

Chapter Seven: Historic Preservation

Charlottesville has a rich historic and cultural legacy. This heritage not only establishes the City's unique sense of place, but also represents one of its primary economic and cultural assets. Charlottesville contains 35 individual properties which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When these historic resources are combined with such distinctive and historic areas as Downtown, the University of Virginia, Court Square, Rugby Road, the University Corner, Wertland Street and Ridge Street, the potential for preservation is indeed vast.

The value of preservation in Charlottesville can be measured both in qualitative and quantitative terms. Safeguarding the heritage of the City promotes the pleasure, education, and sense of well-being among its citizens. Protecting the city's unique resources also fosters civic pride, contributes to an understanding of the City's past, and serves as a guide for future development. The economic value of preservation can be realized both in the stabilization of property values and the stimulation of business.

A 1982 study by the Virginia Landmarks Commission documents historic preservation's contributions to the economic revitalization in Virginia's towns and cities where preservation programs are in place. The Commission found that:

1. Property values in historic districts have increased as a result of preservation activity, and property tax revenues have increased accordingly.
2. Historic preservation has expanded opportunities for private-sector investment in downtown residential and commercial redevelopment.
3. Historic preservation has increased retail trade and local employment.
4. Improvements in the economics of Virginia's registered historic districts are signs of major qualitative changes in community life.

As the community continues along its path of growth and change, choices must be made concerning the course of its development. Rather than attempting to regenerate the City through demolition and rebuilding, the City should attempt to preserve and rehabilitate its unique cultural and historic resources as it strives toward its vision for the future.

To date, while the importance of historic preservation has been recognized by many, its potential to strengthen and improve the vitality of the City has not yet been fully realized. In order to maximize the benefits associated with historic preservation, it should be integrated more fully into all levels of life in the City, and the actions of both the public and private sectors should be coordinated to achieve the goals of preservation articulated in this document.

Charlottesville's unique cultural heritage is a gift from past generations. The architecture past residents have left behind reflects the physical and social development of the City, and enables the community to understand its historical identity. The City's historic and cultural resources are one of the more important reasons Charlottesville is an attractive place to live and visit.

Realizing the importance of protecting its unique cultural heritage, Charlottesville embarked on a preservation planning program in 1959 by enacting an Architectural Design Control Ordinance. This ordinance established a "restricted design district" comprised of 33 properties in the Court Square area and created a Board of Architectural Review to review the appropriateness of exterior changes to buildings in the district.

In 1973, the Historic Landmarks Commission was created by City Council to survey historic properties in the City and to propose new historic districts for local protection. The Commission published the "Charlottesville Landmarks Study" in 1976, which initiated an on-going program for surveying significant structures in the City. As of 1991, over 500 buildings in Charlottesville had been surveyed by the Department of Community Development.

In response to the Commission's study, a new Historic Preservation Ordinance was enacted in 1976 as an amendment to the City Zoning Ordinance. This Ordinance created an expanded Architectural Design Control District (ADC), and significantly increased the responsibilities of the Board of Architectural Review. A total of 133

properties were included in the ADC District and 70 additional properties were designated outside of the district based on the age of the property.

In July 1980, the "Historic Preservation Guide" was published by the City. The objectives of the guide were to encourage historic and architectural preservation, to provide the community with an educational resource concerning preservation and to provide information assistance to City residents. This report has been used as an educational tool for City residents and has served as a model for other communities.

In 1982, Charlottesville was designated by the National Register of Historic Places as a Multiple Resource Area (MRA). The MRA designation provided a flexible and efficient framework for registering a number of significant properties on the National Register in a single application. As a result of this designation, 88 properties and two districts were submitted to the National Register and approved simultaneously.

During the early 1980's the City became concerned about the changes taking place to buildings on the Downtown Mall. Several significant buildings had been removed for new construction and the facades on others altered. Concerned that the style of architecture and colors used on new buildings and existing buildings were not appropriate, City Council created the Downtown Architectural Design Control District (DADC) and the Downtown Board of Architectural Review in 1985 to provide guidance for downtown development.

