



## City of Danville

427 Patton Street, Suite 208

Danville VA, 24541

Phone: (434) 799-5260

# Commission of Architectural Review

May 24, 2018

3:30 P.M.

FOURTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

## AGENDA

- I. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING

### NEW BUSINESS

*Request a Certificate of Appropriateness at 225 Jefferson Avenue to remove metal awning from left front porch and remove side porch addition from right side of the structure. Items being removed in preparation of exterior rehab.*

- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 22, 2018
- V. OTHER BUSINESS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT



**City of Danville**  
427 Patton Street, Suite 208  
Danville VA, 24541  
Phone: (434) 799-5260

## ***Commission of Architectural Review***

**Commission of Architectural Review  
Meeting of March 22, 2018**

### **SUBJECT**

**225 Jefferson Ave**

### **APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

Request a Certificate of Appropriateness at 225 Jefferson Avenue to remove metal awning from left front porch and remove side porch addition from right side of the structure. Items being removed in preparation of exterior rehab.

### **STAFF EVALUATION**

Section 3.0 Section B of the Old West End Design Guidelines gives General Guidelines.

B. General Guidelines

- Every reasonable effort should be made to preserve and enhance the historically significant elements of a building.
- Architectural restoration, rather than renovation, is the preferred option when feasible.
- Qualities such as massing and scale, verticality or horizontality of architectural lines and rhythm of the fenestration are all critical to overall design. These qualities should be studied and retained when possible.
- Before replacing historic elements of a building, preservation and consolidation should be considered.
- All additions and renovations to existing structures should as much as possible complement the original elements in terms of material, size, shape, texture and color.
- New construction (e.g. additions) must be appropriate to the period and style or character of the building and the district as a whole.
- To avoid deterioration and possible loss, all elements, especially the historically significant elements must be carefully maintained.
- Repairs should match as much as possible in terms of materials, size, shape, texture and color.
- Façade details such as cornice ornamentation should never be covered or removed to avoid the need for maintenance, painting or refinishing.
- Technology is an important part of modern life, but it should be shielded from view. All antennas, satellite dishes, solar panels and other such items attached to buildings should be screened from view as much as possible (typically by placing these items where they are not visible from the street).

Staff recommends approval of the request as submitted.

of Architectural Review. The Commission meets once a month on the fourth Thursday of the month at 3:30 P.M. in the fourth floor City Council Conference Room located in the Municipal Building. All questions or applications should be submitted to the Planning Division, located on the second floor of the Municipal Building, 427 Patton Street, Room 207, Danville, VA 24541; (434)-799-5260. As of July 1, 2009 a \$25.00 fee will be required for each application submitted for review.

**INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED BY APPLICANT**

*Important-Please read before completing application*

- a) All questions on this application must be fully answered
- b) The application must be signed by the property owners or representative with written authorization by the owner
- c) A drawing, photo, plan or sketch of proposed project with dimensions

Have you read and understand the Design Guidelines for the Historic Overlay District of Danville, Virginia? yes

Are you aware of the federal/state tax credits and Real Estate Abatement program available for potential reimbursement/credit of money used during substantial rehabilitation projects? yes

Would you like more information about these programs? no

Which one(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Property Location: 225 Jefferson Avenue

Name of Applicant: DRHA, Gary Wasson Executive Director

Applicant's Address: 136 Jones Crossing

Applicant's Phone Number: 434-792-5544 Email Address: gwasson@drhava.com

Work Proposed (please circle one): Alteration/addition/rehabilitation/new construction/sign

1. Remove metal awning from left front porch
  2. Remove Side porch addition from right side of structure
- Items are being removed in preparation of exterior rehab

Type of material(s) to be used: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner (if not applicant)

