

**BOC Meeting
August 21, 2023**

Legislative Hearing:

First Presbyterian Church Landmark Designation

Application and Consultant's Report for Local Land Mark Designation Consideration

LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION APPLICATION & REPORT



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County North Carolina

SUBMITTED TO:

Homestead Events LLC
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, NC 28092

May 1, 2023

Technical Report # 2023-016NC



RICHARD
GRUBB &
ASSOCIATES

APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Preparing Your Application:

Please type or use black ink and use paper no larger than 11" x 17" for the required supporting information. Lincoln County Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) staff is available to provide advice in the preparation of this application.

Filing Your Application:

When completed, the attached application will initiate consideration of a property for designation as a local historic landmark. The application will enable the HPC to determine whether the property qualifies for designation.

Mail the application to Lincoln County Historic Preservation Commission, 115 W. Main St., Lincolnton, NC 28092. Submitted materials become the property of the HPC and will not be returned. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant for revision. HPC staff will contact applicants after receiving an application to discuss the next steps of the designation process (see Landmark Designation Q & A for more information). Please feel free to contact HPC with any questions at 704-736-8440, or e-mail at abryant@lincolncounty.org.

Thank you very much for your interest in protecting HPC's historic resources!

**The guidelines developed for this application are based on the evaluation process used by the National Register of Historic Places. National Register evaluation principles regarding criteria, category classifications, and integrity have been adapted for local applications.*

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: First Presbyterian Church

Current Name: _____

2. Location

Please include the full street address of the property, including its local planning jurisdiction. HPC Identification (PIN) and Real Estate Identification (REID) Numbers can be found at the Lincoln County GIS property information website at www.lincolncounty.org. Click on "County Government", then "Online Services" then click on "Lincoln County GIS System".

Street Address: 114 West Main Street

Planning Jurisdiction: Lincolnton PIN Number: 3623747102 REID: 54905

3. Owner Information (If more than one, list primary contact)

Name: Byron Sackett, Homesteads Events

Address: 114 West Main Street

Phone: 704.293.3611 Email: byron@homesteadsevents.com

4. Applicant/Contact Person (If other than owner)

Name: Annie McDonald, Senior Architectural Historian

Address: Richard Grubb & Associates, 525 Wait Avenue, Wake Forest, NC 27587

Phone: 919.238.4596 ext. 406 Email: amcdonald@rgaincorporated.com

5. Signatures

I have read the general information on landmark designation provided by the Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission and affirm that I support landmark designation of the property defined herein.

Owner: Byron Sackett

Date: 5/1/23

Applicant: Byron Sackett

Date: 5/1/23

OFFICE USE ONLY: Received by: _____ **Date:** _____

6. General Date/Site Information

A. Date of Construction and major additions/alterations: 1917–1918 (church)

B. Number, type, and date of construction of outbuildings: ca. 1850 (outbuilding); 1956–1957 (education bldg.)

C. Approximate lot size or acreage: .91 acres

D. Architect, builder, carpenter, and /or mason: Charles Christian Hook (Charlotte), architect;
Henry A. Kistler (Lincolnton), builder

E. Original Use: Church

F. Present Use: Private event venue

G. Significance for Landmark Designation: Architectural significance

7. Classification

A. Category (fill in type from below): Building

- Building – created principally to shelter any form of human activity (i.e. house, barn/stable, hotel, church, school, theater, etc.)
- Structure – constructed usually for purposes other than creating human shelter (i.e. tunnel, bridge, highway, silo, etc.)
- Object – constructions that are primarily artistic in nature. Although movable by nature or design, an object is typically associated with a specific setting or environment (i.e. monument, fountain, etc.)
- Site – the location of a historic event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value, regardless of the value of any existing structure (i.e. battlefields, cemeteries, designed landscape, etc.)

B. Ownership (check one): Private Public

C. Number of Contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:

A contributing building, site, structure, or object adds to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archeological values for which a property is significant because it was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significance of the property, and possesses historic integrity or is capable of yielding important information about the period.

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Non-contributing</u>
Buildings	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Structures	_____	_____
Objects	_____	_____
Sites	_____	_____

D. Previous field documentation (when and by whom): 1985 by Marvin Brown; 1994 by Davyd Foard Hood

Please contact Andrew Bryant at the Lincoln County Planning and Inspections Office to determine if the property is included in the Lincoln County survey (704-736-8440).

E. National Register Status and date (listed, eligible, study list): NRHP-listed 1994

Please contact Andrew Bryant at (704-736-8440).

8. **Supporting Documentation** (Please type or print and attach to application on separate sheets. Please check box when item complete.)



A. Required Photographs

All photographs are required to be **digital, in JPEG (.jpg) format, and submitted on a recordable CD or DVD.** Please note the following requirements:

- **Minimum Standard: 6.5" x 4.5" at a resolution of 300ppi** (a pixel dimension of **1950 x 1350**)
- **File Size:** There is no maximum or minimum for the file size of an image; however, smaller file sizes may be necessary when emailing images.
- **Proof Sheet:** Proof sheets are still required to show what is on a CD or DVD without having to load to disk. Proofs may be printed in either color or black and white as long as the images are crisp and legible. There should be a minimum of four and a maximum of six proofs per 8.5" x 11" sheet, with no image smaller than 3.25" on its longest side. Proofs should be labeled as they appear on the disk.
- **Naming Images:** Please label image files for the Local Designation Application as follows:
LN_PropertyName_Description.jpg (ex. LN_ABCHouse_front_façade.jpg)

For buildings and structures, include all elevations and at least one (1) photo of all other contributing and non-contributing resources, as well as at least one (1) photo showing the main building or structure within its setting. For objects, include a view of the object within its setting, as well as a variety of representative views. For sites, include overall views and any significant details.



B. Floor Plan (for buildings and structures)

Please include a detailed floor plan showing the original layout, dimensions of all rooms, and any additions (with dates) to the building or structure. Drawings do not have to be professionally produced nor do they need to be to exact scale, but should accurately depict the layout and dimensions of the property.



C. Maps

Include two (2) maps: one (1) clearly indicating the location of the property in relation to the local community, and one (1) showing the boundaries of the property. Tax maps with the boundaries of the property are preferred, but survey or sketch maps are acceptable. Please show street names and numbers and all structures on the property.



D. Historical significance (Applies to all classifications)

Note any significant events, people, and/or families associated with the property. Please clearly define the significance of the property in the commercial, social or political history of Lincoln County or of the local community. Include all major property owners of the property, if known. Include a bibliography of sources consulted.



E. Architectural description, significance and integrity (for buildings, structures and objects)

For **buildings and structures**, describe significant exterior architectural features, additions, remodeling, alterations and any significant outbuildings. For **objects**, describe the physical appearance of the object(s) to be designated in context of the history of the local community or of Lincoln County. For example, a building or structure might be a community's only surviving example of Greek Revival architecture or it may be a unique local interpretation of the Arts and Crafts movement. An object might be a statue designed by a notable sculptor. Include a description of how the building, structure or object currently conveys its historic integrity. For example, does it retain elements of its original design, materials, location, workmanship, setting, historic associations, or feeling, or any combination thereof? Please include a bibliography of sources consulted.



F. Property boundary, significance and integrity (Applies to all classifications)

Describe the land area to be designated, address any prominent landscape features. Clearly explain the significance of the land area proposed for designation and its historical relationship to the **building(s), structure(s) or object(s)** located within the property boundary or, in the case of **sites**, the historical event or events that make the land area significant. For **buildings and structures**, the designated land area may represent part of or the entire original parcel boundaries, or may encompass vegetative buffers or important outbuildings. For **objects**, the designated land area may continue to provide the object's historic context (i.e., a statue's historic park setting). For **sites**, the designated area may encompass a landscape that retains its historic integrity (i.e. a battlefield encompassing undisturbed historic view sheds).

8A. Required Photographs

See Attachments

8B. Floor Plan

See Attachments

8C. Maps

See Attachments

8D. History

The following historical narrative is condensed from the Section 8 narrative of the 1994 NRHP nomination prepared by Davyd Foard Hood. Citations are provided for Hood's NRHP nomination as well as additional material incorporated from other sources.

SUMMARY HISTORY

The First Presbyterian Church, built in 1917–1918, is the third church building erected in Lincolnton by the Presbyterian congregation, which dates to 1815. Organized as Emanuel's Presbyterian Church, the congregation was the third to be established in a community which, in 1815, had only Lutheran and Reformed churches. From 1815 until 1839, the congregation held services in the Union Church that had been erected by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. In 1839, the Presbyterian congregation completed its first church on Water Street and renamed itself the Lincolnton Presbyterian Church. During the second half of the nineteenth century, the Lincolnton Presbyterian Church acquired a portion of the former Ramsour-Phifer estate, a lot at the corner of West Main and Government Streets, where they built a Gothic Revival-style church in 1891–1892. Having outgrown the new church in only twenty years, the congregation erected the present Late Gothic Revival-style church, designed by Charlotte architect Charles Christian Hook, in 1917–1918. The building remains substantially intact to its original construction and is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival in ecclesiastical architecture (Hood 1994).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

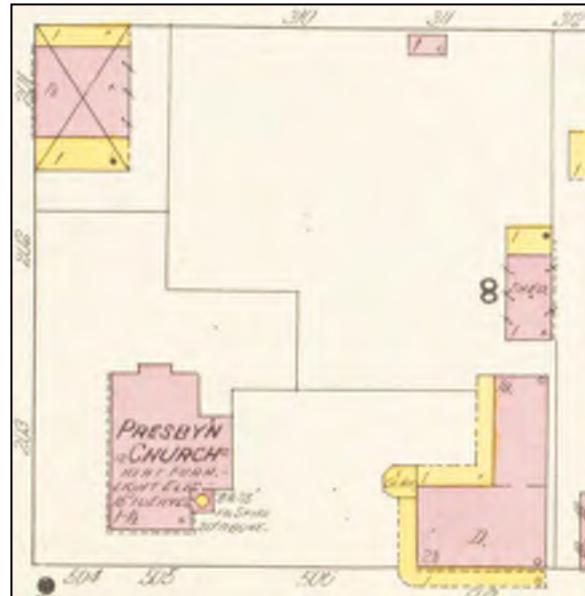
The Presbyterian congregation in Lincolnton was formally organized in 1815. The Rev. Dr. Hunter served as pastor to the fledgling congregation of what was then called Emanuel's Presbyterian Church. In 1821, the Reverend Joseph E. Bell began his pastoral service for the congregation. From 1815 until 1839, the Presbyterian congregation held services in the Union Church, which was built by the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. In April 1838, the Presbyterian congregation built its first church building. It was erected on land conveyed by Paul Kistler to the church trustees for \$100. The property, which fronted what is now West Water Street, was a part of lot 19 in the southwest square of Lincolnton. The building was dedicated on the last Sunday in June 1839. In that year, the name of the congregation was changed to the Lincolnton Presbyterian Church (Hood 1994).

Discussion concerning a new church building apparently began in the late 1880s. On April 15, 1890, three leading church members were appointed to a committee charged with obtaining property for a new church and erecting the building. On 28 May 1890, they acquired the lot in the north corner of West Main and Government streets for \$1,000. It was a part of the estate of Col. John F. Phifer (d. 1886), whose commodious brick house stood a short distance to the east on Main Street. A brick outbuilding that was one and one-half stories tall with one-story, wood-framed wings occupied the west corner of the property.

According to church tradition, construction began on the new Gothic Revival-style church in the spring of 1891. Although erected on the site of the current church, the late nineteenth-century building was much smaller than the current structure and only rose 20 feet to the eaves. Of load-bearing-brick construction, it featured an L-shaped asymmetrical footprint with a corner tower rising from the inset corner of the L. A frame spire capped the tower. Large stained-glass windows illuminated the sanctuary (Figure 1). The congregation held its first service in the new church on 10 July 1892. The Lincolnton Presbyterian Church was the first of Lincolnton's churches to relocate to Main Street, and within the next three decades the Reformed, Methodist, and Baptist congregations would follow its example (Hood 1994; Sanborn Map Company [SMC] 1896; SMC 1911).

The Presbyterian church membership grew continuously through the turn of the twentieth century and exceeded 200 members by 1911. The nineteenth-century church is said to have comfortably seated 100 persons, meaning that the congregation outgrew the building within twenty years of its construction. The congregation resolved to build a new church in June 1916, and a committee was appointed to raise funds for a new building. By the summer of 1917, the committee had \$20,000 in hand or in pledges. The Building Committee engaged Charlotte architect Charles Christian Hook (1870–1938) to design the new edifice. A native of Wheeling, West Virginia, Hook graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1890. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, where he practiced architecture from 1891 until his death in 1938. During his long career, Hook lent his name to three partnerships, the first of which was Hook & Sawyer with Frank McMurray Sawyer. Hook & Sawyer operated from 1898 to 1905. From 1905 to 1916, he worked with Willard G. Rogers in the firm Hook & Rogers. Charles Hook worked with his son, Walter, in the firm Hook & Hook until his death. During the period that the First Presbyterian Church was planned and erected, Charles Christian Hook was working as an independent architect. (Hood 1994; Lincoln County News [LNC] 26 July 1917:3; Michael 2009).

Working primarily in the western Piedmont region, Hook designed many institutional buildings, such as schools and hospitals, at a time when North Carolina's population was rapidly growing and local governments and other organizations were investing heavily in



public infrastructure. He also designed several churches during his career. In 1891, he designed the now-demolished Episcopal Church in Blowing Rock, Watauga County. In 1901–1902, Hook prepared plans for Grace Episcopal Church in Lexington, Davidson County. Of brick construction, this small building displayed Gothic Revival-style features but has been heavily altered since the mid-twentieth century. In 1905, Hook designed the First Presbyterian Church in Mocksville, Davie County. An imposing brick edifice that appears to be substantially intact, this church displays some of the same features as the First Presbyterian Church in Lincolnton, including the one-story arcaded entrance loggia. In Mocksville, the loggia spans the space between a tall corner tower with an open base and a one-story enclosed room that projects from the corner opposite the tower. Although the Mocksville church displays some Gothic Revival-style elements, it is more fully expressive of the Renaissance Revival style, which is unusual in ecclesiastical architecture. Erected in 1916 in a rural area of Waxhaw, Union County, the Banks Presbyterian Church is a weatherboard-clad, wood-framed church with an asymmetrical plan that displays elements of the Gothic Revival style (Michael 2009).

The contractor for the Lincolnton church was Henry A. Kistler, a prominent local brick mason and builder, who had erected the Reinhardt Building and would later erect Emmanuel Lutheran Church and the Lincoln County Courthouse. It had been determined that the new church would be erected on the site of the nineteenth-century church and demolition of the nineteenth-century building began on 9 June 1917. The site was cleared and preparations for the new building began in earnest. In late July 1917, Charles Hook visited Lincolnton to survey the site for the new building's foundation. While he was in Lincolnton, the congregation removed the old cornerstone to inspect its contents, finding that they had been entirely lost to moisture infiltration. In August 1917, the site was excavated to begin construction of the new church (Figure 2). The memorial cornerstone was laid on 16 September 1917. The building, dominated by the twin towers on its front elevation, was completed at a cost of \$25,000, and the first worship service was held on the last Sunday of March 1918 (Hood 1994; LNC 17 September 1917:1). It appears as though the stained-glass windows that decorated the nineteenth-century church were retained and reinstalled in the new building.