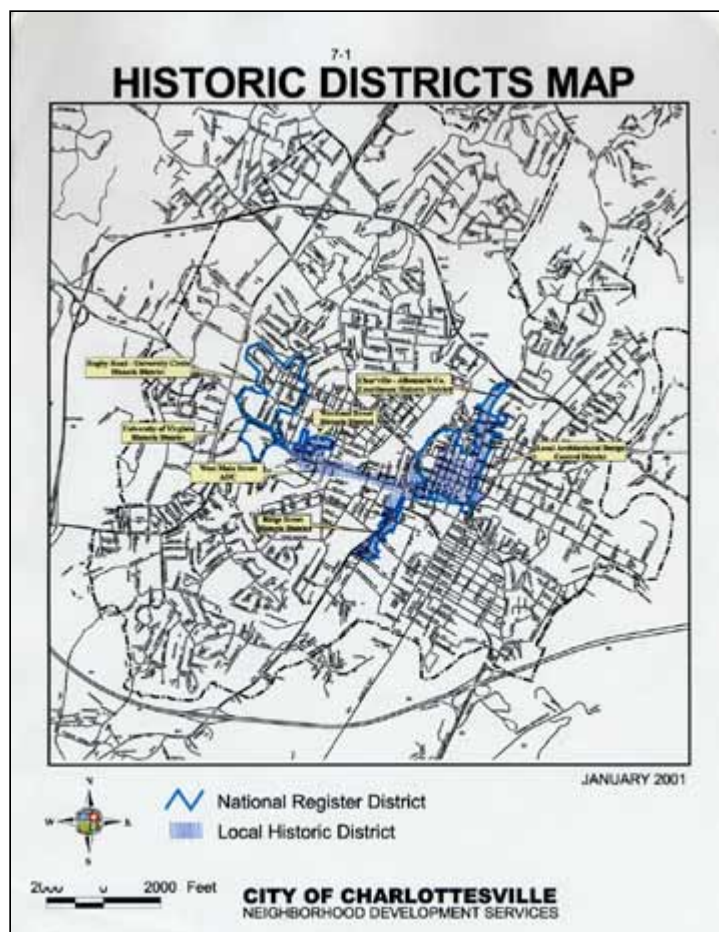
In 1988, the City developed an Urban Design Plan, which provided a number of recommendations to improve the visual environment in the City. This plan focuses on the most highly visible areas in the community such as entrance corridors, downtown, West Main Street, and the University Corner. While the report does not directly address historic preservation issues, many of the proposed improvements are located in historic districts and will enhance the overall appearance of the districts.

In May 1991, City Council amended the Zoning Ordinance to consolidate the Landmarks Commission, Board of Architectural Review and the Downtown Board of Architectural Review into a single Board of Architectural Review (BAR). At the same time, Council adopted the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to serve as a policy guideline for the BAR when reviewing projects in local design control districts. One of the BAR's primary missions which was set forth in the revised Ordinance called for the development of a preservation plan to be considered by the Planning Commission and to eventually be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan for the City.

As part of the May 1991 amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, a new Entrance Corridor Historic Overlay District was created to protect and enhance the visual quality of the primary entrance corridors in the City. The ordinance provides guidelines for landscaping, signage, lighting, screening and height of structures within designated entrance corridors. Although the overlay district does not establish requirements for individual historic structures, it does attempt to protect the overall historic quality of the City's entrance corridors.

The May 1991 Zoning Ordinance amendments also renamed the two local design control districts as District A (formerly the Downtown Architectural Design Control District) and District B (formerly known as the Architectural Design Control District). In addition to the two "major" design control districts, 80 individual properties were designated as "minor" design control districts.

In 1993, the City adopted the Historic Preservation Plan to guide development and redevelopment of the community. The plan identified historic districts and properties and provides guidance for the redevelopment.



CHRONOLOGY OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

1959 First Historic Preservation Ordinance of the City of Charlottesville

1959 Designation of the first local historic district in Court Square area.

1959 Creation of the first Board of Architectural Review staffed by Building Inspections Division

1973 Creation of the Historic Landmarks Commission to do survey work and propose new historic districts

1976 Publication of "Charlottesville Landmarks Study" which provided the first comprehensive survey of historic properties.