Gary Wasson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant



1899

10

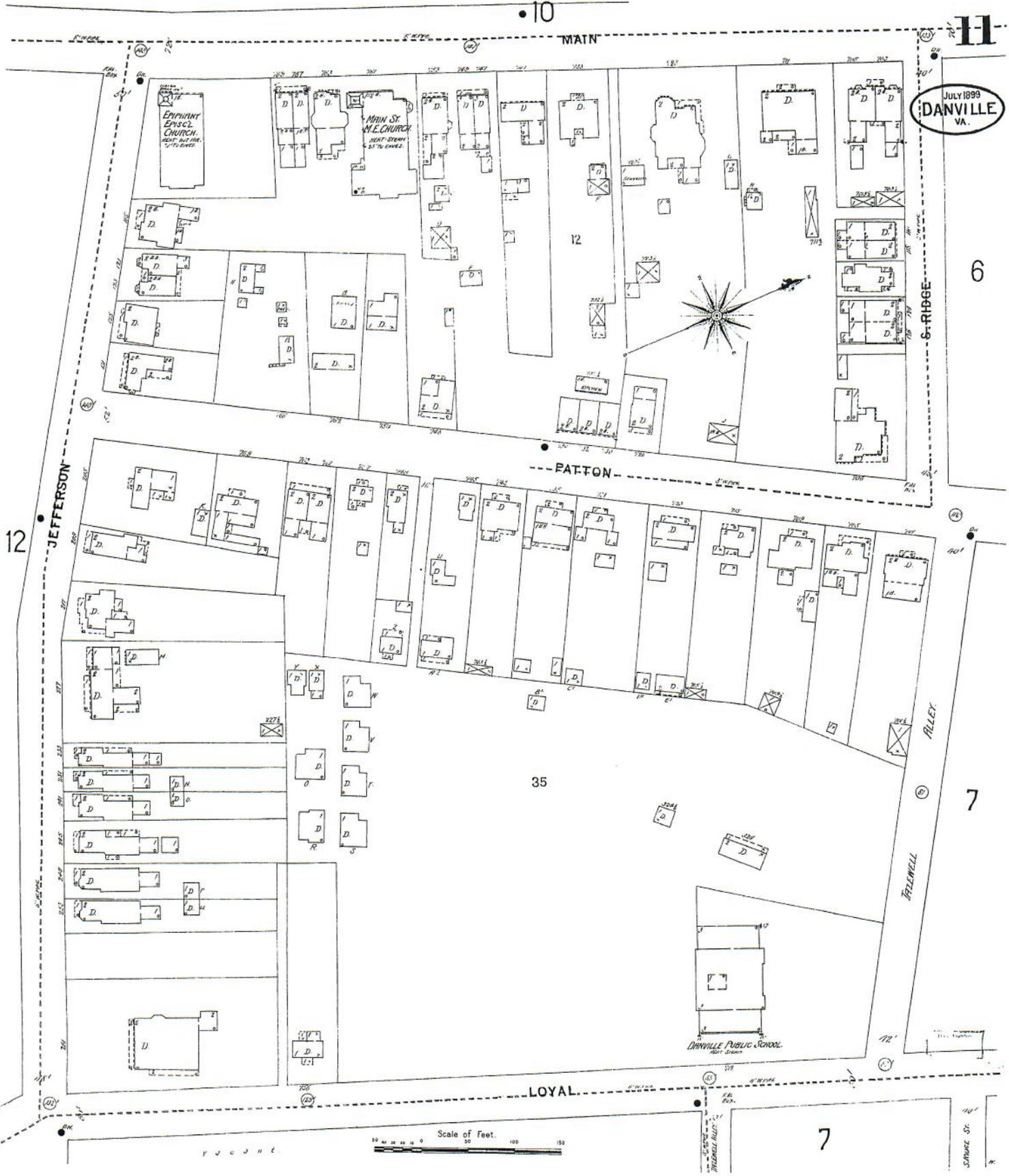
11

JULY 1899  
DANVILLE  
VA.