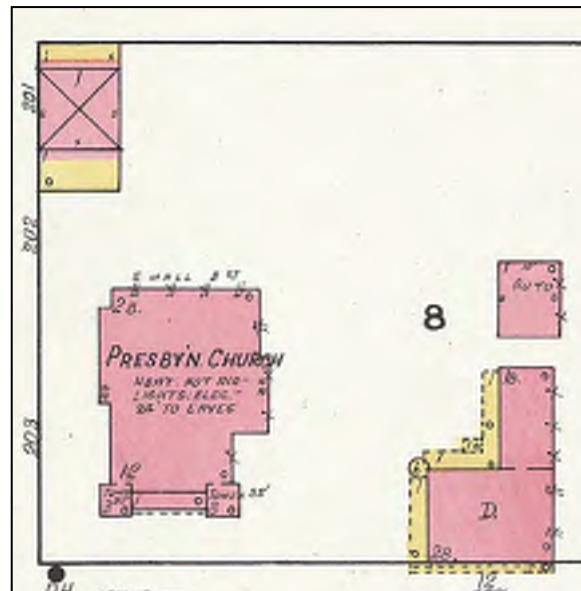


Figure 2: Detail of the 1921 Sanborn Map, showing the location of the 1917–1918 Presbyterian Church (left), the non-extant Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House and extant outbuilding (right), and non-extant outbuilding (upper left) (Sanborn Map Company, 1921).

The Lincolnton congregation changed its name to the First Presbyterian Church while the new building was being erected. During construction, the congregation held services in the courtroom of the county courthouse just one block away (LNC 17 September 1917:1).

The local congregation's expanded facilities also benefitted the larger Presbyterian Synod. In 1922, the First Presbyterian Church hosted the 109th annual session of the North Carolina Synod, which had record-breaking attendance. The gathering brought 150 ministers and 105

ruling elders to Lincolnton, and sessions were held in the First Presbyterian Church, which “afforded plenty of room for the synod work and conference sessions” (LNC 26 October 1922:1–2).

After Rev. Dr. Wilson departed First Presbyterian Church in January 1922, the church was served by a succession of ministers, including Rev. Wilson himself, who again ministered from 1929 until 1937. Of this group, perhaps the most important in the history of the congregation and its expanding role of outreach, youth ministry, and educational programs was the Reverend Allen Crews McSween, who served the congregation from 1946 until 1953. The broadened program of church activity initiated by McSween soon outpaced the facilities of the 1918 church. In the mid-1950s, the church embarked on the construction of an educational building. In 1955–1956, the church engaged the Philadelphia-based architect Harold Eugene Wagoner to design a new educational building/fellowship hall (Hood 1994).

Wagoner’s plans for the new facility are dated March and July 1956, and construction began on the building in June 1956 (Figure 3). Completed in 1957, the new building enabled the congregation to expand its Sunday school and Boy Scout programming and provided a large, well-appointed, and well-lit fellowship hall with an attached kitchen (Hood 1994; *The Lincoln Times* 30 January 1956:1). The work completed in the mid-1950s was extensive and involved not only the construction of the new educational building/fellowship hall, but also significant grading and site development. To facilitate the new construction, the ground was leveled from the north corner of the property along West Sycamore Street. The gently sloping grade was cut back to a point near the back of the church, and retaining walls were installed. Short retaining walls that are roughly 3 feet high and hold low planter beds were added immediately behind the church. Taller retaining walls that are roughly 6 feet high enclose the rear yard behind and to the south of the new building. The congregation included an outdoor grill built into the retaining wall.

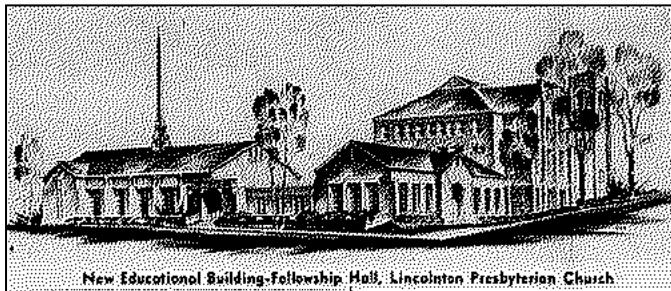


Figure 3: Architect’s rendering of the educational building/fellowship hall, constructed in 1956 – 1957, on the site of the non-extant brick outbuilding at the corner of Government and Sycamore streets (*The Lincoln Times* 30 January 1956:1).

Through the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, the congregation embarked on several minor projects at the property, including the creation of a playground and side yard to the east of the church. Although the playground equipment has since been removed, brick pavers and benches remain in an area near the southeast edge of the property. These features occupy the site of the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House, which was constructed in 1820 and later expanded and renovated through the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The congregation demolished the house in the late twentieth century prior to 1993. The extant brick outbuilding, which was likely constructed in the mid-nineteenth century and may have served as a dwelling for people enslaved by the Ramsour family, is the only remnant of the former domestic use of the property. It was reduced in size in the early 1900s and converted to use as a garage circa 1920. The congregation continued to use the building for storage through the early 2000s. Between 1994 and 2008, the congregation replaced the original wood windows in the rear portion of the building with vinyl replacement sash. The new double-hung, one-over-one vinyl windows replicate the operation and configuration of

the original wood sash. Between 2012 and 2015, the church erected an internally illuminated electronic sign at the south corner of the property, near the intersection of West Main and Government streets.

In March 2022, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina conveyed the property to the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina (Lincoln County Register of Deeds Deed Book [DB] 3143:647–650). Immediately thereafter, the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina sold the property to the current owner, Homesteads Events (LCRD DB 3143:651–661).

Bibliography

Hood, Davyd Foard

1994 First Presbyterian Church. National Register of Historic Places nomination. 30 June.

The Lincoln County News (Lincolnton, North Carolina)

1917 Local Notes and Personals. 26 July:3.

1917 Memorial Stone Exercises Sunday:17 September: 1.

1922 Record Broken for Attendance Presbyterian Synod Here. 26 October:1–2.

The Lincoln Times (Lincolnton, North Carolina)

1956 Presbyterians Approve Plans For New Educational Bldg. 30 January:1.

Michael, Michelle Ann

2009 Hook, Charles Christian (1870–1938). In North Carolina Architects & Builders: A Biographical Dictionary. Electronic document, <https://nearchitects.lib.ncsu.edu/people/P000211>, accessed March 15, 2023.

Sanborn Map Company

1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina.

1890 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina.

1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina.

1906 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina

1911 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina

1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina

8E. Architectural description, significance, and integrity

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1918, the First Presbyterian Church at 114 West Main Street embodies important elements of Lincolnton's and Lincoln County's architectural history [NCGS §160D-940(1)] and is of special significance to Lincolnton and Lincoln County for its outstanding representation of high-style Gothic Revival-style architecture that retains integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, and feeling [NCGS §160D-945]. The property is among a small collection of Gothic Revival-style ecclesiastical buildings in Lincoln County and stands out as one of the most elaborate and most intact expressions of the style from the first quarter of the twentieth century. Character-defining features of the property that embody the distinctive characteristics of the Gothic Revival style of architecture include the shallow, cast-stone-capped engaged buttresses; pointed-arched window openings; the wider limestone arches of the entrance bays in the front loggia; and the belfry vents. To preserve and protect the character-defining features that represent the Gothic Revival-style architecture and special significance of the property, the proposed designation applies to the exterior of all buildings and structures on the property, and to the grounds (PIN# 3623747102).

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The subject property consists of three buildings, the grounds, and associated landscape features. The First Presbyterian Church is situated at the intersection of West Main Street and North Government Street, with its principal façade facing southeast. At the intersection of North Government Street and West Sycamore Street sits the educational building/fellowship hall, which spans more than half the width of the parcel from North Government Street almost to the alley. The educational building/fellowship hall is connected to the northwest elevation of the church by an open, arcaded walkway constructed of brick. Roughly centered at the eastern edge of the parcel is the third building, which is an outbuilding historically associated with a non-extant dwelling that was situated at the east corner of the parcel facing East Main Street. Because it post-dates the 1917 – 1918 First Presbyterian Church by nearly 40 years, displays a blend of the Modernist and Collegiate Gothic Revival styles, and is not directly related to the architectural significance of the church, for the purpose of the Local Landmark application, the educational building/fellowship hall is a non-contributing resource on the property.

Where the following architectural description relies heavily on the 1994 NRHP nomination prepared by Davyd Foard Hood, citations are provided.

First Presbyterian Church, 1917–1918, contributing (Attachment 8A, photos 1–36)

The First Presbyterian Church is basically a rectangular building, covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in slate. The building faces southeast toward West Main Street, at the corner of West Main and North Government streets. It has a shallow setback from the sidewalk along West Main Street, to allow for a wide, concrete-paved walkway leading to the façade. Identical square towers that rise above the ridgeline of the gabled roof project from the corners of the façade. Shallow projections extend a short distance from the southwest and northeast elevations. The southwest projection features a front-gabled roof, while the northeast projection has a hipped roof. The church is of load-bearing masonry construction

with exterior walls of dark red brick laid in common bond. Cast stone and poured cement are used to enframe and enhance door and window openings, the tops of the buttresses, and to mark the water table which encircles the building at the top of the basement. The front (southeast) two-thirds of the building contains the sanctuary: the rear of the building, featuring two-story elevations on an exposed basement level, originally housed Sunday school rooms and church offices (Hood 1994).

The façade (southeast elevation) presents a distinguished symmetrical composition featuring a gable-front block recessed between the pair of matching towers which anchor its front corners (**Figure 4**). A one-story-tall, three-part arcaded loggia that spans the façade between the towers serves as an entrance porch for the vestibules set in the base of the towers. Double-leaf wood doors, consisting of a single light above three horizontal panels in each leaf, open into the vestibules below heavy cast stone lintels. On the northwest wall of the arcade, three stained-glass windows, symmetrically placed behind the arcade openings, illuminate the sanctuary. Above the arcade, in the center of the front-gabled wall, is a group of three lancet-arched openings which also illuminate the sanctuary. The towers display a restrained, linear interpretation of the Gothic Revival style. Small window openings on the outer faces of the towers illuminate the vestibules. The cornerstone is positioned below the paired windows on the front face of the south tower. The tall shafts of the towers have broad, slightly projecting panels. The four sides of the tops of the towers have two-part openings, inside the curve of an arch, which are fitted with louvers indicating their function as belfries (Hood 1994).



Figure 4: View northwest of the façade (southeast elevation).

The southwest side elevation, which faces Government Street, consists of two parts (**Figure 5**). The section immediately north of the tower is two bays wide and is fitted with large, lancet-arched stained-glass windows that were reused from the 1891–1892 church. Here, at the point where the shallow projection abuts the sanctuary wall, there is a tall flight of poured concrete steps rising to a double-leaf, wood door opening onto the west vestibule of the sanctuary. Each leaf features a single window above three horizontal panels. It has a pent hood, and a circular stained-glass window pierces the wall above it. This window also appears to have been reused from the 1891–1892 church. The southwest face of the gable-front ell has a division on the basement and two upper stories. At the basement level, there is a double-leaf wood door in the southernmost bay. Each leaf has a single window above three horizontal panels, and an original two-light transom sits above the door. The central and northernmost bays each contain a double-



Figure 5: View northeast of the southwest elevation.

hung, one-over-one vinyl replacement window. The three bays of the first story all contain double-hung, one-over-one replacement windows. The openings in the basement and first story all feature thin sills of cast stone and wide cast stone lintels. The windows in the second story have pointed-arch top sashes below three-course rowlock brick arches with a projecting top course. A circular vent surrounded by two courses of rowlock brick pierces the gable peak (Hood 1994).

The northwest elevation of the church is also three levels tall, with an exposed basement level below the first story (Figure 6). It has a generally symmetrical pattern of fenestration on each level, which corresponds to the classrooms and offices that occupy the rooms to the northwest of the sanctuary (Hood 1994). The basement level and first story feature segmental-arched window openings with two-course rowlock brick arches. The windows of the second story are rectangular. The window openings on all three stories generally contain double-hung, one-over-one vinyl replacement sashes that are rectangular, with vinyl cladding in the area below the segmental arches of the basement level and first story. All windows have thin cast stone sills. Near the west corner of the northwest elevation, a double-leaf, flush door opens onto the connecting hyphen from the basement level. This door was likely added circa 1957 with the construction of the educational building/fellowship hall. Brick retaining walls that enclose raised planter beds on the northwest side of the church were also likely added circa 1957.



Figure 6: View south of the northwest elevation.

Although the configuration of the northeast elevation is more complex, it can generally be divided into three parts (Figure 7). The one-third of the building immediately adjacent to the tower is fitted with a large lancet-arched window, similar to the two on the opposite southwest elevation, which contains stained glass that was likely reused from the 1891–1892 church. The center section projects forward, with a ground-level, single-leaf wood door with four lights above two panels set within a segmental-arched opening capped by two courses of rowlock brick. Above the door, two small, widely spaced windows pierce the wall. Each contains a one-light vinyl sash within a segmental-arched opening capped by two courses of rowlock brick. These windows have thin cast-stone sills. The rear third of the elevation has a four-bay division on each of its three levels. On the basement level and the first story, the window openings have segmental-arched heads with two courses of rowlock brick. The window openings in the second story are rectangular. There are only three openings in the basement level, and they are all roughly square in their proportions and contain one-light fixed vinyl replacement sashes. The windows in the first and second stories contain double-hung, one-over-one vinyl replacement sashes and feature thin, cast-stone sills (Hood 1994).



Figure 7: View southwest of the northeast elevation.

Given the symmetrical design of the church facade and the generally symmetrical arrangement of bays on the side elevations of the sanctuary block, the sanctuary interior might be expected to have a symmetrical plan. That expectation does not hold true. Instead, the interior features a modified Akron plan with a theater-style sanctuary and adjoining space for extra seating or Sunday school (**Figure 8**). The interior is finished with traditional woodwork. The main sanctuary space is essentially square in plan and designed on a north-south axis, which is off-axis with the front elevation. The two front entrance vestibules and the west vestibule open into a sanctuary fitted with three tiers of original curved pews which are positioned to address the chancel in the true north corner of the space. Unlike the other chancels of Lincolnton churches, there is little architectural development of the Presbyterian chancel. It has a blind rear wall on which is mounted a wood Cross of Iona. The choir and organ console are positioned to the east of the chancel, and behind them (in the projecting center “third” of the northeast elevation) are the organ pipes and mechanical fittings. Nearly the entire northwest wall of the sanctuary is given over to a broad opening. Behind it is a rectangular two-level (Sunday school) alcove which has a fourth tier of curved oak pews: they are the ancillary seating of this version of the Akron plan. It is now unclear whether there were originally doors or screens which could separate this space from the sanctuary. Along the three outer sides of the alcove are rooms historically occupied by the library, the minister’s office, the ladies’ parlor, and the church office; these last three named rooms open off the alcove while the library opens off the west vestibule (Hood 1994). These smaller rooms have experienced varying degrees of alteration within the past five years, with the minister’s office and library having been combined and renovated to serve as a dressing and makeup room for special events. Within the sanctuary and two-story alcove, the plan, features, and finishes are largely intact to the original construction. Hardwood floors, smooth plaster walls, and wood trim are present throughout.