1976 New Historic Preservation Ordinance enacted as part of the Zoning Ordinance which created expanded Architectural Design Control District in Downtown area.

1977 Transfer of staff responsibility for the Board of Architectural Review from Building Inspections to the Department of Community Development

1980 Publication of the "Historic Preservation Guide" as an educational tool for preservation

1980s Designation of four districts on National Register: Charlottesville and Albemarle County Courthouse District (1982), Ridge Street District (1982), Wertland Street District (1985), Rugby Road-University Corner (1984).

1981 Charlottesville designated as a Multiple Resource Area (MRA) on the National Register

1985 Creation of Downtown Design Control District and Downtown Board of Architectural Review

1988 Completion of Charlottesville Urban Design Plan

1989 Chapter on historic preservation added to Comprehensive Plan

1990 Comprehensive amendment to historic preservation provisions of Zoning Ordinance

1991 Consolidation of three Historic Preservation Boards into one Board of Architectural Review

1991 Creation of Entrance Corridor Historic Overlay District in the Zoning Ordinance

1993 Creation of Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund

1993 Ridge Street Architectural Design Control District

1996 Creation of West Main Street Architectural Design Control District

1999 Designation of Wertland Street Design Control District

Charlottesville's preservation successes could not have come to fruition without the input from a variety of public and private groups. Historic preservation ideas are represented at the neighborhood level by local interest groups, as the city level by public agencies and non-profit organizations, and at the state level through institutions such as the State Historic Preservation Office.

The Virginia **State Historic Preservation Office** is the Department of Historic Resources. An independent state agency with a professional staff of historians, architectural historians, archaeologists and other specialists, the Department provides technical support to three citizen Boards. The State Review Board, appointed by the Department's Director, reviews and recommends properties for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Governor appointed Historic Resources Board oversee Virginia Landmarks Register designations, the Historical Highway Marker Program and the Preservation Easement Program. The Historic Preservation Foundation, also appointed by the Governor, administers a revolving fund that is used to purchase threatened historic properties and resell them subject to historic preservation easements. The Department provides planning assistance to local governments, and review federally funded or approved projects under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

The **Preservation Alliance of Virginia** is a network of preservation organizations in Virginia. This private non-profit organization was founded in 1984 to support historic preservation efforts through the Commonwealth through activities such as educational programs, workshops and publications. The Preservation Alliance provides local assistance to architectural review boards and local government agencies on an as needed basis. If the assistance goes beyond cursory involvement, then a contractual agreement is established with the community for their services.

Another organization operating on the statewide level is the **Virginia Historic Society**. This group, which was founded in 1831, is a non profit institution that documents and exhibits the history and cultural life of Virginia from the earliest times to the present. The Historical Society is the state's major repository and resource for historical documents, photographs, architectural drawings and other records.

The **Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities** (APVA), founded in 1889, is the oldest statewide preservation organization in the nation. The Association has been responsible for several major restoration efforts in the state. Headquartered in Richmond, APVA also has local branches across Virginia, most of which own historic house museums and offer educational programs on history and preservation. The Thomas Jefferson Branch, which was formed in 1986, serves Charlottesville and Buckingham, Fluvanna, Albemarle and Nelson Counties. This all-volunteer group is dedicated to educating the public about preservation issues and concerns and holds several programs for members and the general public each year.

The **Piedmont Environmental Council** is a regional organization established in 1972 to preserve the traditional character and visual order of the countryside, towns and villages of the Northern Piedmont Region of Virginia. One of PEC's primary mission is to serve as a lobbying group to represent the region's interests on the state and national level. The PEC also has a local office in Charlottesville that works closely with citizen-activist groups to protect the quality of life in Charlottesville.

The **Archaeological Society of Virginia** is a state-wide, not for profit organization of professional and amateur archaeologists that was founded in 1940. The group has a broad goal, the promotion of archaeology through public education. In addition, the Archaeological Society of Virginia promotes the study of prehistoric and historic archaeology of Virginia, works for the investigation and conservation of archaeological sites and materials, and promotes the spread of archaeological knowledge through publications, meetings, lectures and exhibits. The local chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, the Thomas Jefferson chapter, meets in Charlottesville and has participated in several research and mitigation projects over the course of its ten-year history.

