its architectural appeal, the Colonial Revival became very popular in Charlottesville in the first third of this century. Some of the finer examples of this style included the Sterling-Lewis House (1919) at 101 East High, the First Methodist Church at 101 East Jefferson (1924), and the Harmon House at 2005 Jefferson Park Avenue.

G-2 Jeffersonian Revival: The Jeffersonian Revival refers to the revival of Jeffersonian forms that took place in this area in the early 20th century. Jefferson's influence was so strong that it never really faded away. It was responsible for such buildings at St. Paul's Memorial Church at the University, Eugene Bradbury, Architect, in the early twentieth century, Clark Hall, the Law School at the University in 1932, and "Four Acres" at 1314 Rugby Road.

H. Art Deco:

This period is characterized by a linear, hard-edge composition, often with a vertical emphasis and highlighted with stylized decoration. Facades often are arranged in a series of setbacks, emphasizing the geometric form. Ornamental detailing is executed in the same material as the building, or in colored bricks, tiles or metals. Usually windows are metal casement type. Art Moderne versions include rounded corners, flat roofs, and horizontal lines. Examples include the Ben Franklin Store on West Main Street, the Coca Cola Plant on Preston Avenue, and the Ray Fisher-Ron Martin building at West Main Street.

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Survey Methodology

The surveys included in the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area nomination to the National Register were prepared by part-time employees of the Charlottesville Department of Community Development in conjunction with the Charlottesville Historic Landmarks Commission. Two persons, Eugenia Bibb and Richard Thomson, conducted almost all the surveys enclosed in this nomination. Persons responsible for survey work were trained in historic/architectural survey techniques by professors in the Architecture School of the University of Virginia. All surveys are also reviewed by the Charlottesville Historic Landmarks Commission for accuracy.

The survey work conducted by the City is an ongoing process. Historic and/or architecturally significant buildings have been surveyed in Charlottesville since 1974. Potential buildings are chosen by the Landmarks Commission based upon age records and/or architectural appearance. The surveys enclosed, with some minor exceptions, represent all the buildings surveyed by the City not currently on or pending to the National Register of Historic Places. Subsurface archeological testing has not been carried out as part of the City's survey process.

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EXPANDED DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Surveys of historic and/or architecturally significant properties are undertaken based upon the evaluation criteria found below. Using these criteria as a basis for selection, members of the Charlottesville Historic Landmarks Commission identify properties for surveying they feel will fall into one of the listed categories. Properties subsequently surveyed and found not to meet the criteria were not included in this nomination.

The decision process for surveying historic and/or architecturally significant properties involves consideration of all areas of the City of Charlottesville. Integrity is considered to be an important factor in the identification of structures for surveying. Structures determined to lack integrity were not nominated.

In the preparation of the descriptive and significance statements for the Charlottesville Multiple Resource Area nomination, particular attention was given geographic areas, eras in history and/or architectural styles that were associated with the structures being nominated. Thus, more was said about the history of the West Main Street area than some other areas of the City. Certain themes, such as the history of the City's transportation system and the development that occurred as a result of it, were also emphasized.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING HISTORICALLY AND
ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

Criteria for evaluating the merits of a given structure or space should be based on architectural aesthetics as well as historic factors. Certainly not every structure in an older neighborhood can be associated with an historic personage or event, but many are valuable examples of the city's physical and cultural heritage. While a few may possess national or state significance, most of Charlottesville's buildings are best classified and compared within the local context and should be evaluated in this context. The city must decide the nature and extent of its unique heritage. Thus aesthetics is an important criteria for evaluation of a structure as its historical past. Following are some of the major criteria utilized in this report.

A. ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

The evaluation shall respect the salient qualities of each architectural style and shall judge a building's merit on how well it exemplifies the distinguishing characteristics of that particular style.

Considerations will be given to:

1. Quality of workmanship. e. g. The old Manse.
2. Amount of surviving original fabric. e. g. 416 Park Street.
3. Original location and/or use. e. g. Michie Company Building.
4. Remaining outbuildings or dependencies. e. g. Locust Grove.
5. Surrounding environment; gardens, landscaping, walks. e. g. Lipop House.
6. Overall aesthetic quality. e. g. Marshall-Rucker House.
7. Original integrity of the structure and its details. e. g. Judge Robertson House.

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B. HISTORICAL AND/OR CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Structures or spaces which relate to one or more of the following criteria will be considered historically or culturally valuable.