Figure 8: View southeast of the sanctuary interior, showing the modified Akron plan.

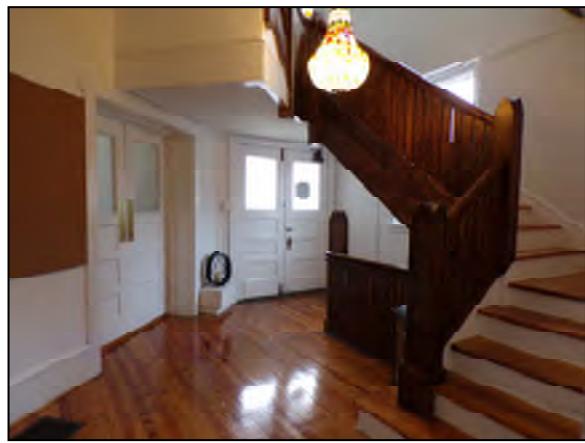


Figure 9: View south of the southwest entry vestibule and stair hall, showing the exterior doors (center) and doors to the sanctuary (left).

The ceiling of the sanctuary features exposed beams that have been painted white. In the west entrance vestibule, there is a traditionally finished staircase with flights of steps descending to the basement level and to the second story (**Figure 9**). On the second story, there is a series of classrooms that span the perimeter of the upper level of the sanctuary alcove; they are accessible by way of a balcony-like passage encircling the top of the alcove on three sides. A tall wood screen composed of flat boards set at an angle with a flat cap sits atop the low balcony wall. The rooms of the second story largely retain their original plan, features, and finishes (Hood 1994).

Educational Building/Fellowship Hall, 1956–1957, non-contributing (Attachment 8A photos 37–78)

Philadelphia architect Harold E. Wagoner designed the education building and attached fellowship hall, which were constructed from 1956 to 1957. The building expanded on the available educational space in the church (The Lincoln Times 30 January 1956:1). The one-story-tall edifice displays elements of the Collegiate Gothic Revival style on an otherwise plain building with Modernist influence evident in the overall form. The exterior walls are brick laid in running bond over a load-bearing concrete block structural system. Two main blocks, which front West Sycamore Street and North Government Street, respectively, comprise the majority of the building. The block facing West Sycamore Street primarily houses the fellowship hall, which is capped by a tall, slender spire, while the block fronting North Government Street contains classrooms on the main level and in the basement. Each of these blocks features a side-gabled roof. Connecting these two blocks is a large portion of the building that has a flat roof hidden behind a low parapet wall. This space primarily contains the kitchen at the southeast corner and hallways. A short hyphen connects the educational building/fellowship hall to the 1917–1918 church. This hyphen consists of a concrete-paved walkway with brick piers supporting the flat roof. The southwest side of the hyphen, facing North Government Street, is filled with a tall metal fence with a gate that limits access to the property. Unless otherwise specified, all windows contain fixed, aluminum replacement sash.

For the purpose of this description, the primary elevation is on the southwest side, facing North Government Street. This elevation is symmetrical and features a central recessed entrance within a slightly projecting central bay with a low-pitched, front-gabled roof concealed behind a short parapet wall (**Figure 10**). The segmental-arched entrance surround is of cast stone, within which the double-leaf wood door is composed of vertical planks. The door opens onto a shallow flagstone terrace with steps to the sidewalk below. Three tall, three-light windows flank the entrance bay to each side. The bottom portion of the outer two windows is operable. A cast stone beltcourse spans the façade directly above and abutting the windows. At the base of the windows, light wells contained within low brick retaining walls provide daylight to the basement-level classrooms. A metal grate covers each light well, and both have cast stone caps. The basement-level classrooms retain the building's only original windows, which consist of four-light steel sash windows, with the bottom light opening inward as a hopper window.



Figure 10: View northeast of the southwest elevation of the 1956–1957 education building.

The northwest elevation is the most complex and consists of the side elevation of the educational building to the west and the primary elevation of the gable-roofed fellowship hall to the east (**Figure 11**). The entrance on this side of the building is situated between these two sections and consists of a cast stone portal with a perforated parapet suggestive of crenelation above a centrally positioned, segmental-arched doorway that holds a double-leaf door of vertical boards. A shallow flagstone-paved patio and steps provide access to the entrance. To the west of the entrance, a group of three, three-light windows within a shared, cast-stone surround with cast-stone mullions pierces the side of the side-gabled section of

the educational building. Between this portion of the elevation and the entrance, the flat-roofed section of the building holds four individual, three-light windows in cast stone surrounds. Below these windows, a brick light well with a cast stone cap provides daylight to the two metal sash windows in a basement room. A metal grate covers the light well. To the east of the northwest elevation entrance, five groups of three three-light windows fill the wall between engaged brick buttresses with cast stone caps. At the east end of the elevation, a shallow projection with a front-gabled roof contains a tall, narrow opening within a cast stone surround. It contains a slender, three-light window.



Figure 11: View southeast of the northwest elevation of the 1956–1957 education building (right) and fellowship hall (left).

The northeast elevation of the building features a fixed, horizontally oriented, three-light aluminum replacement window that is centrally located near the top of the wall in the gable end of the fellowship hall (**Figure 12**). In the south half of the elevation, a double-leaf, vertical board door provides access to a hallway that separates the fellowship hall from the facility's kitchen, which is situated at the south end of the building. Near the east corner, a single-leaf wood door with one light above one panel directly accesses the kitchen.



Figure 12: View west of the northeast elevation of the 1956–1957 fellowship hall.

On the southeast elevation of the kitchen wing, three individual, two-light windows illuminate the interior at the east end of the wall. At the center, the southeast elevation is recessed and features a flagstone-paved patio at grade below a flat roof supported by seven square brick piers. It spans the southeast wall of the fellowship hall (**Figure 13**). Each end of the patio has two sets of double-leaf, vertical-board doors. Between them are two groups of three tall, three-light windows in shared surrounds that light the fellowship hall. To the west of this recessed patio, two small horizontally oriented one-light windows are positioned high on the wall above the entrance next to a set of exterior steps to the basement. The steps descend below three individual three-light windows, one of which has an operable sash at the bottom. Two groups of three two-light steel sashes light the basement classroom. The double-leaf exterior wood door has six lights above a single panel in each leaf. A double-leaf, vertical board door leads from the hyphen to the double-loaded corridor in the educational building. To the



Figure 13: View northwest of the southeast elevation of the 1956–1957 fellowship hall.

west of the hyphen, three tall, individual, three-light windows pierce the wall of the side-gabled portion of the educational building above a light well spanned by a metal grate. Below the grate, two banks of three four-light metal-sash windows pierce the basement level of the wall.

The interior of the educational building is generally unadorned and utilitarian in design, with exposed concrete block walls, floors covered in vinyl tiles, and a smooth-finished ceiling in the hallways and classrooms. The fellowship hall features a Modernist interior with structural steel columns finished with wood and exposed wood ceiling framing and decking (Figure 14). The profile of the steel structural columns is typical of the 1950s, but when finished with wood conveys the appearance of four-centered arches. The northeast end of the fellowship hall features a raised stage. The southwest wall of the room is exposed brick. The kitchen is accessed via a door in the southeast wall near the stage.



Figure 14: View east of the interior of the 1956–1957 fellowship hall.

Outbuilding, circa 1850, non-contributing (Attachment 8A, photos 79–96)

According to the 1994 NRHP nomination, this outbuilding was constructed in the 1800s, likely as a domestic outbuilding for the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House, which occupied the east corner of the subject parcel, facing southeast toward West Main Street (Hood 1994). Although the building dates to the mid-nineteenth century, it has been greatly altered over the past 100 years. Because it relates to the earlier domestic use of the property, is only a remnant of the original building with little architectural integrity, and has no relation to the architectural significance of the 1917–1918 First Presbyterian Church, the outbuilding is a non-contributing resource on the property.

A large outbuilding was depicted in this location cartographically as early as 1885, when the Sanborn Map for Lincolnton illustrated a long, narrow “Kitchen/Servants Quarters” a short distance north of the Phifer-Abernethy House (Figure 15). Although the building’s exact measurements are not known, it was roughly 3.5 times longer than it was wide. Of load-bearing-brick construction, the building had five window openings roughly equally spaced across the northeast elevation, facing the present-day alley, and a wood cornice spanning the southeast elevation, facing the Phifer-Abernethy House. This same building appeared on the 1890 Sanborn Map. Although the 1896 Sanborn map depicted a frame building in the same location as the earlier brick outbuilding, this was likely an error in map coding. The one-story outbuilding depicted in this location on the 1906 Sanborn Map featured load-bearing brick masonry construction with a wood-shingled roof, three windows on the southwest elevation, and two windows on

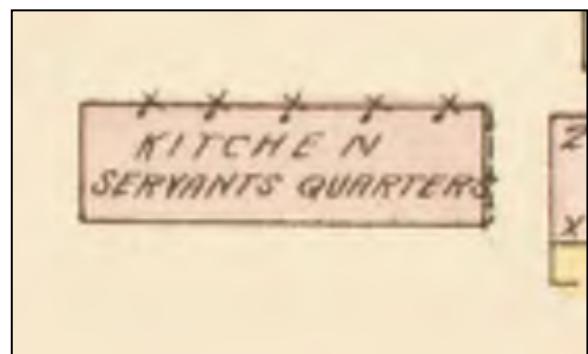


Figure 15: Detail of the 1885 Sanborn Map, showing the “Kitchen/Servants Quarters” situated behind and northwest of the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House (Sanborn Map Company 1885).

the northeast elevation below a wood cornice. The building's footprint had been substantially reduced in size from its depiction on earlier maps. It appears to have had the northwest two-thirds or one-half removed. The 1906 map labeled the building "Shed." The main body of the shed was illustrated in the same manner on the 1911 Sanborn Map. At that time, it had a one-story, wood-frame addition on the northwest elevation. By 1921, the brick outbuilding had a footprint that was more square-shaped than the rectangular footprint of the shed illustrated in the 1906 and 1911 maps. Identified as an automobile garage, it had a gabled roof sheathed in slate or tin and two windows on the northeast elevation (SMC 1885; SMC 1890; SMC 1896; SMC 1906; SMC 1911; SMC 1921).

The extant building appears to be a remnant of the nineteenth-century "Kitchen/Servants Quarters." Although its original date of construction is not presently known, the building's construction and the type and condition of the interior plaster suggest that it dates to the mid-nineteenth century. Converted to a garage circa 1920, the outbuilding remains one story tall and retains its load-bearing-brick walls, which have been painted on the exterior. The gable roof was removed within the past thirty years and replaced with a shallow, single-pitched shed roof that slopes downward to the northeast. Because its original orientation is not known, for the purpose of this description, the primary elevation will be the northwest elevation, which features three roll-up wood garage doors contained within openings that were created circa 1920, and possibly expanded in the mid-twentieth century (**Figure 16**). Two round metal posts contained within plywood-finished surrounds flank the central bay and support the heavy wood lintels. Short spans of brick wall extend from the outer two bays to the south and west corners. The ghost lines of four evenly spaced window openings with brick jack arches appear above the garage bays. These openings appear to have been in-filled with brick circa 1920.



Figure 16: View north of the southwest elevation of the circa 1850 outbuilding.

The northwest elevation, which faces West Sycamore Street, is blind, with no ghost lines or other evidence of exterior openings. Based on what appear to be vertical lines in the brick on the southwest and northeast elevations, it appears as though a roughly 6-inch-thick veneer was added to the northwest elevation. The northeast elevation, which abuts the alley, is blind but displays the ghost lines of two window or door openings with brick jack arches (**Figure 17**). Both openings have been in-filled with brick. The southeast elevation, which faces West Main Street, is blind and covered with ivy that obscures most of the elevation.



Figure 17: View south of the northwest elevation (right) and northeast elevation (left) of the circa 1850 outbuilding.

The outbuilding interior displays a plaster finish typical of the mid-nineteenth century, in which it was applied directly to the surface of the brick. One interior partition wall which historically divided the space into northwest and southeast rooms appears to have been removed, and a ghost line remains on the northeast wall. Within the past fifty years, a new partial-height partition wall was added between the southeast and central garage bays (**Figure 18**). The ghost lines of the two openings appear on the northeast wall, while an historic door opening on the northwest wall remains. The opening retains a wood surround, but the twentieth-century brick veneer, likely added when the northwest portion of the building was demolished, covers over the opening so that it appears on the building interior but not the exterior. A significant change that happened with the circa-1920 conversion to a garage is the removal of the interior floor, which historically sat an average of one foot above grade. The interior walls are slightly battered at the base so that they would have supported the floor framing. This framing has been removed, and the interior floors are now at-grade and paved with concrete.



Figure 18: View south of the southeast half of the interior of the circa 1850 outbuilding, showing the modern partition wall to the right.

Setting/Landscape, circa 1850–present, contributing (Attachment 8A, photos 97–132)

Addressed at 114 West Main Street, the subject property (PIN #3623747102) occupies a .91-acre parcel that fills the western two-thirds of the block bordered on the southeast by West Main Street, on the southwest by North Government Street, on the northwest by West Sycamore Street, and on the northeast by Court Square. An unnamed, asphalt-paved alley borders the northeast edge of the parcel and connects West Main Street and West Sycamore Street. To the east of the alley are commercial buildings that face northeast toward Court Square.

The subject property is generally flat and grassy (**Figure 19**). Poured concrete sidewalks line the southeast, southwest, and northwest sides of the parcel. Parallel parking in the right-of-way along West Main Street borders the southeast edge of the parcel, and the county government office building lies opposite the subject property on the south side of West Main Street. Angled parking borders the parcel to the southwest, in the right-of-way along North Government Street. On the west side of North Government Street, the area is residential and characterized primarily by one- and two-story dwellings that date from the late nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries in the NRHP-listed West Main Street Historic District. There is no parking along the south side of West Sycamore Street to the northwest of the parcel. To the north of the subject



Figure 19: View south of the grassy yard to the northeast of the church.

property lies the Lincolnton Fire Department, which occupies a large parcel on the north side of West Sycamore Street.

A metal fence with brick piers defines the southeast edge of the property and encloses the side yard of the church. Between the east corner of the property and the circa-1850 outbuilding, a tall board-on-board fence defines the northeast edge of the parcel. A brick wall that is roughly 4 feet tall extends from the northwest edge of the outbuilding for roughly 15 feet, where it ends at a metal fence with brick piers similar to the one on the southeast property line. This brick-and-metal fence turns the north corner and encloses the small area of yard to the northeast of the educational building/fellowship hall, where it ends at the retaining wall that encloses the side yard. An internally illuminated electronic sign rises from the south corner of the property, near the intersection of West Main and North Government streets. It was installed by the congregation between 2012 and 2015.