City Agencies and Boards

The City has several departments and boards which deal with historic preservation issues. **City Council**, the main decision making body in the City, is responsible for adopting ordinances and plans dealing with historic preservation, creating and amending design control districts, designating historic landmarks, and appointing members to the Board of Architectural Review.

The **Planning Commission**, a seven member board appointed by City Council, is responsible for reviewing any proposed changes to a historic district, as well as proposals for the designation of new districts or landmarks, and making recommendations to City Council. The Commission is also responsible for reviewing amendments to the zoning ordinance and reviewing the proposed preservation plan prior to City Council adoption.

The **Board of Architectural Review** was created by City Council in May 1991 by consolidating three previously existing boards: the Board of Architectural Review, the Downtown Board of Architectural Review and the Historic Landmarks Commission. The consolidated Board was created to establish a single entity responsible for safeguarding and preserving properties and districts which reflect elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history. The Board, which is composed of nine members, reviews all plans affecting the exterior appearance of any structure or site in a local design control district. Their review includes new building construction, alteration, repair, moving and demolition within locally designated historic district zones.

The **Department of Neighborhood Development Services (previously Community Development)** provides ad hoc staffing for the Board of Architectural Review and contracts for the services of a part-time historian to inventory history resources in the City. The Department, working in conjunction with the Board of Architectural Review, is also responsible for preservation planning and for reviewing and proposing amendments to the preservation ordinance as needed.

City-Wide Groups

The **Albemarle County Historical Society** serves both the Charlottesville and Albemarle County area. Formed in 1940, the Historical Society sponsors a variety of educational programs, seeks to stimulate the rehabilitation of historic buildings, assists preservation planning and aids in historical research of the area. The Society provides a range of services including annual and quarterly publications, educational programs on local history to local elementary schools, walking tours, exhibits, slide presentations and an extensive research library which is open to the public.

Preservation Piedmont is a local community based organization which was formed in 1992 to focus public attention and resources on the preservation of the region's heritage. The group monitors the protection of historic properties, promotes tourism and attempts to educate the public about historic resources in Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and the surrounding counties. The group works closely with other preservation groups in the area to achieve common goals and objectives.

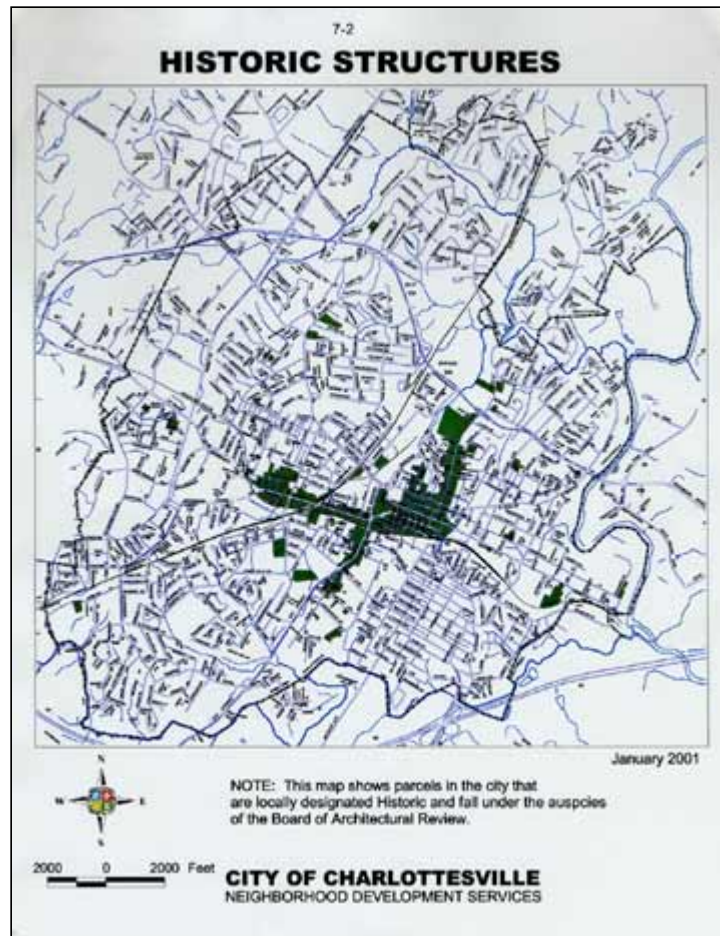
What's Designated: National, State and Local