6

7

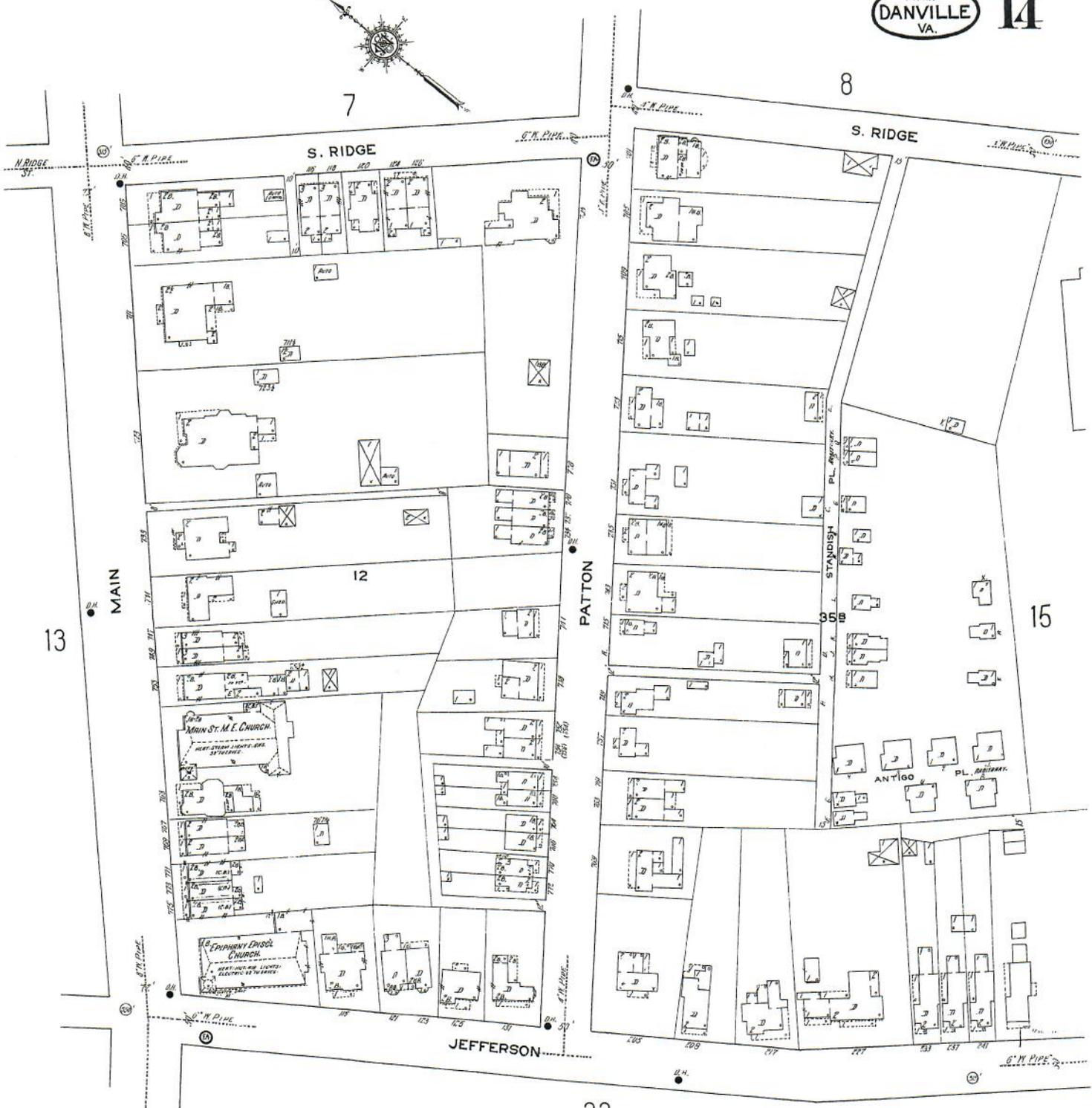
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1915

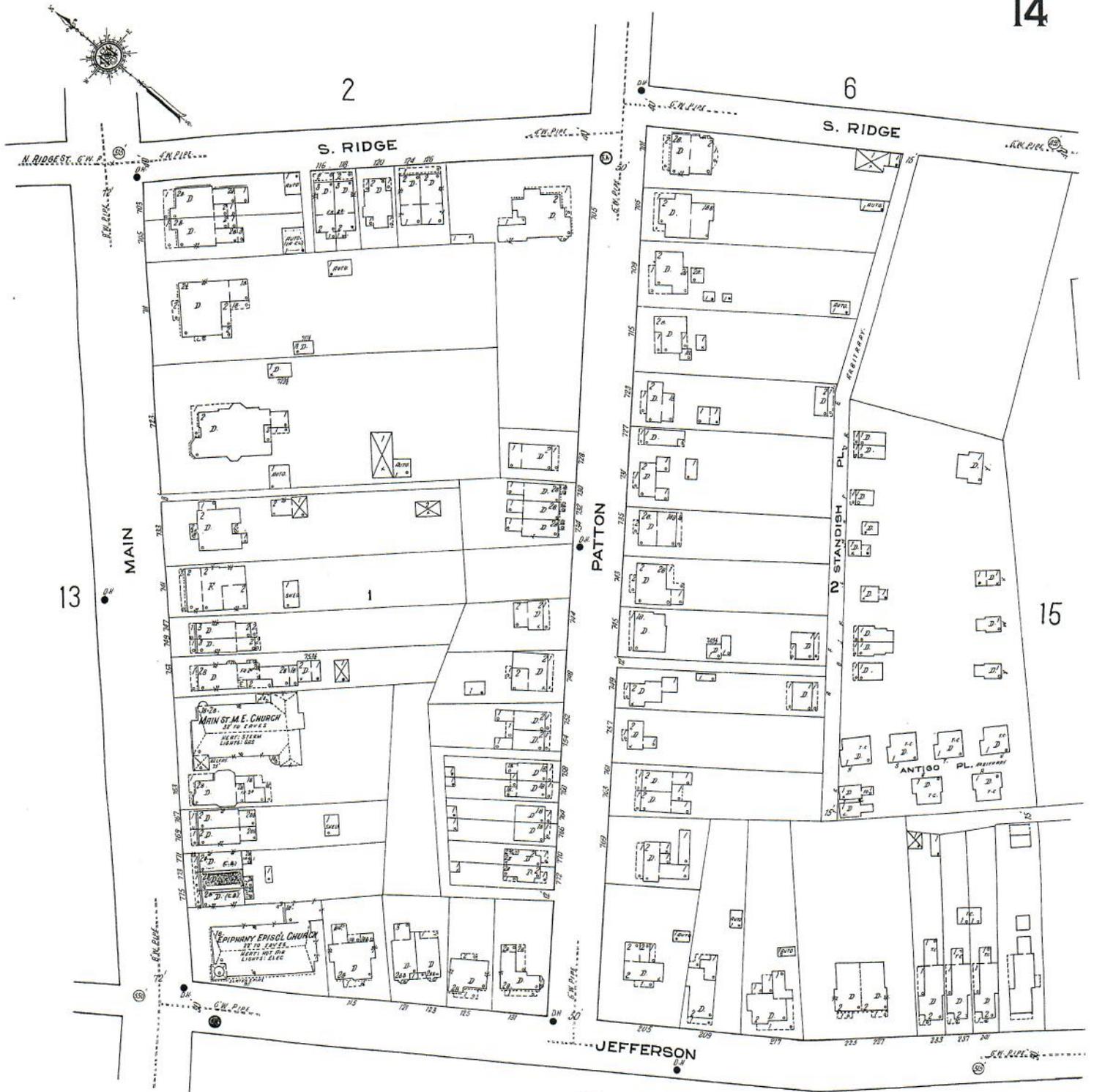
AUG 1915  
DANVILLE  
VA.