Roughly 50 percent of the property is given over to open space, with small expanses of grassy yards to the southwest of the church, between the building and the sidewalk along North Government Street. A larger yard extends to the northeast of the church to the alley and from the sidewalk along West Main Street to the retaining wall that encloses the rear yard of the educational building/fellowship hall. At the east corner of the property is the site of the non-extant Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House, which was erected in 1820 and demolished in the late twentieth century (**Figures 20–21**). The circa 1850 outbuilding, which is roughly centered along the northeast property line, is the last above-ground remnant of the former domestic use of the property. The open yard to the east of the church features three rectangular expanses of brick paving which are interconnected by brick-paved walkways. These hardscaped areas are sited near the southeast property line and appear to overlap the site of the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House. A tree canopy, which is relatively dense for this otherwise urban setting, has developed around the east corner of the property and shelters the brick-paved hardscape and the grassy yard immediately south of the outbuilding. In front of the circa-1850 outbuilding, a poured concrete pad has recently been installed at ground level. It continues the interior floor of the building when the garage doors are raised. Northwest of the outbuilding is a second concrete pad, which appears to have been installed during the second half of the twentieth century. A basketball hoop rises from the southeast edge of this pavement.



Figures 20–21: Circa 1910 view northwest of the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House (above) and view east of the house site (below).



The church yard, outbuilding, and two concrete pads occupy an area defined by a tall brick retaining wall on the northwest edge. This retaining wall, which is capped by a tubular metal railing, was installed in 1956–1957 to facilitate construction of the educational building/fellowship hall. Just as it defines the northwest edge of the church yard, it simultaneously creates a hard edge on the southeast side of the small courtyard that lies behind the fellowship hall. Poured concrete steps lead down from the concrete sidewalk on the northeast side of the church to this courtyard, where a brick grill was installed contemporaneously with the site improvements (Figure 22). The concrete sidewalks in this courtyard extend northwest to the rear porch of the educational building/fellowship hall and to the southwest to the hyphen that connects it to the church. A narrow walkway, bounded on the southeast by the retaining wall, skirts the east corner of the educational building/fellowship hall, where it opens onto a driveway that provides service access to the building's kitchen facilities.



Figure 22: View east of the 1956–1957 retaining wall to the southeast of the education building/fellowship hall, showing the outdoor grill and steps to the upper yard at center.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE

Two architectural modes dominate the ecclesiastical architecture of Lincoln County. The strict classicism of the Classical Revival and Neoclassical can be seen in a number of buildings. Even vernacular buildings of religious congregations often display modest elements of classically derived styles, the most common of which is a front-gabled entrance portico. The other dominant style visible among the county's churches is Gothic Revival. Commonly employed in the construction of religious buildings across the United States, the Gothic Revival style gained prominence nationwide during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. It was an outgrowth of the Romantic Movement in art, music, literature, and architecture, which repudiated the stark classicism that dominated the arts and architecture during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The Gothic Revival style drew inspiration from the religious and secular architecture of Europe and the British Isles from the ninth through the sixteenth centuries. In domestic architecture, the Gothic Revival style typically featured steeply pitched, gabled roofs with decorative bargeboards that often incorporated finials and pendants; lancet- or triangular-arched windows; rectangular windows with a drip mold; four-centered arches in exterior and interior ornament; crenelated parapet walls; and tracery that often incorporated trefoil and quatrefoil motifs. Typically located in cities and towns, the most high-style of Gothic Revival dwellings usually incorporated most of these features. In smaller towns and rural areas, vernacular buildings might display a few Gothic Revival-style elements, such as a steeply pitched roof and limited ornament on the porch or around the entrance. Gothic Revival-style houses commonly featured wood frame construction or load-bearing masonry construction of brick or stone, depending on the resources available in the area. In their forms, high-style Gothic Revival dwellings and vernacular houses that displayed elements of the Gothic Revival style typically ranged from one to two-and-one-half stories in height. Their massing was often symmetrical, with a central entrance, but occasionally a symmetrically massed Gothic Revival-style house

would have an off-center entrance. Gothic Revival-style dwellings also commonly displayed asymmetrical massing.

The expression of the Gothic Revival style in religious architecture was similarly wide-ranging in both degree and design. As with residential architecture, Gothic Revival churches were either high-style or displayed elements of the style in form and ornament on an otherwise vernacular or plain building. Characteristic features of all Gothic Revival-style churches included steeply pitched roofs and arched windows that were usually lancet-arched or triangular. In some cases, these two features are the sole stylistic elements characteristic of Gothic Revival-style churches.

Gothic Revival-style churches were constructed of wood frame or load-bearing masonry. Load-bearing masonry churches were either brick or stone. Churches featuring frame construction were typically sheathed in wood siding or, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, might be covered with a brick veneer.

Gothic Revival-Style Churches in Lincoln County

The earliest Gothic Revival-style church in Lincoln County is the 1849 Salem Union Church (LN0212), at 3410 Startown Road (**Figure 23**). It was listed in the NRHP in 1995. Of load-bearing-brick construction, it features a front-gabled roof with no overhang and a corner tower with an arched opening on the main level that leads to the main entrance. The other sides of the main level and the second story of the tower contain lancet-arched openings. A low-pitched, hipped roof caps the tower. The church exterior features narrow, lancet-arched openings filled with stained, leaded glass windows. The arches are executed in soldier course brick with a header cap, and all windows and other openings have stone sills. Although it is Gothic Revival, its modest, understated expression of the style is likely attributable to its rural location and early construction date. While the exterior is a clear, if understated, example of Gothic Revival-style ecclesiastical architecture, the interior has been heavily altered, with little stylistic detailing remaining visible. The building appears to retain its original floor plan, with a center aisle leading to the dais and shallow pulpit. Yet all original features and finishes in the sanctuary have been obscured by plywood paneling installed during the second half of the twentieth century. The upper portion of the sanctuary has been obscured by a dropped ceiling system with acoustical tiles, which hides all original features and finishes of the original design.



Figure 23: Salem Union Church (LN0212)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church (LN0554), at 303 North Cedar Street in Lincolnton, is among the most exuberant examples of the Gothic Revival style in Lincoln County (**Figure 24**). First constructed in 1886 and expanded and updated in 1917 and the early 1920s, St. Luke's was listed in the NRHP in 1992. The tall, one-story building features a steeply pitched, gabled roof and a tripartite lancet-arched stained-glass window in the gable peak of the southeast elevation above two lancet-arched stained-glass windows widely spaced in the wall below. Lancet-arched stained-glass windows perforate the side elevations between engaged

buttresses on the side elevations. A tall, three-stage tower is slightly off-center on the southwest side wall, where it provides primary access to the building. The building's Gothic Revival-style exterior features are heavily concentrated on the tower, which features a two-story monumental, lancet-arched portal enframing a double-leaf, lancet-arched wood door on the first story and a three-part, lancet-arched, leaded-glass window on the second story. A lancet-arched ventilator perforates the belfry below the octagonal, copper-clad spire. While the exterior of St. Luke's Episcopal Church is robustly Gothic Revival, the sanctuary interior is even more ornately expressive of the style. An ornately carved screen and the reredos abundantly display moldings and motifs that are hallmarks of the Gothic Revival.



Figure 24: St. Luke's Episcopal Church (LN0554).

Erected in 1913, the Emmanuel United Church of Christ (LN0312), at 335 East Main Street in Lincolnton, has an overall form like that of the Salem Union Church, with a front-gabled sanctuary accessed through a side tower (Figure 25). Its style, however, is more fully expressive of the Gothic Revival than the earlier building. Adorning its brick exterior are larger window openings with Gothic tracery composed of wood mullions filled with stained, leaded-glass windows. Cast stone springers and keystones ornament the pointed arches of the windows and cap the shallow buttresses of the three-stage tower and on the side elevations of the sanctuary. On the interior, the plan remains intact, and original features and finishes are evident throughout. The Emmanuel Reformed Church was listed in the NRHP in 1995.



Figure 25: Emmanuel Reformed Church (LN0312).

Constructed in 1919, shortly after the First Presbyterian Church, the Emmanuel Lutheran Church (LN0309), at 216 South Aspen Street in Lincolnton, is an outstanding example of



the Gothic Revival style from the first quarter of the twentieth century (Figure 26). The building's overall form is generally symmetrical, with a central belltower that projects from the gabled nave to serve as the entrance portal with a Late Gothic Revival-style entrance. The exterior is finished with brick and features cast stone water tables, arches, sills, and buttress caps. Above a carved wood wainscot with Gothic arch motifs, the walls and ceiling are finished with plaster. Interior features that remain include carved screens and other woodwork. Emmanuel Lutheran Church was listed in the NRHP in 1994.

Figure 26: Emmanuel Lutheran Church (LN0309).

The Bethpage Lutheran Church (LN0224), at 4060 NC Highway 182, dates to 1928-1929 (**Figure 27**). Its overall form is remarkably similar to that of the 1919 Emmanuel Lutheran Church (LN0309) in Lincolnton (see Figure 24). Like Emmanuel Lutheran, the Bethpage Lutheran Church is dominated by a central tower at the front of the front-gabled building. However, this rural church is more restrained in both exterior and interior ornament and details. On the outside, the building displays common features of the Gothic Revival style, including cast stone beltcourses, buttress caps, and sills, which provide contrast against the dark red brick exterior walls. It also has lancet-arched stained-glass windows and a double-leaf door with a pointed-arch, stained-glass transom. The interior is fairly plain and features an acoustical tile ceiling, carpeted floor, and smooth-finish walls. Bethpage Lutheran Church has been enlarged and expanded over the twentieth century, including by the addition of a parish hall in 1952-1953 and an educational building in 1977-1978. In 1950-1951, the congregated constructed a detached single-family dwelling to serve as the parsonage.



Figure 27: Bethpage Lutheran Church (LN0224).

Locally known as “the Stone Church,” Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church (LN0160), at 3170 Reepsville Road, was constructed in 1936 (**Figure 28**). The exterior stone walls of the building are distinctive and unusual for Gothic Revival-style churches in Lincoln County. It features a cruciform plan with a front-gabled sanctuary and side-gabled projecting wings. The side elevations of the nave hold lancet-arched stained-glass windows which illuminate the sanctuary. The front entrance is deeply set within a lancet-arched recess. A lancet-arched stained-glass window sits atop the double-leaf entrance door. A round window pierces the gable peak above. Aside from the boldly colored stained-glass windows, the interior is simple and unornamented and features smooth plaster walls and tiled ceiling. Exposed hardwood floors and original furniture further detail the interior. Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP in 2019 through the Section 106 review process.



Figure 28: Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church (LN0160).

The 1941 Moore’s Chapel AME Zion Church (LN0391), at 1017 East Main Street in Lincolnton, displays elements of the Gothic Revival style, including the paired towers that flank a one-story, gabled sanctuary (**Figure 29**). Although its overall form is related to that of First Presbyterian Church, its proportions are substantially different. Moore’s Chapel AME Zion Church is shorter and broader than the First Presbyterian Church. Each of the towers, which are only as tall as the ridgeline of the gabled roof, is nearly as wide as the front-gabled wall. Slender and shallow buttresses define the corners of both towers. Lancet-arched stained-glass windows pierce the front and side elevations of the towers as well as the

side elevations of the sanctuary. The main entrance, which is centrally located in the front-gabled façade, features a shallow, front-gabled entry vestibule that projects slightly from the façade plane. The vestibule holds a rectangular, single-leaf door with sidelights that appears to be a replacement of an earlier door that may have been double-leaf. A lancet-arched stained-glass transom tops the door and illuminates the vestibule. Square vents pierce the gable peak of the façade as well as the front and side elevations of the towers above the windows.



Figure 29: Moore's Chapel AME Zion Church (LN0391).

Special Significance of the First Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church is one of a small collection of excellent examples of Gothic Revival-style ecclesiastical architecture in Lincoln County. These buildings display a range of building plans and footprints. All feature front-gabled sanctuaries, but the number and location of towers varies among the group. The 1936 Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church is the only example lacking a bell tower. Of the others, the 1849 Salem Church and 1913 Emmanuel Church of Christ feature a single corner tower. The 1886 St. Luke's Episcopal Church has the unusual placement of the bell tower on the side elevation. The 1919 Emmanuel Lutheran Church has a single tower that is centrally placed on the front-gabled façade. The 1917–1918 First Presbyterian Church and 1941 Moore's Chapel AME Zion Church both feature twin towers that flank the front-gabled entrance. With the exception of the First Presbyterian Church, which follows a modified Akron plan in its interior layout, the other Gothic Revival-style churches all feature a nave plan, with rows of pews flanking a central corridor that leads from the rear of the church to the chancel and altar.

All these churches display features and ornament expressive of the Gothic Revival style, but several only modestly display the style on the exterior. The 1849 Salem Church, 1936 Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church, and 1941 Moore's Chapel AME Zion Church are among the least exuberant of Lincoln County's Gothic Revival-style ecclesiastical buildings. Although both the Salem Church and Moore's Chapel AME Zion Church both have towers, they are otherwise plain and lack the buttresses and other features of the more high-style examples. Daniels Evangelical and Reformed Church is notable for its stone exterior and deeply recessed entrance but otherwise lacks the features and ornament of Gothic Revival-style churches.

The most high-style expressions of the Gothic Revival in Lincoln County's ecclesiastical architecture are the 1886 St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1913 Emmanuel Church of Christ, 1917–1918 First Presbyterian Church, and 1919 Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Of these four, St. Luke's and Emmanuel Lutheran display features and finishes of the style on the exterior and interior. The First Presbyterian Church and Emmanuel Church of Christ are more expressive of the Gothic Revival on the exterior.

The First Presbyterian Church stands out as especially significant to Lincolnton and Lincoln County as an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival style for its twin towers, arched

entrance loggia, engaged buttresses, contrasting cast stone details, and abundant stained-glass windows.

The First Presbyterian Church retains integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. Being in its original location in an area of Lincolnton that is transitional between the commercial district and residential neighborhoods, it retains integrity of location and setting. The only change to exterior features that are subject to the Local Landmark designation is the replacement of the windows on the rear portion of the building, which occurred while the property was still used by the congregation. Because the replacement vinyl windows replicate the operation and configuration of the original wood sash, and generally fit the original openings with no panning or other significant alterations to facilitate the change, this removal of original sash is considered to have no substantial impact on the property's overall integrity. Thus, the First Presbyterian Church retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Although the First Presbyterian Church is no longer used for religious services, it is still used for large gatherings and generally retains its overall character. Thus, while the property may have diminished integrity of association, it retains integrity of feeling.

8F. Property boundary, significance, and integrity

The boundary of the First Presbyterian Church follows the property line of the parcel identified by the Lincoln County Tax Assessor as PIN# 3623747102 and described in Deed Book 3143, Page 651, and containing a total of .91 acres. This boundary contains all the buildings and landscape features historically associated with the First Presbyterian Church, including the 1917–1918 sanctuary, 1956–1957 educational building/fellowship hall, and circa-1850 brick outbuilding, the latter of which is a remnant of the property's original domestic use as the Ramsour-Phifer-Abernethy House. All the exterior features, materials, and finishes contained within the boundary, including but not limited to the building exteriors, fences, retaining walls, open space, and concrete and brick paving, are subject to the Local Landmark designation. Although the First Presbyterian Church is the only contributing building on the property, the remaining elements of the parcel, particularly including the yards and open space, are necessary to establish a physical context for the building. As of May 1, 2023, the appraised value of the property is \$2,527,568.