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's principal listing of historical significant districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. There are currently five districts and 35 individual properties listed on the National Register in Charlottesville. Not to be confused with local architectural design control efforts, National Register designation is primarily honorary, but does have some associated federal rehabilitation tax benefits. These incentives include a twenty percent credit on the cost of rehabilitation of income producing historic properties. While some degree of protection is afforded to National Register properties and districts when a federal agency is involved or federal funding is being utilized, there is no mechanism for formal review at the local level. Currently, the only National Register District which is also protected on the local level is the Charlottesville/Albemarle County Courthouse District.

The five National Register Districts within City limits are shown on Maps _____ and include the following:

- 1. Charlottesville/Albemarle County Courthouse Historic District** – This district is comprised of the original fifty acre town grid and expansion areas to the west of Court Square and north along Park Street. This area was settled by Charlottesville's early lawyers, doctors and merchants. Their homes were built of both brick and wood and were solid, well-proportioned and simply designed. The Federal style of architecture dominated well into the nineteenth century, when the Colonial Revival and neo-classical systems began to appear. Main Street was not the primary mercantile district until after 1840 when businesses expanded south from Court Square.
- 2. Ridge Street Historic District** – Ridge Street was the principal residential street of the City's wealthy merchants and other businessmen in the 1870-80's. Suburban expansion, made possible by the availability of the automobile, halted by its development and led to various transitions in use for the large turn-of-the century houses. Although suffering from losses from the widening of Ridge Street and Cherry Avenue, the physical character of the street has basically remained the same.
- 3. Wertland Street Historic District** – Also a turn-of-the century residential neighborhood, this district is an enclave of high style Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Victorian homes. Although basically intact on its exterior, many have been converted to multi-family dwellings. Due to its proximity to the University, many tenants are part of the City's student population. Increasing housing demands by the University and the large lot sizes has resulted in the expansion of existing structures, often times with construction that is incompatible with the Districts historical context.



Rugby Road – University Corner Historic District – This District was part of the suburban sprawl movement and did not develop until after the 1890’s. The District was originally settled primarily by University professors and local professionals, constructing many examples of outstanding architecture in the Arts and Crafts styles (Queen Anne, Stick, Bungalow) and the revival styles (Georgian, Colonial, Roman, Greek). The majority of the houses on Rugby Road and Madison Lane are currently occupied by fraternities and sororities. Approximately twenty of these houses were rehabilitated in the early eighties, taking advantage of the federal tax credit incentives made available to properties located in National Register Districts. Many of the districts commercial buildings located along University Avenue were built or had their facades restored in the 1920’s. The integrity of many of the historical structures in the district is being threatened by pressures to expand or reconstruct to accommodate increasing housing demands generated by the University population.

University of Virginia Historic District – This district includes the original buildings and grounds designed by Thomas Jefferson and is now recognized as a historical resource of international significance. Since all University property is technically located on Albemarle County land, the City has no jurisdiction in this district. However, the University, City and County work together when making important development and land use decisions which will affect the areas as a whole.

Virginia Landmarks Register

Four of the five National Register Districts and four individual properties (excluding UVA properties) have also been designated on the Virginia Landmarks Register. The Virginia Register provides formal recognition of the Commonwealth’s most prominent historic resources although its places no restrictions on the property owner. All properties listed on the State Register are nominated to the National Register.