14



23





13

2

6

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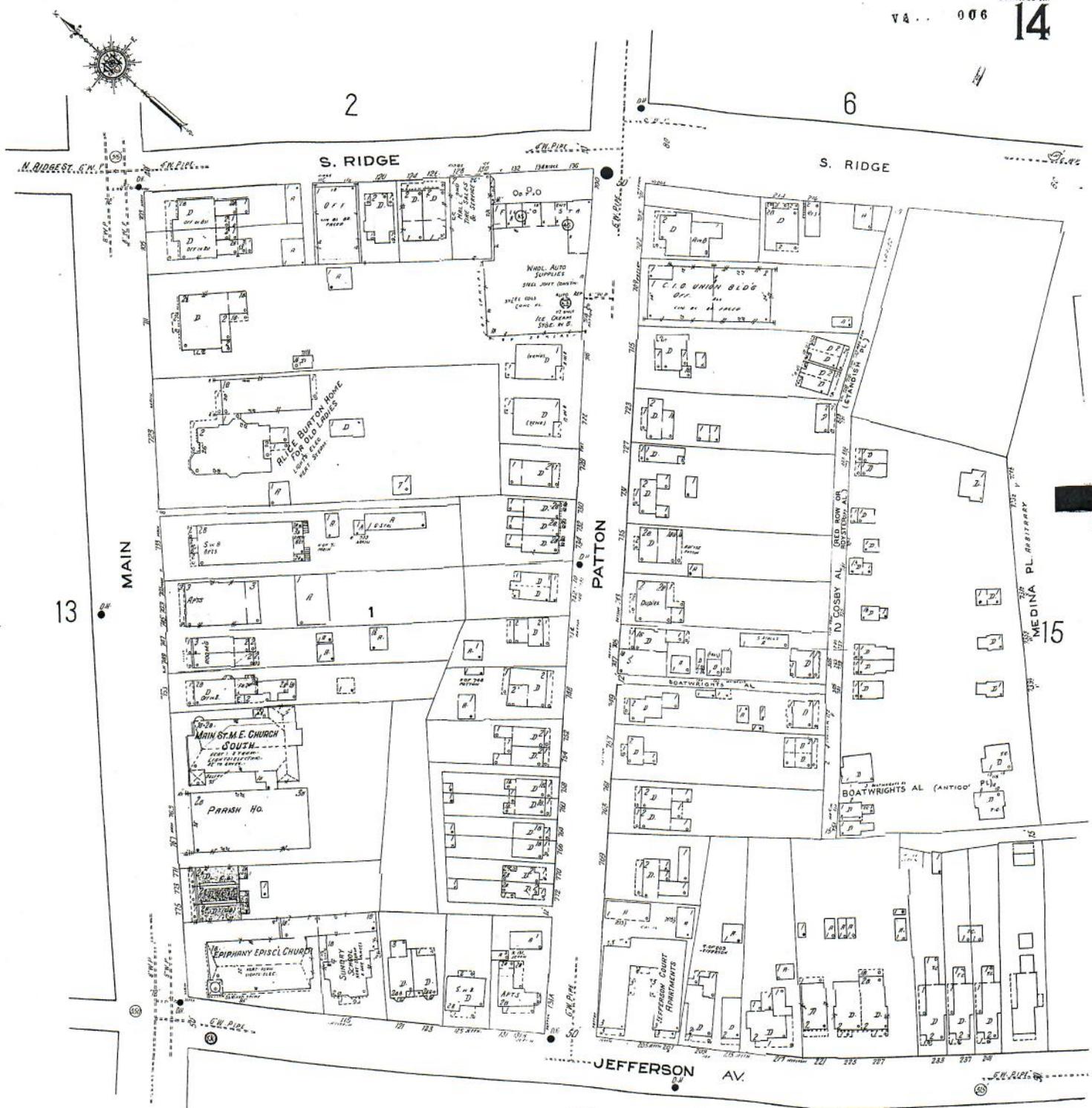
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27

