

THE CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE'S **HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The committee's MISSION:

To **advocate** for historic preservation; to **promote** an appreciation of local historic resources, both tangible and intangible; and to **encourage and coordinate**, with appropriate municipal agencies, civic organizations, institutions and individual scholars, the documentation and interpretation of local history.

The committee's GOALS:

- **Advocacy** - we advocate for preservation of local resources
- **Promotion** - we promote an appreciation of those resources
- **Encouragement** - we encourage others to appreciate and respect historic resources
- **Coordination** - we coordinate with interested parties and organizations
- **Documentation** - we support documentation of historic resources
- **Interpretation** - we support interpretation of historic resources



Navigate to the
HRC's page via
*Historic Preservation
& Design.*

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TIMELINE

- 1959: Charlottesville enacts an *Architectural Design Control Ordinance* and created a *Board of Architectural Review* to review the appropriateness of exterior changes to buildings in the district
- 1973: *Historic Landmarks Commission* created by City Council. The Commission published the *Charlottesville Landmarks Study in 1976*, which initiated an on-going program for surveying significant structures in the City
- 1976: *Historic Preservation Ordinance* enacted, creating an expanded Architectural Design Control (ADC) District and increasing the responsibilities of the Board of Architectural Review (BAR). Ordinance established Individually Protected Properties (IPP), protecting historic resources not located within a district
- 1980: City publishes the *Historic Preservation Guide* to encourage historic and architectural preservation
- 1989: Chapter on historic preservation added to Comprehensive Plan
- 1993: City adopts the *Historic Preservation Plan* to protect important historic resources and guide preservation activities
- 1998: City Council appointed the **Historic Resources Task Force** to promote the City's historic resources and provide an educational component to the City's historic preservation program.
- 2002: *Historic Charlottesville Tour Book* published by the Historic Resources Task Force
- 2006: Historic Resources Task Force made permanent and renamed the Historic Resources Committee (HRC)
- 2007: Charlottesville's *Historic Preservation Plan*, created in 1993, added to the Comprehensive Plan
- 2016: City Council accepts the recommendation of the *Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials, and Public Spaces*.
- 2021: Updated Comprehensive Plan includes Vision Statement that recognizes importance of Historic Preservation

Over 60 years of historic preservation work by the City

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PLANNING & CODE PRECEDENT

Comprehensive Plan:

- The **Community Vision Statement** recognizes the importance of historic preservation and efforts to celebrate the City's *unique cultural and historical identity*.
- Eight of the 11 goals refer to City's historical and cultural fabric:
 - Goal 3: Protect and enhance the existing distinct identities of the city's neighborhoods and places while promoting and prioritizing infill development, housing options, a mix of uses, and sustainable reuse in our community.
 - Goal 5: ... support regional land use, preservation, and urban form, as well as environmental and transportation goals.
 - Goal 6: Continue Charlottesville's history of architectural and design excellence by maintaining traditional urban design features and valuing historic resources ...
 - Goal 7: Ensure that the quality of development [in Entrance Corridors] is compatible [with] the adjacent neighborhood's historic, architectural, and cultural resources
 - Goal 8: Identify ways to expand the understanding, presentation, and interpretation of the varied histories, cultures, and experiences of the city's residents and neighborhoods.
 - Goal 9: Systematically inventory and evaluate all historic, cultural, and natural resources, landscapes, and open spaces as critical elements that make Charlottesville special.
 - Goal 10: Educate current and potential property owners of historic resources, as well as the community in general, about the significance of historic properties.
 - Goal 11: Provide effective protection of Charlottesville's historic resources, including through recognition and incentives.