Local Design Control Districts

Many of the properties and districts which have been designated by the State and National Registers are not protected under local ordinance. Twenty-one of the 35 buildings and four of the five historic districts included on

the National Register are not locally protected. The remaining district, the Charlottesville and Albemarle County Courthouse District, is designated as a local historic district, although the boundaries of the national and local districts do not coincide exactly. In addition, a total of 97 individual properties have been designated locally as Historic Landmarks and included as minor design control districts. Locally protected properties include a range of building types including residences, religious properties, commercial establishments, warehouses, theaters, as well as memorials.

Properties in local historic districts are afforded a great deal more protection than National Register properties. The Board of Architectural Review reviews all projects which affect the exterior appearance of any locally designated property. The Board evaluates the project based on a number of criteria including its economic feasibility and compatibility of the proposed construction/alteration with the site and other properties in the design control district. The Board also ensures that the proposed rehabilitation work complies with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

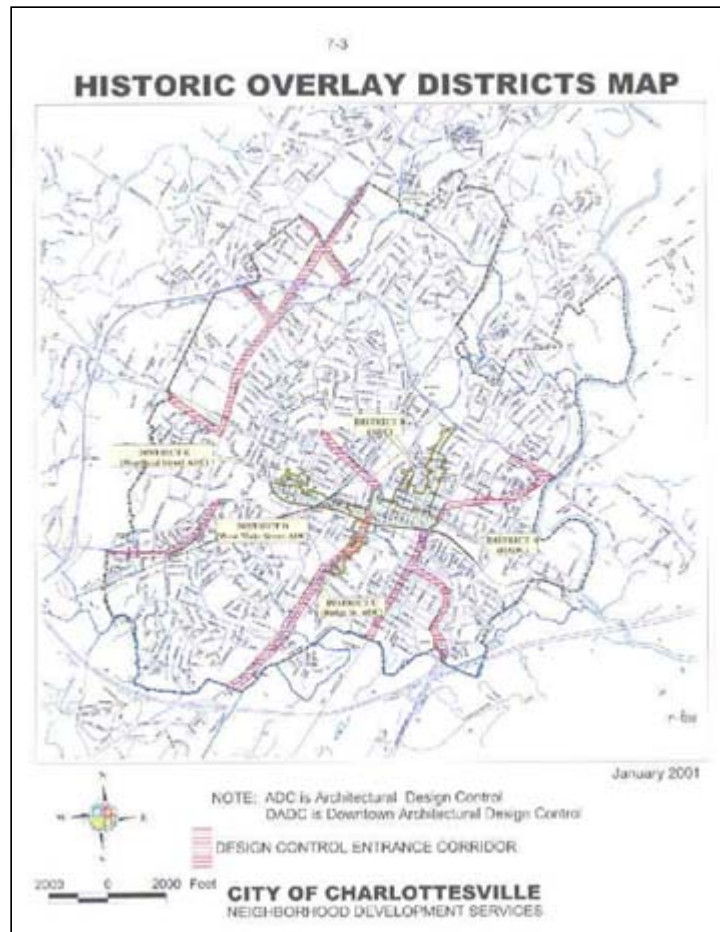


TABLE 1: NUMBER OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES DESIGNATED ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Number of National Register District Structures:

Charlottesville-Albemarle County Courthouse District	354
Ridge Street District	42
Rugby Road-University Corner District	209
Wertland Street District	34
National Register – Individually Designated Properties	33
Outside of National Register Districts	
Total National Register Structures	672*

Local Architectural Design Control Districts:

Downtown Architectural Design Control District	325
Individual Structures (Minor Design Control Districts)	97
	405

Potential Architectural Design Control Districts:

West Main Street	71
University Corner	65
Total	136

*323 of these structures are also located in local design control districts. The remaining 349 National Register structures are not protected on the local level.