Scale of Feet.  
 50 100 150  
 Copyright 1920 by the Southern Map Co.

1920 w/ 1951 updates

DANVILLE VA. 006 14



27



# Original Building of Sacred Heart Catholic Church

102 Holbrook Street

of Jehovah's Witnesses, South Unit, in 1963. Nine years later the building was purchased by God's Holy Temple, The Movement of Jesus Christ's Holy Church, Apostolic Faith, whose members worship there today.

This simple but picturesque weatherboarded church is given emphasis by its elongated windows with their semi-circular hood molds. The building gains visual importance for closing a vista at the junction of Holbrook and Ross streets.

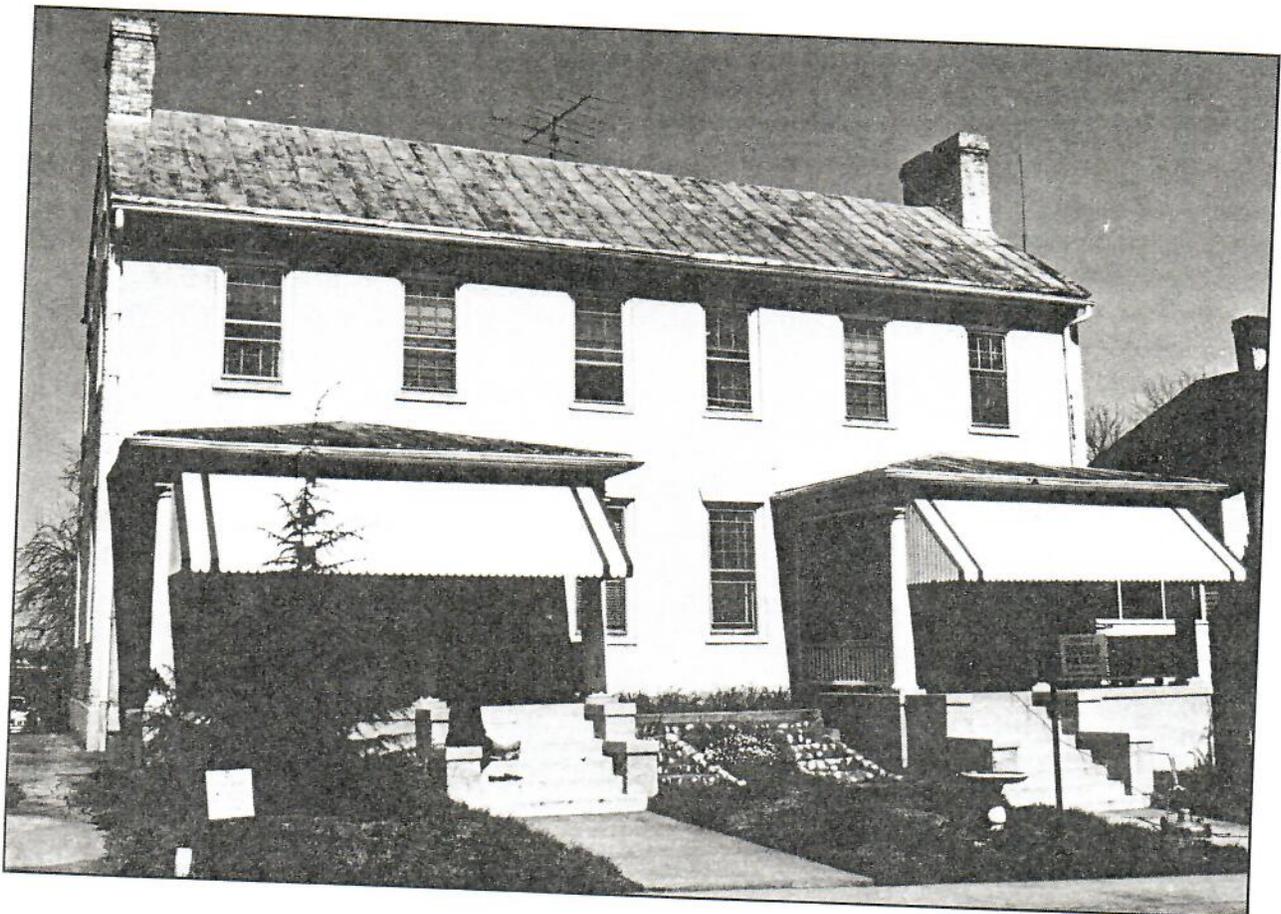


## The Robert Ross House

225-27 Jefferson Avenue

While its antiquity and rarity have largely been overlooked, this building is one of the oldest houses in the city. An early nineteenth century double house (two rooms wide) of Late Federal design, it may be a contemporary of the house at 770 Main Street, the Lanier House erected in 1830.

Earliest records of the house—its date of construction and its first owners and occupants have yet to be uncovered. The first known owner of the dwelling was Robert Ross, one of Danville's four original town councilmen. In her *History of Old Grove Street Cemetery*, Miss Mary Mack noted that Robert and his brother John Ross were natives of the county of Antrim in what is now Northern Ireland. According to Miss Mack they became "proprietors of one of the first two stores in Danville, known under the name of the firm, John Ross and Company." Their father, James Ross, was received by certificate from his church in Ireland as one of the first two members of the First Presbyterian Church.



# The Robert Ross House

225-27 Jefferson Avenue

Not too far from his brother's home on present-day Jefferson Avenue, John Ross maintained a house that stood within his large lot, now the 800 block of Grove and Main streets. His three daughters—Sallie, the wife of Thomas B. Doe; Elizabeth, the wife of John B. Turpin; and Catherine, the wife of William S. Patton—were given part interest in the estate of their uncle, Robert Ross, who having never married had no immediate heirs upon his death in November of 1847. According to a deed book at the Pittsylvania County Courthouse in Chatham, the following September Mr. Patton and Catherine, his wife, acquired "the late residence of [her uncle] Robert Ross, deceased, situate on Jefferson Street ..." (now Jefferson Avenue), as well as several other properties in Danville and Pittsylvania County for the sum of \$4,432.75.

William Suydenham Patton was the son of an early Danville physician originally from Rockbridge County, Virginia, Dr. James Doddridge Patton, and his wife the former Mary Fearn.