1. Association with historic personage. e. g. Barringer Mansion.
2. Association with historic event. e. g. Albemarle County Jail.
3. Work of leading Architect or master craftsman. e. g. Duke House.
4. Site or structure of cultural significance. e. g. Levy Opera House.

C. SOLE OR INFREQUENT SURVIVOR.

Continued loss of old buildings has given surviving structures spaces, or landscape of a particular style or period added significance. Sole or infrequent survivors are of the utmost importance as educational tools in appreciating our cultural past. Age or quality may no longer be the criteria for evaluating such a structure.

D. FIRST OR LAST OF A FEATURE IN A STRUCTURE.

Some structures may be historically unique in that they exhibit features that appear for the first and last time in the area. The first electric lights, bathrooms, or late example of Flemish bond brickwork at the Levy Opera House are important landmarks in Charlottesville's architectural development and should be recognized as such e. g. Brick Livery Stable and Perkins House.

E. ARCHITECTURALLY OR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT NEIGHBORHOOD OR STREET.

As Landmark Districts are composed of complete neighborhoods or streets rather than individual monuments, structures that otherwise would not be recognized as historically or stylistically valuable assume importance as contributors of scale and space. As factors that establish the character of any neighborhood, simpler structures are as important as mansions in exemplifying the true heterogeneous composition of a city and will be evaluated as such. e. g. Park Street.

F. AGE OF STRUCTURE.

Any structure 100 years or older needs to be looked at as a potential structure deserving preservation, e. g. Lyons House.

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the main road between what was then the town and the University, West Main Street began its initial development around this period. Before 1820, only a few large farms fronted on West Main Street, which was still only on the fringes of Charlottesville, a small village of around 200 persons. One of the first homes built along West Main Street after the University opened was the Pitts-Inge House, built in 1820 at 331 West Main Street. Another early home was Paxton Place (503 West Main Street), finished in 1824.

The fortunes of the West Main Street area in the mid-1800's waxed and waned with those of the University and town on either side of it. In its early years, the University of Virginia was often rocked by turmoil, most of it caused by disruptive students. In turn, much of their rebelliousness was blamed upon the consumption of excessive amounts of alcohol. In an effort to reduce this dissipation, in the late 1820's, General John H. Cocke, a member of the University's first Board of Visitors, built the Delevan Hotel on the current site of West Main Street's First Baptist Church, one of the last, if not the last, examples of Romanesque architecture in the City. This hotel, named after a long forgotten prohibitionist, allowed no liquor. Also called "Mudwall" after the red stucco wall surrounding it, the hotel eventually failed. It was later used as a hospital for some of the 12,000 Confederate wounded treated in Charlottesville during the Civil War. The Midway House, once located at the intersection of West Main and Ridge Streets, also served as a hospital during the war.

The Civil War left Charlottesville relatively unscathed. With the exception of its being a hospital center, the City had little strategic importance and was not occupied by Union troops until March of 1865 when General Sheridan's forces moved into town following the defeat of Confederate General Early near Waynesboro. It is believed that General George Armstrong Custer of General Sheridan's staff was quartered at the G. W. Farish House (1201 East Jefferson Street).

Even before the Civil War began, Charlottesville was gaining predominance as the economic center of the region as rail travel became more important than the state's river and canal system. With the introduction of the railroad into Charlottesville in 1850, the West Main Street area had its beginnings as the transportation center of the City. During this year, the Virginia Central Railroad, now part of the Chesapeake and Ohio system, laid tracks on the rail line right-of-way that now runs parallel to West Main Street. This route formed one of the primary rail links between Piedmont Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley. By 1855, the Virginia Central started work on tracks south to Lynchburg, tracks which now comprise a trunk line of the Southern Railroad. In the late 1850's these two lines were joined at the hub of the West Main Street corridor. Union Station, built at this intersection in 1885, has witnessed the arrival of countless visitors to Charlottesville, including President Theodore Roosevelt, who arrived by train in 1902. In 1918 the troops of the Monticello Guard, a battalion of local volunteers, marched down West Main Street to their Union Station mustering point on their way to fight in World War I. The West Main Street bridge crossing these tracks was originally wooden; the current concrete bridge dates back to the early 1900's.