Protecting Charlottesville's Archaeological Resources

Over the past few years, a number of significant archaeological sites within the Charlottesville community have been adversely impacted by development construction. In each of these cases, no review of the potential impact of development to archaeological resources was conducted, and no archaeological mitigation was performed. For example, the new law offices of McGuire, Woods, Battle and Boothe between High and Jefferson, and Third and Fourth Streets replaced a city owned parking lot. Beneath the parking lot were the remains of the Opie Norris House, a two story Federal structure dating to the early 19th century, and the B. S. Dickerson house a late 19th century ornate Victorian structure. Local residents took photographs of the archaeological remains and collected artifacts before the parking basement for the law office was excavated. Most recently, during excavation for the new Marriott Hotel on West Main Street between 12th and 12½ Streets, construction workers dug through a rich layer of material culture dating to the mid-nineteenth century. City insurance maps showed that several nineteenth century domestic structures lined West Main Street at this point. During construction, visitors to the site noticed a well and other structural features exposed before they were bulldozed. While the architectural merit and historical value of the two extant early twentieth century structures on the property were widely debated, the site's archaeological resources predating this period were never discussed.

Over the past few decades, the pressure from growth and development has dramatically impacted the presence and survival of our City's valuable historic resources. Archaeological resources in particular have been severely impacted. Charlottesville's archaeological resources must be viewed as an integral part of the city's cultural history. Now, more than ever, Charlottesville needs to provide effective protection measures for its archaeological resources. Because of its rich and diverse history, Charlottesville also needs to protect a broad range of archaeological resources so that everyone within our city can claim a sense of belonging and maintain a positive and meaningful sense of identity with their community. A zoning ordinance and historic district overlay is one way in which a local government can provide a legal and broadly effective protection program for archaeological resources.

What is an archaeological site?

An archaeological site may be defined as a place that contains archaeological resources. Examples of archaeological resources include human remains and objects such as tools, bone, bottles, dishes, and nails which are representative of prehistoric and historic periods. Areas that contain these objects are also archaeological resources and include graves, wells, privies, trash pits, quarries, back yards, basements, and foundations. Examples of archaeological sites within Charlottesville that might contain archaeological resources are prehistoric camps, historic residences, schools, farms, cemeteries, roads, railways and Civil War camps and hospitals.

How can Charlottesville determine the location of and define archaeological resources? In order to determine the location of or potential for archaeological resources, historic districts must be identified. As defined by the Code of Virginia, an historic district may include single or multiple sites. Any future designated archaeological district within Charlottesville must also be clearly delineated. A description of the characteristics of each district must

explain why it is significant to the history of Charlottesville. Many localities in Virginia already use the criteria provided by the National Register of Historic Places to establish significance. These criteria are broadly defined and include buildings, structures, landscapes, places, or sites that are: 1) associated with significant events, 2) associated with the lives of significant persons, 3) that embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value, and 4) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Ultimately any comprehensive list of archaeological districts should reflect what the residents of Charlottesville hold valuable. The city of Charlottesville already has an existing historic overlay district that focuses predominantly on architecture. These previously identified districts will provide a solid foundation for an archaeological district overlay to build upon. A comprehensive list of archaeological districts should also be based on the current knowledge of historic Charlottesville, and the diverse themes or subjects that significantly contribute to its historic and cultural heritage. This might include themes such as industry, education, African-American history, Irish-American history, Civil War Charlottesville, Revolutionary War Charlottesville, etc.

Examples of Local Archaeological Sites

There are many sites within Charlottesville that contribute significantly enough to be identified as archaeological districts. The Venable Lane area including the historically African-American residential area called "Canada", could be recognized as an archaeological zone. One of the area's first residents was Catherine Foster, a free American-American, settled there in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Many of the Canada's residents catered to the needs of a growing University during the antebellum period.

The Charlottesville Woolen Mills area and vicinity might also be recognized as an archaeological zone. A grist mill was first established on Moore's Creek in the late eighteenth century. By the second quarter of the nineteenth century, William Meriwether had established "Pireus", an industrial complex that included a large grist mill and sawmill. A small textile factory, the Charlottesville Woolen Mills, was established shortly before the Civil War. Today, the area still remains much of its architectural integrity including factories and worker housing from the turn of the century.

The site of the Delevan House, or "Mudwall", at the intersection of 7th and West Main Streets could also be recognized as an archaeological site. Built between 1826 and 1828 by John H. Cocke, a strong advocate of the Temperance Reform movement, the Delevan House originally served as an alcohol free boarding house for University of Virginia students. Originally called the Union Hotel, Cocke renamed it the Delevan Hotel in honor of the "eminent reformer of Albany, New York". During the Civil War, it was used as a hospital for Confederate wounded. It was later condemned and torn down in 1876 and the present First Baptist Church built in its place.