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 1 of 22 (Church Exterior—elevations)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-001.jpg

View N of the S elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-002.jpg

View W of the E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-003.jpg

View W of the E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-004.jpg

View SW of the N elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-005.jpg

View SE of the W elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-006.jpg

View E of the W elevation

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 2 of 22 (Church Exterior—Details)



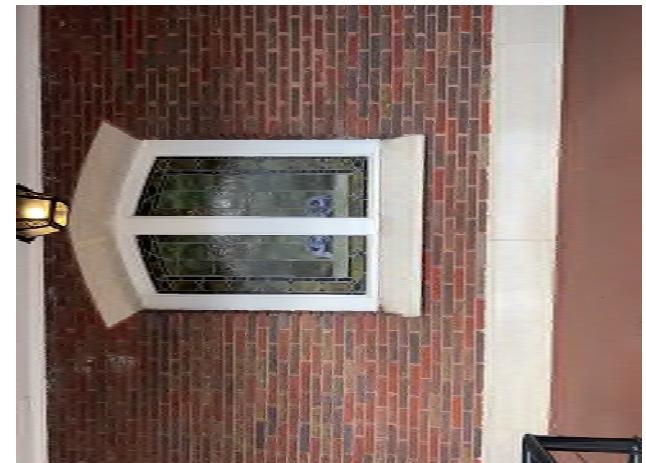
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-007.jpg

View N of the S elevation above the porch



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-008.jpg

View NE of the S elevation, showing the porch



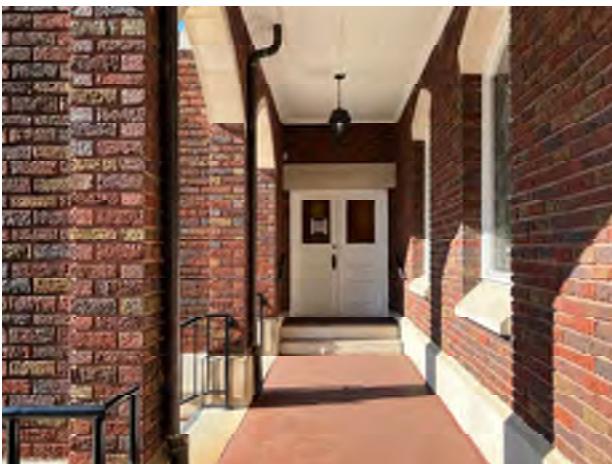
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-009.jpg

View N of the E window on the porch



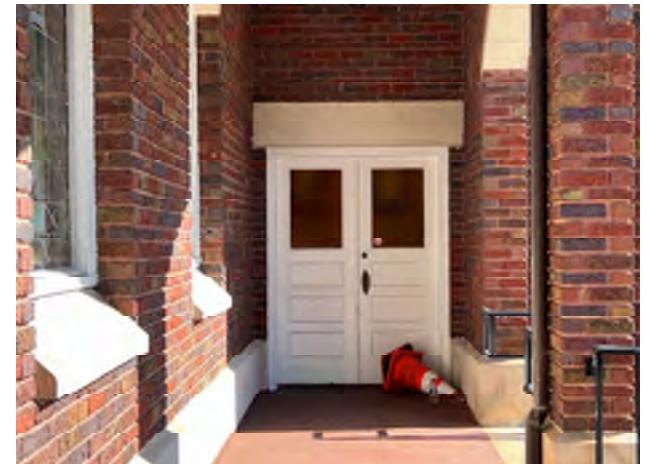
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-010.jpg

View N of the middle window on the porch



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-011.jpg

View W of the E-facing W entrance doors on the porch

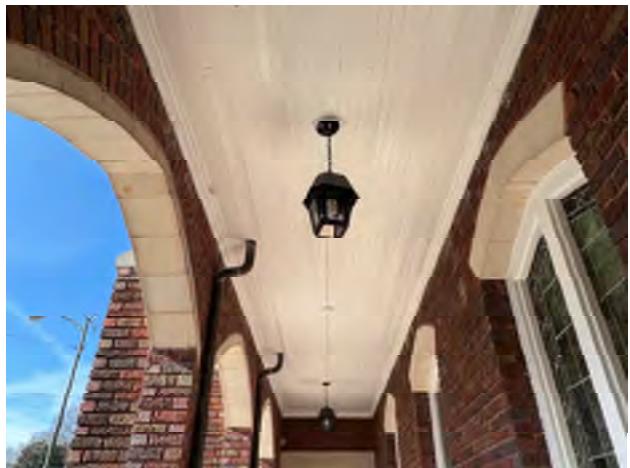


LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-012.jpg

View E of the W-facing E entrance doors on the porch

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 3 of 22 (Church Exterior—Details)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-013.jpg

View W of S porch ceiling, looking up



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-014.jpg

View W of door on E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-015.jpg

View NW of E elevation, showing replacement windows and HVAC units



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-016.jpg

View W of limestone sill on E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-017.jpg

Detail of iron vent in at ground level on E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-018.jpg

Detail of Iron vent at ground level on E elevation

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 4 of 22 (Church Exterior—Details)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-019.jpg

Close-up view of wood ventilators in E tower



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-020.jpg

Close-up view of ventilator in N gable peak



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-021.jpg

View S of entrance on N elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-022.jpg

View E of replacement window and wood vent in gable peak on W elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-023.jpg

View E of ground-level entrance on W elevation

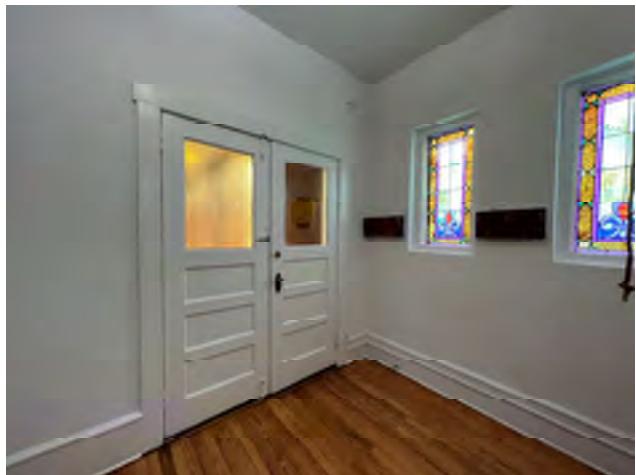


LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-024.jpg

View N of raised entrance on W elevation that leads to interior stair hall

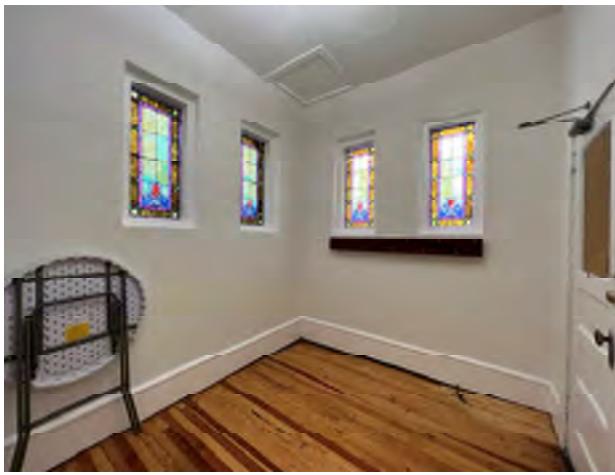
Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 5 of 22 (Church Interior—Stained Glass Windows)



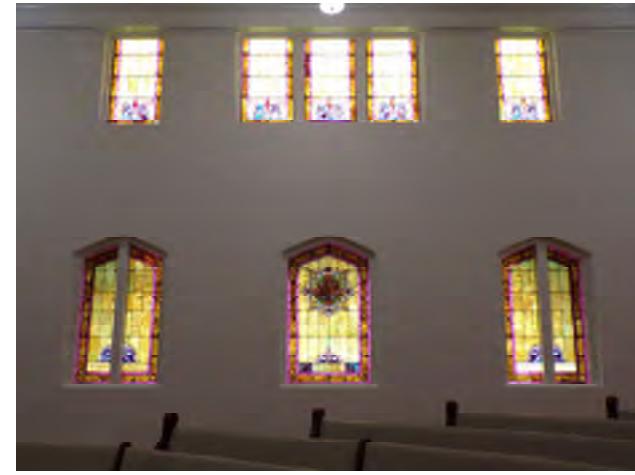
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-025.jpg

View SE of W entrance vestibule



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-026.jpg

View SE of E entrance vestibule



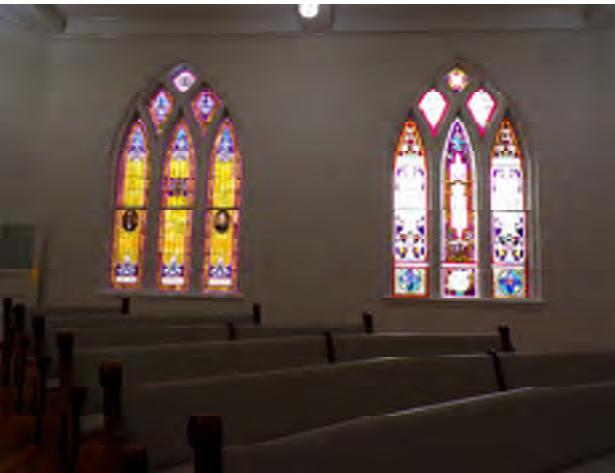
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-027.jpg

View S of S interior wall, showing how upper windows are truncated by ceiling



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-028.jpg

View E of E wall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-029.jpg

View W of W wall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-030.jpg

View S of circular window in second story of W stair hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 6 of 22 (Church Interior—Overall Arrangement)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-031.jpg

View SW of sanctuary, looking toward W entrance vestibule



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-032.jpg

View S of sanctuary



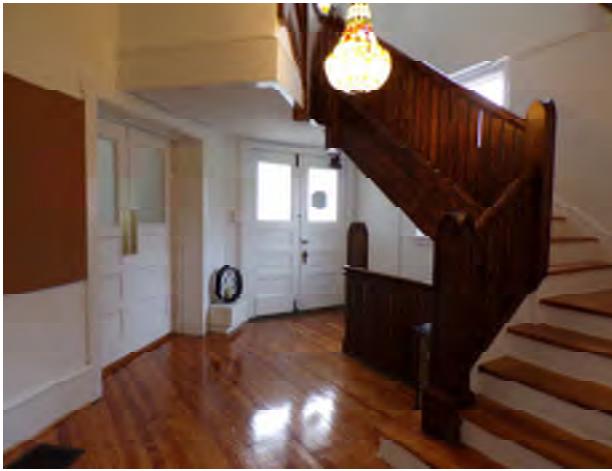
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-033.jpg

View NE of sanctuary, showing entrance to N room



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-034.jpg

View NW of N room, showing second-floor hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-035.jpg

View SW of W stair hall, showing entry doors and recently installed pendant light



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-036.jpg

View NE of W stair hall, showing doors to sanctuary at right

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 7 of 22 (Education Building Exterior—Overall and Details)

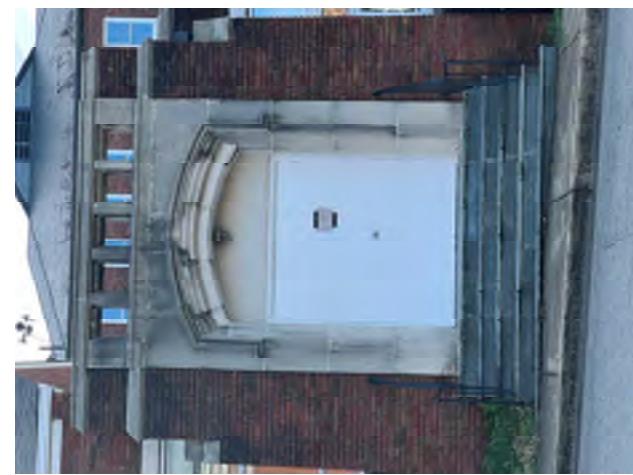


LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-037.jpg

View S of N elevation of Education Bldg./
Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-038.jpg



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-039.jpg

View S of N elevation entrance to Education
Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-040.jpg

Close-up of wood doors in N elevation
entrance to Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-041.jpg

Detail of stone window surround on N
elevation of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-042.jpg

View S of N elevation of Education Bldg./
Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 8 of 22 (Education Building Exterior—Overall and Details)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-043.jpg

View SE of N elevation (left) and W elevation (right) of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-044.jpg

View E of W elevation of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-045.jpg

View E of W entrance to Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-046.jpg

View E through grate of below-grade windows into lower level of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-047.jpg

View NE of S elevation of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-048.jpg

View N, looking up, of cornice detail on S elevation of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

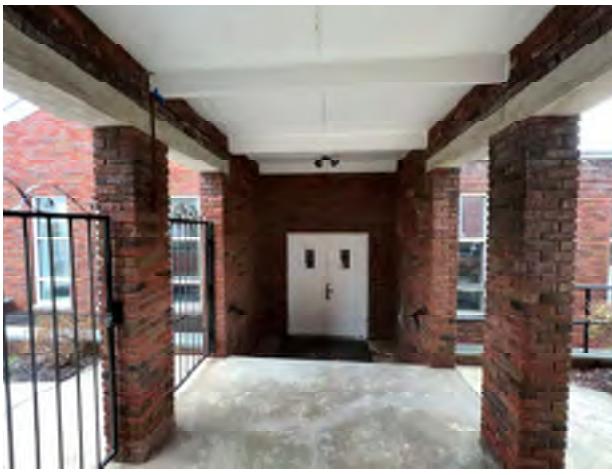
LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 9 of 22 (Education Building Exterior—Overall and Details)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-049.jpg

View E of hyphen connecting N elevation of Church to S elevation of Education Bldg./ Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-050.jpg

View N of S elevation entrance to Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall from connecting hyphen



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-051.jpg

View W of hyphen connecting N elevation of Church to S elevation of Education Bldg./ Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-052.jpg

View NW of S side of Education Bldg./ Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-053.jpg

View NW of S elevation of Education Bldg./ Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-054.jpg

View W of exterior entrance to lower level of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 10 of 22 (Education Building Exterior—Overall and Details)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-055.jpg

View N of S elevation of fellowship hall in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



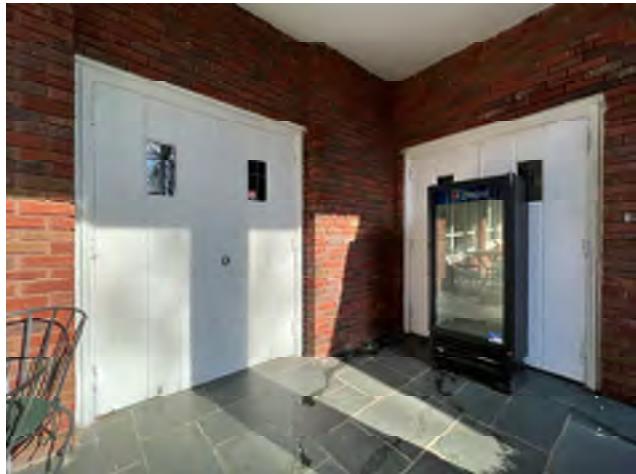
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-056.jpg

View W of S porch on Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall, showing entrances on W side of porch



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-057.jpg

View E of S porch on Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall, showing entrances on E side of porch



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-058.jpg

View NE of entrances on E side of S elevation porch on Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-059.jpg

View NE of S side of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-060.jpg

View NW of S elevation (left) and E elevation (right) of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 11 of 22 (Education Building Exterior & Interior)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-061.jpg