According to the *History of Old Grove Street Cemetery*, Mr. Patton, who began his adult life in the mercantile business, joined in partnership with A.Y. Stokes and T.C. Williams shortly after the close of the War Between the States to form the banking and insurance firm of W.S. Patton, Sons and Company. At least two of his sons, J. Allen Patton and William Fearn Patton, who helped in their father's business, are also known to have lived in the family's Jefferson Street house as late as 1881. The business continued for much of this century under the name of Patton, Temple, and Williamson, Inc.

Mr. Patton's land consisted of lots 153, 154, 155 and 156, each fronting 94 1/2 feet on Jefferson Street as shown on a "map [of Danville] by Hadley" dated March 4, 1854. His property was adjacent to that of the Danville Female Academy run by the Rev. George W. Dame on the corner of Jefferson and Loyal streets.

In 1863 Mr. Patton sold lots 153 and 154 including his house to James B. Pace, who was engaged in the tobacco business. In his *Notebook*, Jacob Davis mentions the sale of W.S. Patton's "residence and one acre to James B. Pace (Jefferson Street) \$16,000.00." At the time of the sale the deed states that the house was occupied by Dr. Thomas Jefferson Patrick. Dr. Patrick, a brother-in-law of Major William T. Sutherlin, later built the house subsequently owned by Mr. and Mrs. James I. Pritchett on the corner of Main Street at Holbrook, now the site of the Doctors Building at 990 Main Street.

Nearly three years after the sale of the Jefferson Street house, Mr. Patton repurchased it from Mr. Pace and his wife Bettie for \$11,000. The property remained in the family until 1885 when it was sold to Mary E. Elliott, who had come to Danville from Charlotte County, Virginia, about 1883. Little is known about Mrs. Elliott except that apparently she and several relatives lived in the house for perhaps a decade, as a later deed refers to the house as the "old Elliott home." By the mid 1890s however, city directories suggest that the house was being rented.

James H. Wilson of Caswell County, North Carolina, and Dr. Sumter George of Danville bought the house and 110-foot-wide lot at public auction in 1901. Shortly thereafter it was sold to John L. Pairo, a seafood dealer, and his wife, the former Lucy Osborne. In a later deed the house is called the "old Patton or Pairo place," making it seem probable that the Pairo family lived here, although no other records have been found to verify their address at the time. Mr. and Mrs. Pairo retained the property until 1904 when it was purchased by Oliver P. Bendall and Rosa A. Bendall "jointly in equal shares," according to the deed. Mr. Bendall was at one time a tobacco buyer with Bendall Brothers, a leaf tobacco firm.