Benefits of Protecting Archaeological Resources

The benefits of protecting archaeological resources to Charlottesville's residents, businesses, and the surrounding community are numerous. Foremost, it has been demonstrated that the preservation of historic resources in general promotes heritage tourism and other broad economic benefits. Archaeology is history and history is attractive to visitors. In 1995, the Preservation Alliance of Virginia conducted a study, which found that historic preservation is a key component in, and contributes significantly to Virginia's economy. This is particularly true in Charlottesville and surrounding Albemarle County. Visitors to areas that encourage historic preservation "stay longer" visit twice as many places, and spend, on average, over two-and-a-half times more money in Virginia than do other visitors. Historic preservation appeals to a more broad audience than any other visitor activity.

Moreover, it has also been shown that historic overlay districts, a common method of defining and protecting historic resources, maintain and enhance property value over time. Property values within historic districts appreciate at a substantially faster rate than properties not located in an historic district.

The Federal Government also grants tax credits to all properties that are listed on the National Register. Any archaeological site, which meets National Register criteria for eligibility, could qualify for such a tax credit.

Lastly, and most importantly, historic preservation maintains and improves the quality of life for a community through raising awareness, promoting education, and increasing general knowledge of a locality's historic resources. When archaeological resources are identified and protected, it fosters a sense of pride, identity and continuity with our city's historic resources. This link with history is often considered a defining characteristic of the distinctiveness of particular neighborhoods. Archaeological sites are educational and can contribute to the general history of Charlottesville and the particular histories of its inhabitants. For example, knowledge of the antebellum Black community obtained through archaeological excavation of the Catherine Foster residence at the Venable Lane site, contributed to a recent Charlottesville exhibit.

According to the existing City Code (Article XVIII, as amended 1991) and the Charlottesville Historic Preservation Plan (1993), the city has already expressed a strong desire to preserve and protect its richly diverse historic and cultural heritage. Currently, however, there is no plan that allows the city to assess, evaluate, or manage its known or unknown archaeological sites. The protection of Charlottesville's archaeological resources would benefit the city government in numerous ways. Foremost, it would provide the city with protection from state and federal compliance regulations. Currently any project that receives federal permits or uses federal monies, such as Transportation Enhancement funds (TEA-21) or Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), must take into account the effect of the undertaking on cultural resources. By instituting a plan for the protection and management of archaeological resources, the City would insure that these federal regulations would not be violated. In addition, preservation of the city's historic resources is also an important issue for many citizens. The protection of the city's historical and archaeological resources has been brought up as a significant concern of Charlottesville residents in both the Court Square Development Study, the Court Square Space Study, and at the Neighborhood planning level. Many citizens believe historic preservation in general can and should become a significant part of the city's Comprehensive Plan. By instituting a plan for the protection and management of archaeological resources, the city would be implementing a policy significant to many voters. Finally, the surrounding county of Albemarle is in the process of drafting and implementing an Historic Preservation Plan and Historic Overlay District Ordinance, which would protect all of its historic resources, including archaeological resources. Coordination of historic preservation efforts with Albemarle County and central Virginia in general could benefit the economy at a regional level.

Ultimately, Charlottesville's cultural and historic resources contribute significantly to how the city is perceived by both visitors and its residents. Our historic resources provide the city with a unique identity and sense of place and distinguish us from other localities. Archaeological resources are a significant part of this identity and actively contribute to the history of Charlottesville, complimenting both documentary records and historic architecture.

Preservation Planning

A commitment to the protection and management of Charlottesville's archaeological resources will necessarily entail preservation planning. The protection and management of archaeological resources is not cost free and to be successful, it must be fully integrated within the city's planning and implementation processes. Initiating a survey to identify, define and assess the city's archaeological resources and establish an overlay historic district should not be a difficult or cost prohibitive process. The Commonwealth's Department of Historic Resources in Richmond operates a Certified Local Government, Cost-Share Program that has helped to fund the implementation of such programs in the past.