View NW of S elevation of Education Bldg



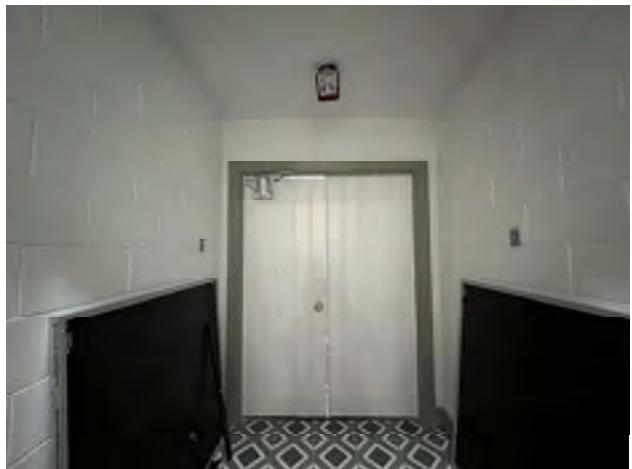
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-062.jpg

View NW of E elevation of Education Bldg./
Fellowship Hall



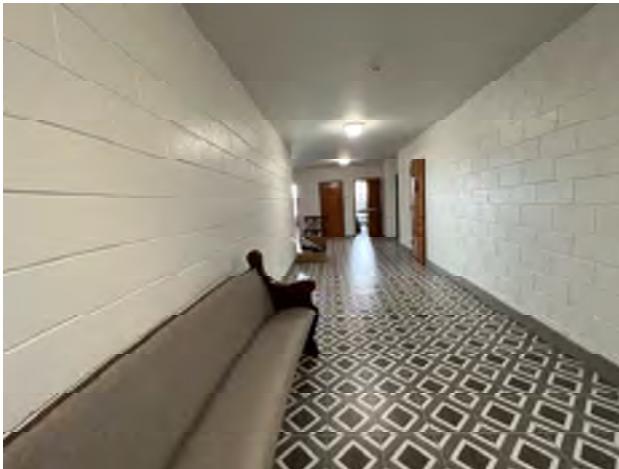
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-063.jpg

View SW of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-064.jpg

View S of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall entrance hall from hyphen



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-065.jpg

View N into Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall from entrance hall off of hyphen



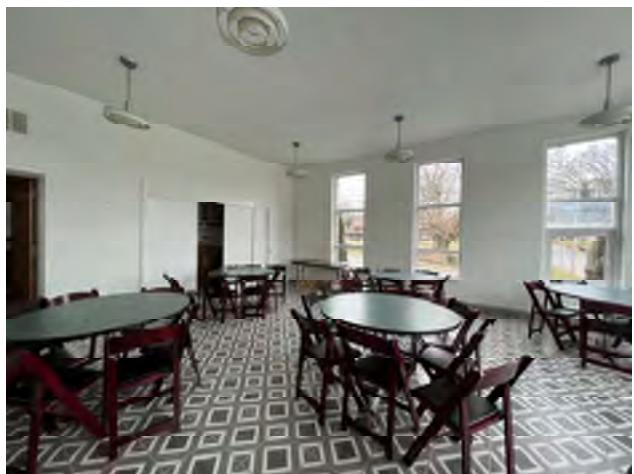
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-066.jpg

View W of W entrance on N Government St. to Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall, showing classroom to left

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

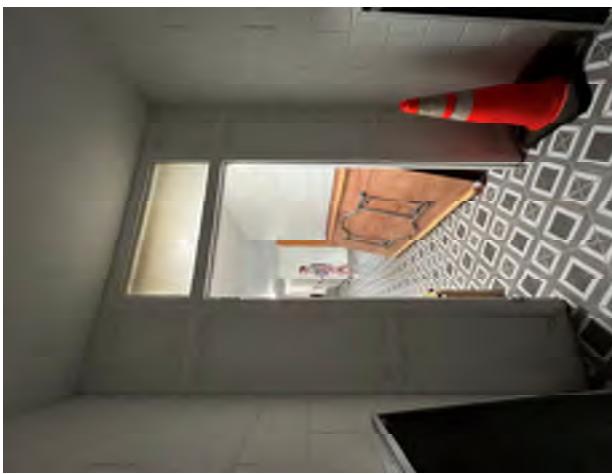
LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 12 of 22 (Education Building Interior)



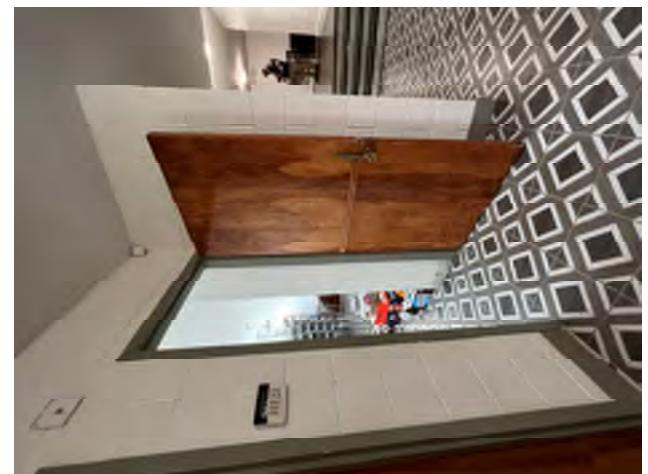
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-067.jpg

View SW into classroom along N Government St. in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



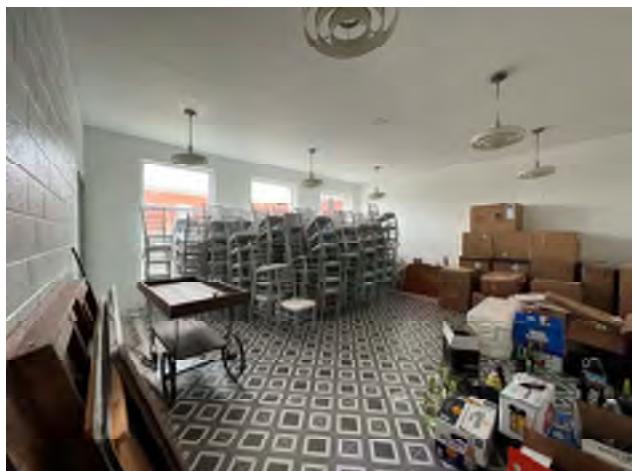
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-068.jpg

View E into hallway from N. Government St. entrance into Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-069.jpg

View NE toward classroom along W. Sycamore St. in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-070.jpg

View NE into classroom along W. Sycamore St. in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-071.jpg

View N toward W. Sycamore St. entrance into Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-072.jpg

View E of fellowship hall in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 13 of 22 (Education Building Interior)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-073.jpg

View W of fellowship hall in Education Bldg./
Fellowship Hall



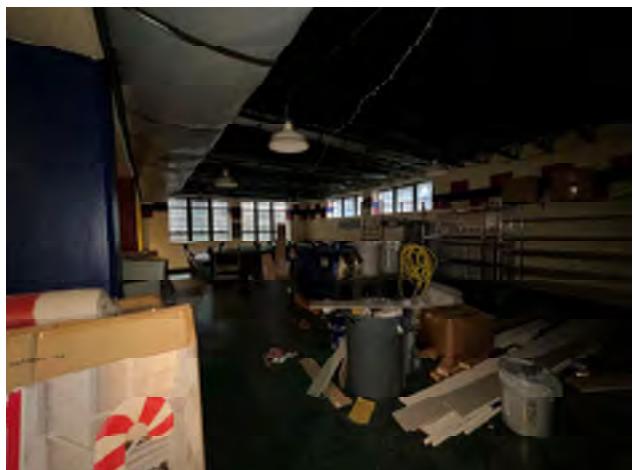
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-074.jpg

View SE toward kitchen and E entrance into
Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-075.jpg

View N of basement room along W. Sycamore
St. in Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-076.jpg

View SW of basement classroom in SW corner
of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-077.jpg

View S of exterior entrance into basement
classroom in SW corner of Education Bldg./
Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-078.jpg

View SW of basement classroom on S. side of
Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 14 of 22 (Outbuilding Exterior)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-079.jpg

View NE of W elevation of circa 1850 outbuilding



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-080.jpg

View E of W elevation of circa 1850 outbuilding, showing four brick jack arches and infilled window openings above garage doors



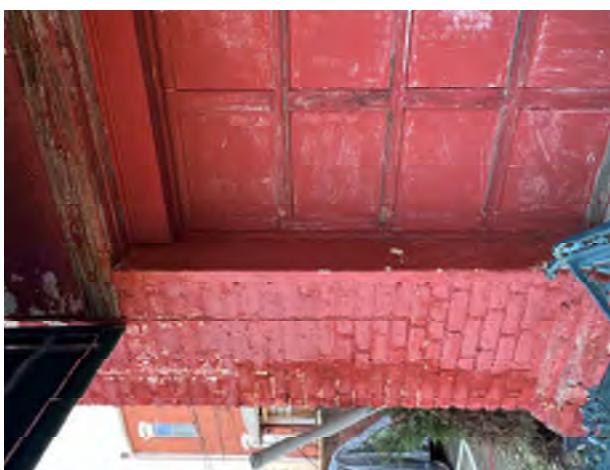
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-081.jpg

View E of metal post framing within plywood surround defining garage bays on W elevation of outbuilding



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-082.jpg

View NE (looking up) of plywood surround and header detail on W elevation of outbuilding



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-083.jpg

View NE of NW corner of outbuilding



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-084.jpg

View SE, showing N elevation (left) and W elevation (right) of outbuilding

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 15 of 22 (Outbuilding Exterior & Interior)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-085.jpg
View SW of E elevation (left) and N elevation (right) of outbuilding, showing two in-filled openings on E elevation



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-086.jpg
View NW of E elevation of outbuilding, showing two in-filled openings



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-087.jpg

View N of S elevation of outbuilding



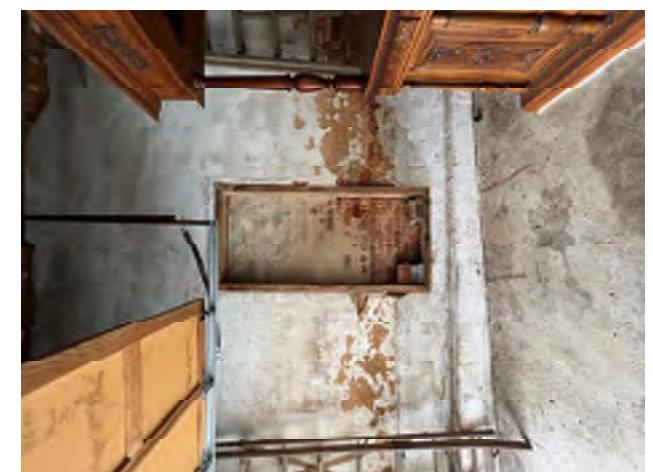
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-088.jpg

View W from N end of outbuilding interior



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-089.jpg

View NW of outbuilding interior



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-090.jpg

View N of outbuilding interior, showing in-filled door in N wall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 16 of 22 (Outbuilding Interior)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-091.jpg

View N of N wall of outbuilding interior,
showing deteriorated plaster



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-092.jpg

View E of E wall of outbuilding interior,
showing infilled opening behind the bar and
what may be a ghost line of an interior wall to
the right.



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-093.jpg

View S of partition wall on interior of
outbuilding.



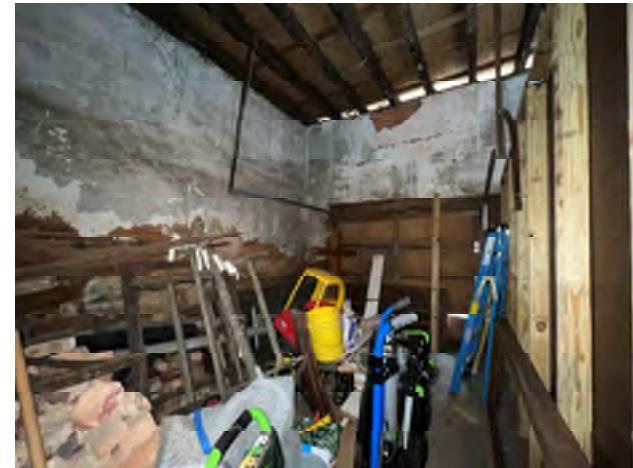
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-094.jpg

View SE of E wall of outbuilding in south room



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-095.jpg

View S of S room in outbuilding



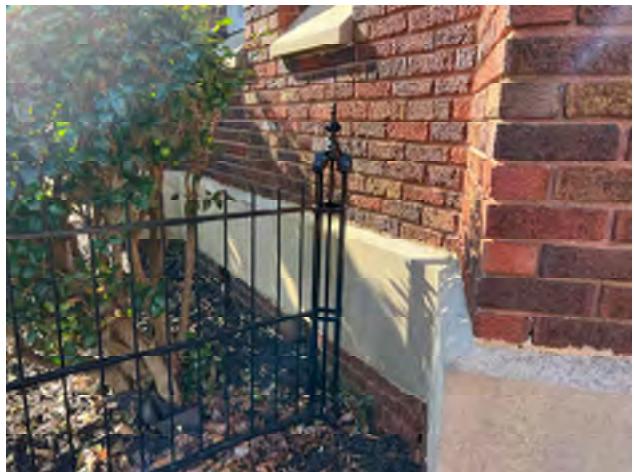
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-096.jpg

View SW of S room in outbuilding

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 17 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-097.jpg

View S of metal fence on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-098.jpg

View SE of metal fence and gate on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-099.jpg

View NW of brick-and-metal fence on S side of parcel along West Main Street



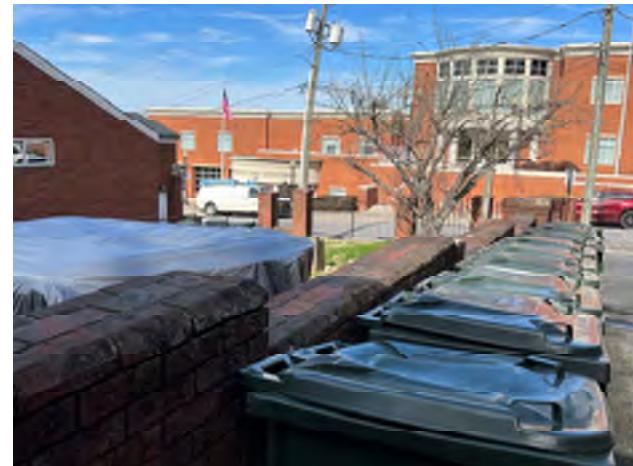
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-100.jpg

View N of brick-and-metal fence on S side of parcel, looking toward the Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-101.jpg

View NW of SE corner of property, showing board-on-board fence along E parcel line, looking toward the Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-102.jpg

View NW of brick wall along E parcel line, north of the outbuilding

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 18 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-103.jpg

View NW of brick-and-metal fence along E parcel line at the NE corner of property