Two years later Mr. N.A. Fitzgerald bought the house where he and his family lived for over five years. His nephew, Harry R. Fitzgerald, served as secretary-treasurer and later as president of Dan River Mills. Nathan A. Fitzgerald, described in his obituary as a man "with industry, intelligence and probity and tenacity of purpose," was able to attain success in a number of business ventures. For many years in later life he ran the well-known firm of N.A. and T.J. Fitzgerald that manufactured bricks and concrete blocks.

# The Robert Ross House

225-27 Jefferson Avenue

Mr. Fitzgerald survived two of his wives, the former Janet Burgess of Richmond, Virginia, and the former Ida D. Abbott. Eighteen months before his death he married Miss Nora Lynn Kennedy. Three of his sons—A. Bledsoe Fitzgerald, A. Sidney Fitzgerald, and Herbert B. Fitzgerald—and a daughter, Mary Fitzgerald, all by his first marriage, are listed as living at this address in a 1908 city directory. After his death in November 1911, local physician Dr. Julian Robinson acquired the property.

In 1919 the house was sold to Max Sonnenberg. He and his family operated The Quality Shop, a ladies ready-to-wear store at 405 Main Street. Four years later the house and grounds were divided between Mr. Sonnenberg and his daughter-in-law Mary T. Sonnenberg (Mrs. Isaac Sonnenberg). In all likelihood it was at this time that the present matching porches were added to shelter the doorway at each end of the building's facade.

Two of Mr. and Mrs. Sonnenberg's daughters, Miss Selma Sonnenberg and Mrs. Samuel (Fannie S.) Mandle, were among the last of the family members to reside here. In 1947 the house was purchased by Mrs. Walter L. (Stuart James) Grant. The following year she sold the property to David V. Spangler and David M. Spangler.

Shortly thereafter Hubert A. Hamilton purchased the house where he and his wife Maggie lived until it was sold to Pearl M. Thornton in 1950. Mrs. Thornton's husband Jesse L. Thornton was a recruiting officer with the U.S. Army, serving in World War II and the Korean conflict.

Mrs. Thornton, who survived her husband by many years, resided in the Jefferson Avenue house until not long before her death in 1991. Three years earlier she had conveyed the house to her son Ralph Moore, who has continued his mother's use of the structure as a boarding house, Thornton Terrace. During her long residence there Mrs. Thornton asserted that the building's substantial walls, eighteen inches thick, rendered the rooms virtually soundproof. With its Flemish bond brick walls, gable roof, two interior end chimneys, and windows using stuccoed flat arches, this early Danville structure is one of considerable importance to the city.



# Green Hill Cemetery

761 Lee Street

Green Hill Cemetery is one of the most peaceful and picturesque spots in Danville. Its handsome funeral sculpture, interspersed among large evergreens and shade trees, is typical of municipal cemeteries in the Romantic layout of the mid-nineteenth century.

Often called Lee Street Cemetery, its name, though suggestive of the pleasing and tranquil names Victorians gave their burial grounds, actually came from the man who owned the land, Dr. Nathaniel T. Green.

It was Jacob Davis's *Notebook, 1855-1877* which gave the lead as to when the land was purchased. An entry dated August 11, 1863, reads, "Council of Danville, 35 acres (for burying ground) of Dr. Green's Admr.'s. Per acre \$500. Ditto for park, supposedly \_\_ acres, per acre, \$1,250."

Minutes of the meetings of the town council from July through September 1863 reveal that Davis was accurate. On July 7, J.W. Holland, J.M. Johnston, then clerk of the council, and J.C. Voss were appointed as a committee to negotiate with Dr. Thomas D. Stokes, executor, for the purchase of real estate belonging to the late Dr. Green, two acres, more or less situated on Jefferson and Green streets at \$1250 per acre for a public park, and thirty-five acres, more or less, suitable for a cemetery priced at \$500 per acre.

Reports were made on August 4, deferred to the August 10 meeting when the committee was instructed to purchase the land, and on September 2 it was reported the land had been purchased.

# DANVILLE, VIRGINIA



## ARCHITECTURAL-HISTORIC INVENTORY CARD #

### OWNERSHIP RECORD

Present Owner P.M. THORNTON  
 Mailing Address .....  
 Original Owner .....

### CLASSIFICATION

District ..... Site ..... Building  Object .....

### ARCHITECT OR BUILDER

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1940 SOURCE RM



MAJOR ALTERATIONS PORCHES YEAR .....

PRESENT USE ROOMS

ORIGINAL USE 2F RESIDENCE

ACCESSIBLE TO PUBLIC? .....

### ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

Vernacular ..... Italianate .....  
 Federal USE  American Picturesque .....  
 (Victorian)  
 Greek Revival ..... Neo-Classical .....  
 Gothic Revival ..... Twentieth Century .....

### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Facade Materials (Street Facade)  
 WOOD: Clapboards ..... Shingle ..... Other .....

MASONRY: Brick  Stone ..... Concrete .....

HEIGHT IN FULL STORIES 1 (2) 3 4 5

### INTERIOR DETAILS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Woodwork: Mantels ..... Doors and Windows .....  
 Wainscoting ..... Panelling ..... Other .....

Other Details: Murals ..... Wallpaper ..... Cornice  
 Details ..... Other .....

Significance of Total Interior .....

### SIGNIFICANT OUTBUILDINGS, IF ANY

Type .....  
 Condition .....

PHYSICAL CONDITION	Good	Fair	Poor
Structure	.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.....
Grounds	.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.....
Neighborhood	.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	.....

### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Including interiors)

OUTSTANDING ..... NOTABLE   
 EXCELLENT  WORTHY OF MENTION .....  
IF NECESSARY

### LOCATION

State —  
 County —  
 City or Town —  
 Street Address 225 JEFFERSON

### LEGAL DESCRIPTION

City or Town .....  
 Assessor's Book .....  
 Assessor's Plat .....  
 Block and Lot Number 72-D-9

### LOCATION OF LAST RECORDED DEED

APPROXIMATE LOT SIZE ..... X ..... , OR  
 ..... ACRES

### PROPERTY CURRENTLY ZONED

### REPRESENTATION IN OTHER SURVEYS

### IMPORTANCE TO NEIGHBORHOOD

Great  Moderate ..... Minor .....

### INCIDENCE IN AREA

Rare  Common .....

### ALTERATION OF ORIGINAL DESIGN

None ..... Moderate  Considerable .....

### HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

NATIONAL ..... STATE ..... LOCAL .....

HISTORIC NOTES AN EARLY-19TH CENTURY TWO STORY DOUBLE HOUSE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE, WITH FLEMISH BOND BRICK WALLS, GABLE ROOF, TWO INTERIOR FIRE CHIMNEYS, WINDOWS WITH STUCCOED FLAT ARCHES. PORCHES AT BOTH ENDS ARE LATER ADDITIONS AND SHOULD BE REMOVED

DATE ..... FILED BY .....

CHECKED BY ..... REVIEWED ...../...../.....

PHOTO Roll No. .... Negative .....



COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

March 22, 2018

**Members Present**

Robin Crews  
Robert Stowe  
Robert Weir  
Michael Nicholas

**Members Absent**

Sean Davis  
Jeffrey Bond  
Susan Stilwell

**Staff**

Ken Gillie  
Lisa Jones  
Clarke Whitfield

**ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

1. *Request a Certificate of Appropriateness at 107 West Main Street to add an umbrella to church playground to provide shade for children and teachers. (Steel post and fabric umbrella)*

Mr. Nicholas opened the Public Hearing.

Present to speak on behalf of this request was Mr. Gary Benefield, member of Mount Vernon United Methodist Church. Mr. Benefield stated we would like to install a 12'x12' umbrella in our children's house playground. I've got photographs of the umbrella and where it will be. It will be roughly 7 to 8 feet tall.

Mr. Nicholas stated what material?

Mr. Benefield stated it's a mesh material like nylon.

Mr. Nicholas stated metal or wooden pole?

Mr. Benefield stated it's a metal pole.

Mr. Weir stated it backs up to the hospital there?

Mr. Benefield stated that is correct.

Mr. Nicholas closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Weir stated I notice the staff kind of said we don't know what it is so we will just turn it over to commission. There is nothing in the guidelines related to this at all?

Mr. Gillie stated no sir.

**Mr. Weir made a motion that it does not meet the guidelines. Mrs. Stowe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

**Mr. Weir made a motion that we approve the application that it does not have an adverse effect on the area or the property. Mrs. Stowe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

2. *Request a Certificate of Appropriateness at 254 Jefferson Avenue to install aluminum gutters on the main house. The gutters requested are the same approved for the front porch.*

Mr. Nicholas stated there is an email in front of us from Cherise, the applicant, and she says, I am officially requesting in writing to have our case regarding the addition of gutters to 245 Jefferson Avenue, Danville, VA 24541, postponed until April 2018. Presently, I am unaware of the meeting date for April 2018.

Mr. Gillie stated we will provide them the meeting date.

**Mr. Stowe made a motion to postpone this until April. Mr. Weir seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Mr. Weir made a motion to approve the February 22, 2018, minutes. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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Approved