By 1870, Charlottesville had reached a population of 2,838 and encompassed an area now

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roughly bounded by Garrett Street, Ninth Street, Parkway and McIntire Roads. The principal residential streets were Park, Ridge, First, and High Streets, with West Main Street, Scottsville Road, Park Street and East Market Street being the main roads out of town. Surrounding the City were half a dozen large farms, the property of most of which is now found within the City limits. The main houses for a number of these farms are still standing, including those of the Fife estate ("Oaklawn" on Cherry Avenue). Locust Grove at 810 Locust Avenue, the "Farm" at 1201 East Jefferson Street and Belmont at 759 Belmont Avenue.

1887 saw the advent of Charlottesville's first street car system, the main line of which ran down West Main Street. First drawn by horses, the streetcar line extended from downtown to the University. For a time West Main's horse drawn streetcar tracks paralleled newly installed electric streetcar tracks. In 1896, the two lines merged and the horse pulled cars disappeared. By the early 1900's, the streetcar system was carrying up to 1,500,000 people annually. In 1914, the Charlottesville and Albemarle Railway Company, owners of the streetcar system, built its headquarters and power station at 300 West Main Street, now an office building. The streetcars continued to serve the West Main Street area until 1935, when rising costs and decreased ridership finally caused it to close.

With the Southern Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio intersecting at West Main Street, Union Station was the stopping point for large numbers of passengers disembarking in Charlottesville during the heyday of passenger railroads. As a result, many of Charlottesville's largest and finest hotels were built along West Main Street. The Delevan Hotel was the first of the hotels. In 1896, the Gleason Hotel, later renamed The Albemarle Hotel, was built on West Main to accommodate the increasing number of travelers passing through Charlottesville. Originally boasting 40 rooms, the Hotel was expanded in 1911-13 through purchase and reconstruction of the Imperial Cafe building next door. Until the construction of the downtown Monticello Hotel in 1926, the Gleason Hotel was the largest continuously operating hotel in Charlottesville. Another popular hotel was the Queen Charlotte, built on West Main just to the west of the railroad tracks. Until it was demolished in 1955, the Queen Charlotte was second in business only to the Albemarle Hotel along West Main. Other hotels that at one time operated along West Main Street included the Hotel Clermont, the Cabell House and the Dolly Madison Inn, all of which have since been demolished.

The period between 1890 and World War I saw significant changes in the urbanization of Charlottesville. The expansion of the City's streetcar system opened up outer areas previous occupied only by large estates like Belmont (759 Belmont Avenue,) Stonefield House (1204 Rugby Road,) and the Rugby Mansion (908 Cottage Lane.) Much of this suburban development took place along Rugby Road. The Smith-Marshall House built in 1906 (714 Rugby Road) and "Four Acres" (built in 1910 at 1314 Rugby Road) date to this period of suburban expansion. In eastern Charlottesville, the purchase of the Locust Grove Estate by the Locust Grove Investment Company in the late 1870's opened up that area to residential development. Houses like the one at 867 Locust Avenue (ca. 1894) and 1025 Locust Avenue (ca. 1894) were built by this company to meet the demand for homes in the eastern part of the City. The Belmont area was also subdivided for development in the late 1800's.

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As residential development began to take place in areas surrounding the central city, commercial development did also. West Main Street continued to grow as a commercial area, growth first started by expansion of the City's streetcar system. Buildings constructed before World War I as a result of this commercial growth include the Holsinger-Thomas Building at 620 West Main Street (ca. 1915) and the Shapero-Moss Building at 731 West Main Street (1896.) After the war, A. G. Carter constructed the buildings at 701-709 West Main Street to serve the principal automobile route in the City. By the early 1930's there were twelve service stations and six automobile dealers along West Main Street.

While never a heavily industrialized area, manufacturing has played an important role in Charlottesville's history. Up until the Civil War, manufacturing in the City was primarily confined to small tobacco companies, lumber mills and tanneries, mainly operating to serve residents of the region. The first major industry in Charlottesville was the Charlottesville Woolen Mills, founded in the early 1850's by John Adams Marchant. Specializing in uniforms, the Charlottesville Woolen Mills supplied clothing to the military and other institutions (including West Point) well into the 1950's. The mill, still standing, is located adjacent to the City limits in Albemarle County. The small community that grew next to it, however, is in the City. The Woolen Mills Chapel (1819 East Market Street) built by the mill for its workers, is representative of the dependent structures that were built surrounding this factory during its heyday. In the period between the Civil War and the turn of the century, textile manufacturing was a key factor in the Charlottesville economy. Another example of a building originally used by the textile industry is the Armstrong Knitting Factory at 700 Harris Avenue.