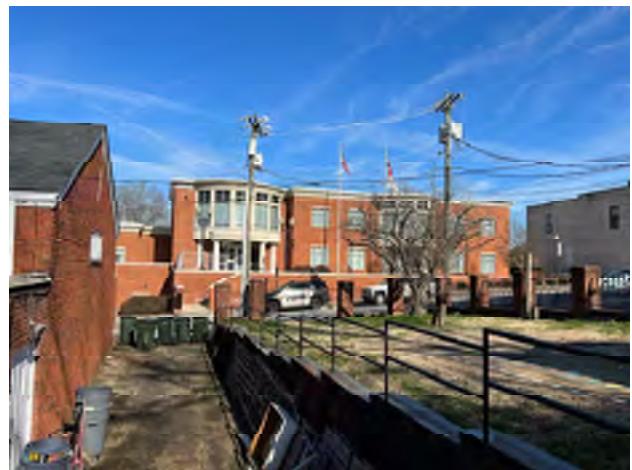
LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-104.jpg

View S of Brick-and-metal fence on N parcel line at the NE corner of property



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-105.jpg

View SE of the metal railing atop the brick retaining wall on E side of the Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-106.jpg

View N of the metal railing and brick retaining wall on E side of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-107.jpg

View E of the yard to the south of the Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall, showing retaining wall and metal railing to right



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-108.jpg

View SE of the yard to the S of the Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall, showing outdoor grill at center and steps to church at right

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 19 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-109.jpg

View E of outdoor grill between Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall and church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-110.jpg

View W of metal railing above the outdoor grill



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-111.jpg

View N of the steps leading from the church to the Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-112.jpg

View N of walkway and steps along E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-113.jpg

View NW of yard on E side of church, showing walkway and steps



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-114.jpg

View NW of yard on E side of church, looking toward Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 20 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-115.jpg

View SW of yard on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-116.jpg

View SE of yard on E side of church, looking toward Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-117.jpg

View E of yard on E side of church, showing board-on-board fence, looking toward Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-118.jpg

View W of fountain on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-119.jpg

View E of brick pavers leading from walkway on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-120.jpg

View NE of brick pavers on E side of church

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)
02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 21 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-121.jpg

View NW of brick pavers on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-122.jpg

View W of brick-and-metal fence along S parcel line



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-123.jpg

View W of Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-124.jpg

View N of Abernethy House site



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-125.jpg

View E toward Abernethy House site of brick pavers on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-126.jpg

View NE toward outbuilding from brick-paved hardscape on E side of church

Historic Landmark Designation Application 8A: Photo Proofs

LN0308 (First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main Street, Lincolnton, Lincoln County)

02/2023 - Annie McDonald, photographer, page 22 of 22 (Grounds)



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-127.jpg

View NE of outbuilding, showing poured concrete pad



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-128.jpg

View W of yard on E side of church



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-129.jpg

View N of basketball court S of outbuilding and E of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-130.jpg

View NE of yard and basketball court to E of Education Bldg./Fellowship Hall



LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-131.jpg

View SE of retaining wall and yard at NW corner of church

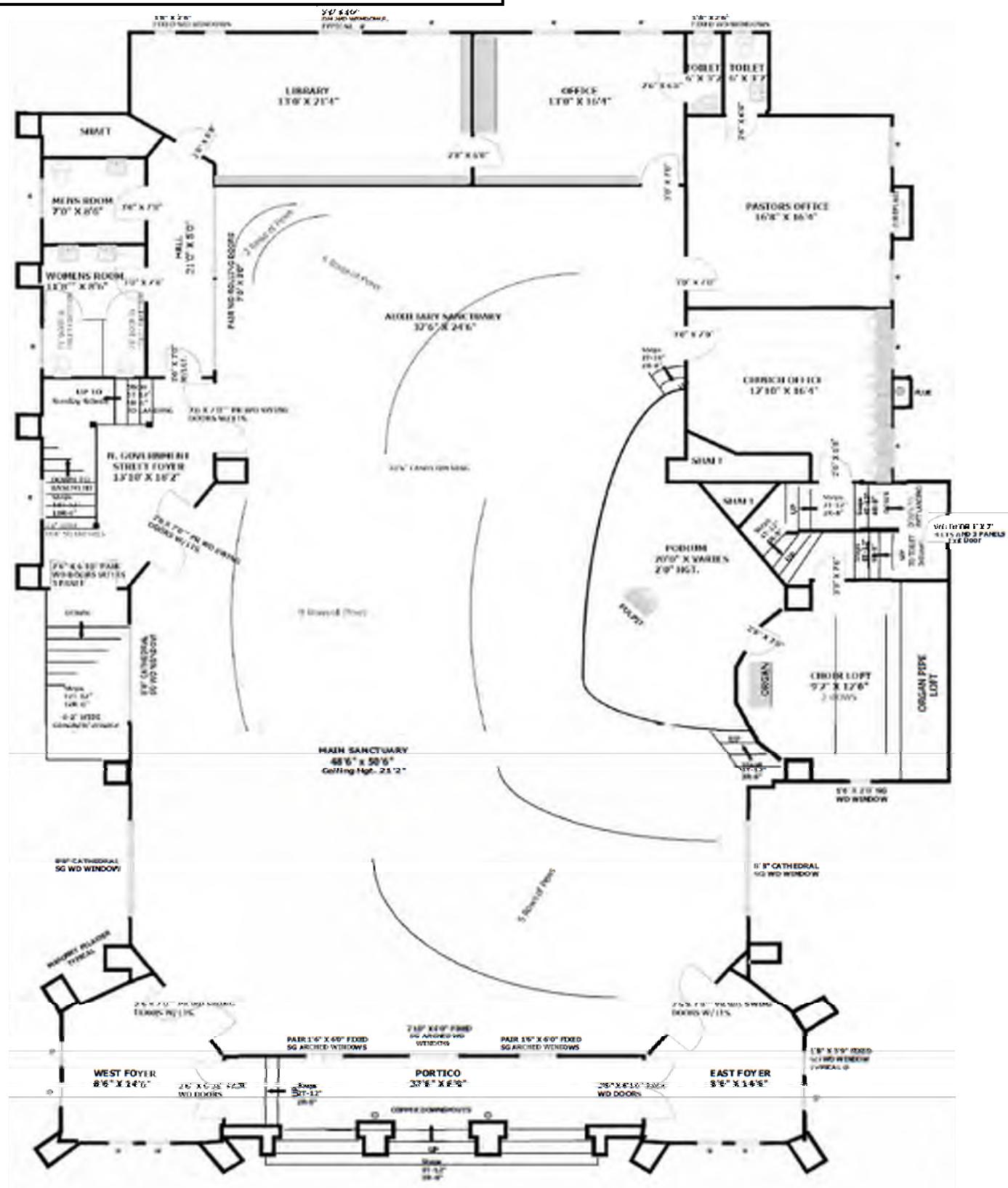


LN0308_114WMainSt_02-2023_AM-132.jpg

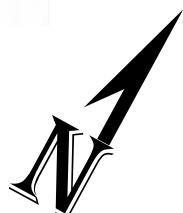
View S of retaining wall on E side of church, showing different brick colors

Historic Landmark Designation Application

8B. Floor Plan—Sanctuary

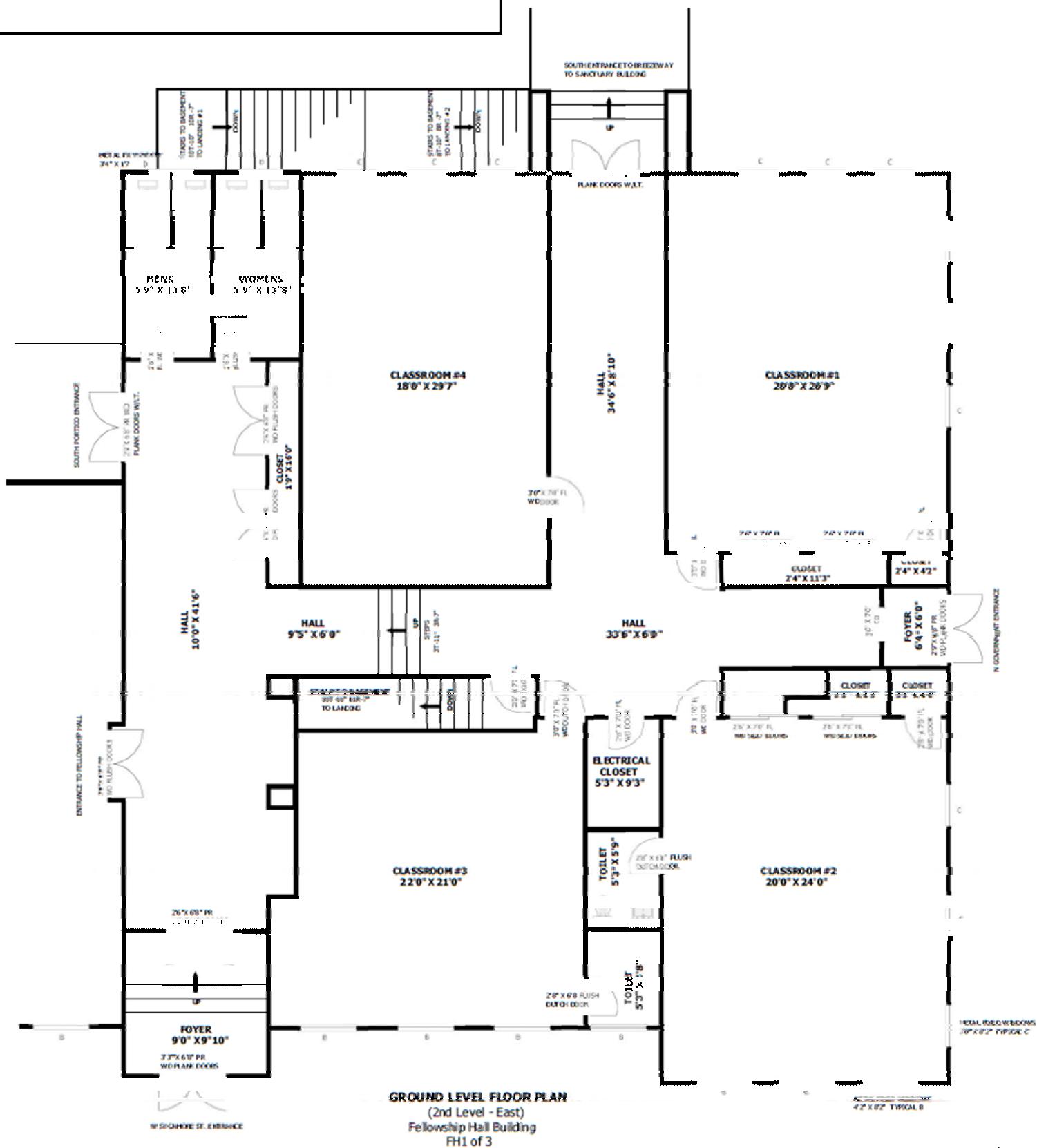


First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina
Sanctuary Floor Plan (not to scale)

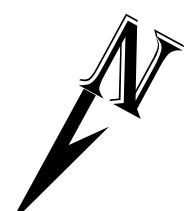


Historic Landmark Designation Application

8B. Floor Plan—Educational Building

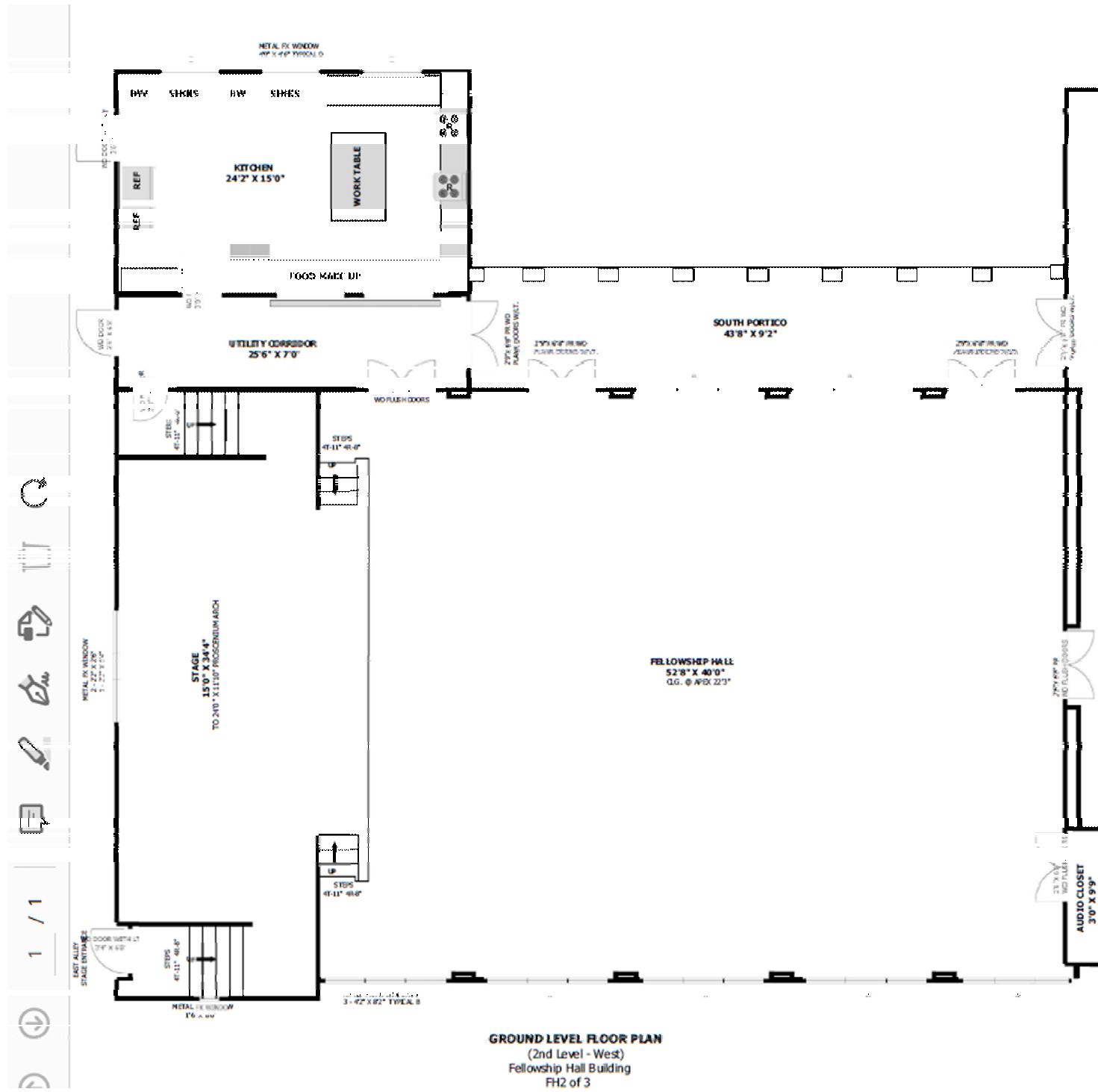


First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina
Educational Building Floor Plan (not to scale)