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

THE IMPORTANCE OF HRC

- Citizen-led group appointed by City Council to share insight, input, and concerns regarding historic resources.
- Diverse group with individual expertise; unique experiences and careers; and variety of qualifications
- Serves as sounding board for Preservation Staff
- Assists Preservation and Design Staff with projects and tasks
- Assist other City departments with historic resource concerns
- Available to receive public comments about preservation issues
- Informs and educates the community about the City's history and its historic and cultural and resources.
- On behalf of the City, collaborates with other historical-minded organizations

*Our existence signals the **City's commitment to preserving historic resources** that make our community unique, tell the full story of Charlottesville's evolution, and help drive tourism and economic development*

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PAST PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES



- Supported Work at Daughters of Zion Cemetery
- Commented on Honorary Street Names
- Endorsed Historic Designations
- Support Work of The Memory Project led by HRC member Jalane Schmidt



- Funded Burley High School Plaques
- ***Limited activities due to COVID*



- Co-sponsored Bailey Lecture "The Weeping Time"
- Researched updates for the Downtown Walking Tour map



- Contributed funding for Swan Tavern artifact analysis
- Contributed funding for GPR examinations of McKee Block
- Contributed funding for research of enslaved individuals at Pen Park



- Funded Court Square & Carver Inn Markers
- Released Downtown Walking Tour Map
- Upgraded Johnson Elementary Marker
- Co-Sponsored lecture "The Past & Future of Court Square"

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BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION

HRC and Preservation Staff Responded to the 2016

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials, and Public Spaces by:

- **Court Square Slave Auction Block:** Installed a proper, visible historic marker to replace the current illegible marker State Historical Marker
- **Daughters of Zion Cemetery:** Installed an updated plaque
- **Vinegar Hill Community:** Placed interpretive banners about the former community at CODE Building
- **Highlighting and Linking Historic Places:** Contributed funding for 10th & Page Neighborhood Survey
- **Place Names:** Advised City Council on proposed Honorary Street Name
- **New Memorials:** Funded and Installed State Historical Marker Carver Inn site
- **Other Opportunities: (Research, education, outreach):** Walking Tour Map, Anne Bailey lecture

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CURRENT PROJECTS



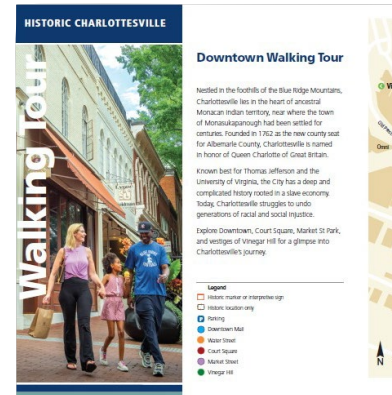
50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF
THE DOWNTOWN
MALL, JULY 2026



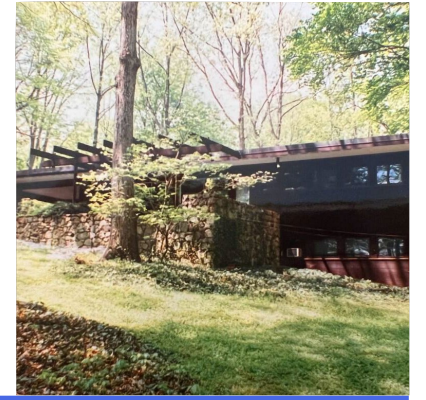
CITY SCHOOLS
COLLABORATION:
PROMOTE THE
CITY "AS A
CLASSROOM"



BPAC
NEIGHBORHOOD
WALK
HISTORICAL
FLYERS



SHARING THE
CITY'S STORY:
UPDATES TO
WALKING TOUR
MAP



SUPPORTING
HISTORIC
DESIGNATIONS;
SPONSORING
SPEAKERS; &
PROVIDING
FEEDBACK ON
DESIGN DOCUMENTS

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MOVING FORWARD

What does HRC need to accomplish the City's Preservation goals?

- Support and Buy-in for HRC Projects
- Support and Buy-In for Preservation Staff Efforts
- Continued Inclusion in City-led Documents (Comp Plan, Visioning, Small Area Plans, Goals & Objectives)
- Continued Funding For HRC and Preservation Initiatives
- Clear Direction and Specific Requests

*"Safeguarding the heritage of the City promotes **pleasure, education, and sense of well-being** among its citizens. Protecting the City's unique resources **also fosters civic pride, contributes to an understanding of the city's past**, and serves as a guide for future development. The **economic value of preservation** can be realized both in the stabilization of property values and the stimulation of business."* 1993 Charlottesville Historic Preservation Plan