By the turn of the century, Charlottesville had 79 different local industries. Along with textiles, other important manufacturing concerns included lumber milling and book publishing. By 1920, the largest industry in the City was the King Lumber Company, which employed 300 people that year. A victim of the Great Depression, the only building that remains from the King Lumber Company is the warehouse located at 608 Preston Avenue. The Michie Company, a local book publisher founded in 1899, is today one of the area's major employers and is still located in their original building (ca. at East Market Street.

Much of central Charlottesville's historic background is intertwined with the history of the City's black population. Since the Civil War most of the neighborhoods surrounding West Main Street have traditionally been the heart of the City's black community. In 1865, the first school for newly freed slaves was established at "Mudwall", the old Delevan Hotel and hospital. Mudwall was also the site of the first political meeting in Charlottesville in which blacks actively participated (1867). The Delevan Hotel was eventually torn down and replaced in 1883 by the First Baptist Church, still being used at 632 West Main Street. The First Baptist Church is one of four long-standing black churches in the West Main Street area. Its congregation was originally formed from the ranks of 800 black Baptists dismissed from Charlottesville's established churches in 1864. The oldest black church in Charlottesville is the Mount Zion Baptist Church at 105 Ridge Street, built in 1878. Formed in 1867, the Mount Zion congregation has had only twelve ministers in its 113 year history. Two other churches, the Ebenezer Baptist Church (113 Sixth Street) and the Bethel Baptist Church at 501 Commerce Street are other major black churches in the West Main Street area.

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The principal black commercial center in Charlottesville was Vinegar Hill. Named after either the famed "Vinegar Hill" in Ireland or the fact that many of the hill's early merchants smuggled whiskey in barrels marked "vinegar", Vinegar Hill's black businesses served Charlottesville from the early 1870's to the mid-1960's. Black business in the area was in its prime in the years just before the Great Depression. In the early 1930's at least 24 black-owned businesses operated in the 200 and 300 blocks of West Main Street. While many of these businesses were of the barber and bootblack variety, West Main Street was also the home of many of Charlottesville's black doctors. Many of the buildings that housed black business along West Main are now gone. Some structures on the 300 block still remain, including Inge's Grocery, until recently the oldest black owned business in Charlottesville. Inge's Grocery, in a building constructed in 1820, had been in continuous operation since 1891. Booker T. Washington was a frequent guest of the Inge family. Thomas Inge, the current proprietor, remembers that Vinegar Hill was not as rowdy a place as history has led many to believe. Mr. Inge often had more problems with rambunctious students celebrating a University of Virginia football victory than he had with some of the more notorious tenants of Vinegar Hill.

The period between 1900 and the First World War is an important one to Charlottesville. It was during this period that the City's hopes of becoming an important industrial center faded, to be replaced by the realization that Charlottesville's future would depend upon education and the role played by the University of Virginia.

At a local level, it was during the first years of this century that extensive efforts were made to improve the educational system for both blacks and whites in Charlottesville. The first white high school was opened and graded schools were created. The greatest changes, however, took place at the University with the installation of Edward Alderman as its first president in 1904. It was Alderman who is credited with establishing the educational and institutional standards that have made the University what it is today.

In 1916, spurred by the growth of development around its limits, the City tripled its size by annexation. By 1920, Charlottesville had a population of 10,688. The establishment of the University of Virginia as an major educational institution was the final event that steered Charlottesville away from its nineteenth century agricultural orientation to one as an urban center serving the surrounding region. Today Charlottesville remains a regional center, and the University of Virginia is its economic heart.

The City of Charlottesville is concerned with the preservation of not only the structures listed in this Multiple Resource Nomination, but with all historic or architecturally significant properties in the City. Recently, the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission designated much of downtown Charlottesville as a state historic district. This district is now pending nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, all buildings listed in this Multiple Resource Nomination that were built before 1870 fall under the jurisdiction of the City's Board of Architectural Review, a citizen body that has specific jurisdiction over proposed major changes to these structures. In the West Main Street area's Starr Hill Neighborhood, the City is currently undertaking a \$1.6 million HUD sponsored revitalization program that includes efforts at preserving significant structures. Historic preservation goals are also listed in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

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Interviews:

Information was obtained from interviews done by the City of Charlottesville's Retired Senior Volunteer Program's Vinegar Hill oral listing project. The person's listed below were interviewed in the Fall of 1979:

Thomas Inge: Owner of Inge's Grocery, 333 West Main Street
Price Bibb
George Ferguson
Charles Johnson