Historic Landmark Designation Application

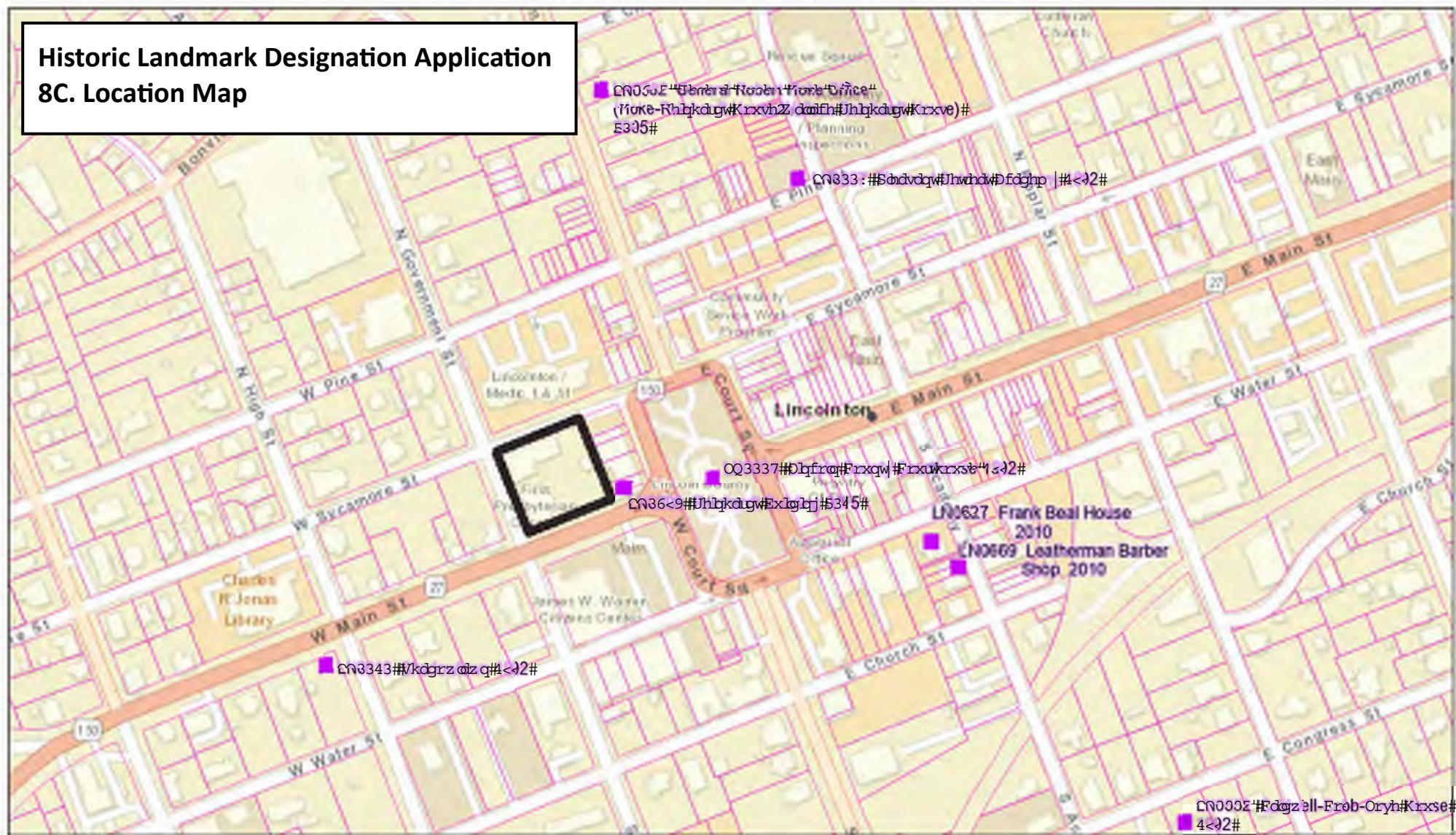
8B. Floor Plan—Fellowship Hall



**First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina
Fellowship Hall Floor Plan (not to scale)**



Historic Landmark Designation Application 8C. Location Map



First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina
Location Map



First Presbyterian Church location (PIN# 3623747102)

■ Locally Designated Historic Landmark (date designated)



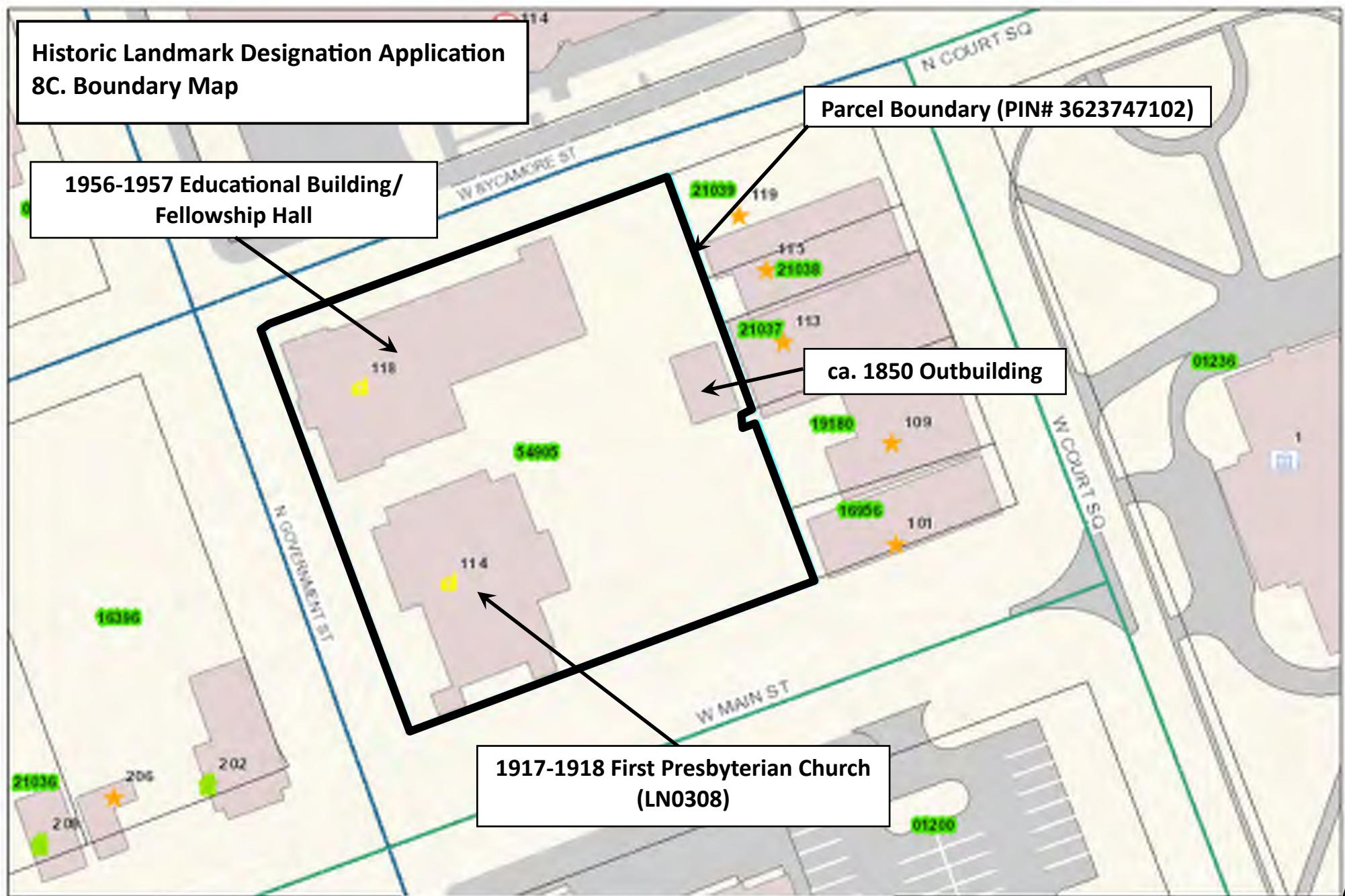
Historic Landmark Designation Application
8C. Boundary Map

Parcel Boundary (PIN# 3623747102)

1956-1957 Educational Building/
Fellowship Hall

ca. 1850 Outbuilding

1917-1918 First Presbyterian Church
(LN0308)



First Presbyterian Church
114 West Main Street
Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina
Boundary Map

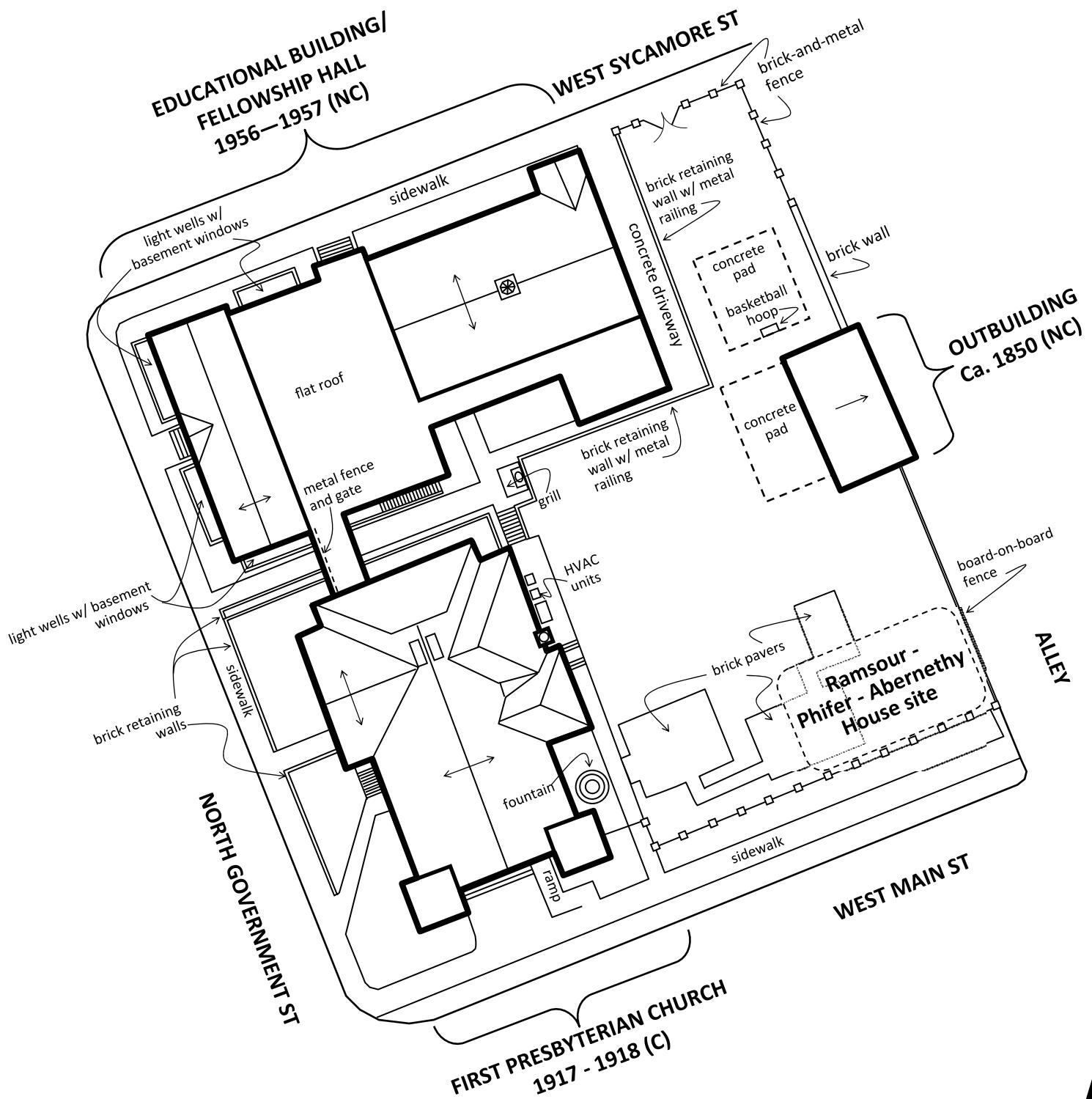
0 100 200 FT

1 inch = 62 feet

N

Historic Landmark Designation Application

8C. Site Plan



First Presbyterian Church

114 West Main Street

Lincolnton, Lincoln County, North Carolina

Site Plan (not to scale)



Comments from Department of Cultural Resources State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary D. Reid Wilson

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Darin J. Waters, Ph.D.

June 2, 2023

Joshua Grant
Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission
303 N. Academy St., Suite A
Lincolnton, NC 28092

Via email: jgrant@lincolncounty.org

RE: Proposed Designation of the **First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main St., Lincolnton, Lincoln County.**

Dear Mr. Grant:

Thank you for the report we received on the proposed designation of the First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main St., Lincolnton, Lincoln County. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160D-946.

According to the report, the First Presbyterian Church is of special local significance for its architecture. It is the most elaborate of the few Gothic Revival-style ecclesiastical buildings remaining in Lincoln County.

The report is thorough and well done. We believe it provides the preservation commission and local governing board sufficient information to determine whether the First Presbyterian Church possesses the requisite special local significance and integrity for local historic landmark designation.

Landmark designation means the community recognizes the property is worthy of preservation because of its special significance to the local community. If designated, any substantial changes in design, materials, and appearance to the property is subject to the design review procedures of the preservation commission. The owner may receive an annual deferral of up to fifty percent of the property taxes for as long as the property is designated and retains significance and integrity. (N.C.G.S. 105-278 *et seq.*).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the report. Please note, our comments are advisory only and therefore nonbinding. Once the governing board has received a recommendation from the Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission, it should proceed in the same manner as would otherwise be required for

an amendment to the zoning ordinance. Once the decision has been made, please return a completed copy of the enclosed form to our office.

This letter serves as our comments on the proposed designation of the First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main St., Lincolnton, Lincoln County. Please contact me at Kristi.brantley@ncdcr.gov (preferred) or 919-814-6576 should you have any questions about our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Brantley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Kristi" on the top line and "Brantley" on the bottom line, slightly overlapping.

Kristi Brantley
Local Preservation Commissions / CLG Coordinator

CC: Commission Chair
Jordan Tubbs, Planner II, Lincoln County Historic Properties
Andrew Bryant, Director, Lincoln County Historic Properties

Enclosure

Joshua Grant

From: Brantley, Kristi <kristi.brantley@ncdcr.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 2, 2023 5:24 PM
To: Josh Grant
Cc: Jordan Tubbs; Andrew Bryant; Sturm, Brett
Subject: First Presbyterian Church comments
Attachments: LN0308_HPO comment letter_First Presbyterian Church.pdf; LN0308_First Presbyterian Church__REQUEST FOR DESIGNATION CONFIRMATION.docx

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Joshua,

Attached is a copy of the letter written in response to the proposed designation of the **First Presbyterian Church, 114 West Main St., Lincolnton, Lincoln County**. Please share a copy of this letter with your Commission Chair.

Also attached is a copy of the designation confirmation form. If an ordinance is adopted to designate the property, please return a completed copy of the confirmation form to me with the date the ordinance was adopted.

I've copied Restoration Specialist Brett Sturm as Lincoln County is in his territory. Brett is a great resource and offers technical advice to historic property owners. He also works with the Rehabilitation Tax Credit program.

Architectural Survey Coordinator Beth King reviewed the report and offers the following comments:

The First Presbyterian Church of Lincolnton appears to be a good candidate for local landmark designation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this report. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Best regards,

Kristi



Kristi Brantley
CLG/Local Government Coordinator
NC State Historic Preservation Office
NC Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources
Phone: (919) 814-6576
kristi.brantley@ncdcr.gov

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#StayStrongNC
Learn more @ nc.gov/covid19

And don't forget your Ws! Wear. Wait. Wash.

WEAR a face covering.

WAIT 6 feet apart from other people.

WASH your hands often.



NC DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES