



**City of Gainesville
Department of Doing
Planning Division**

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Gainesville, FL 32627-0490
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD STAFF REPORT

PUBLIC HEARING DATE:

January 5, 2021

ITEM NO:

Information Item A

PROJECT NAME AND NUMBER:

University Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1826
W. University Avenue

APPLICATION TYPE:

Information item

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the HPB support the
nomination of this property to the National
Register of Historic Places.

CITY PROJECT CONTACT:

Jason Simmons

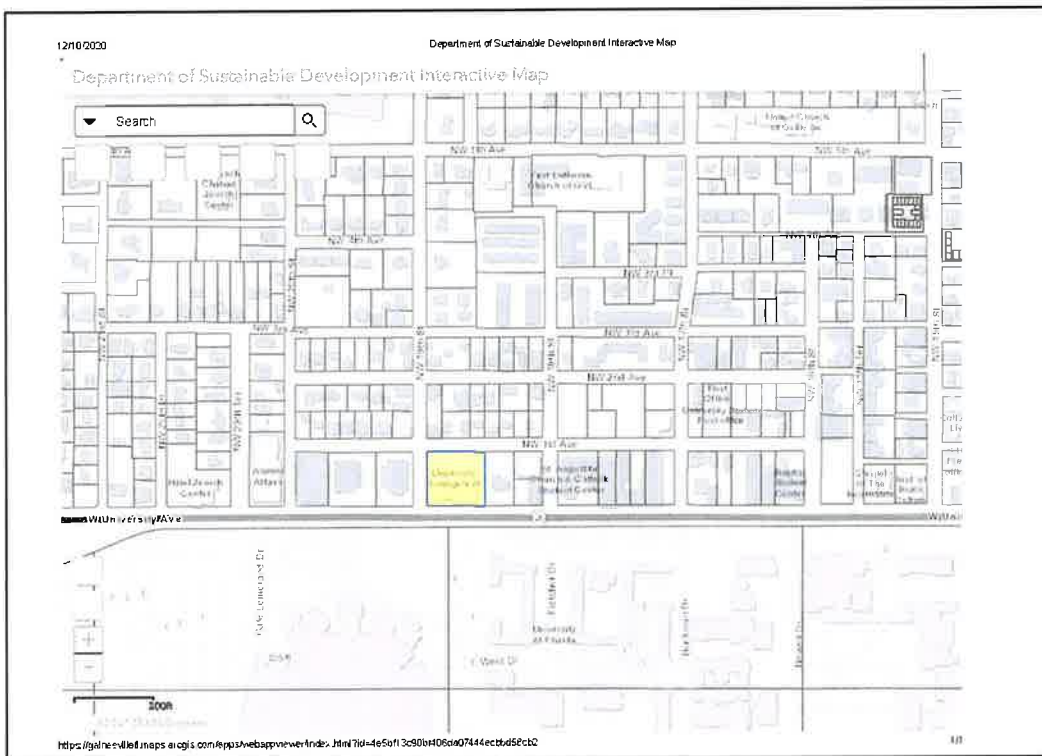


Figure 1: Location Map

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Agent/Applicant: Morris Hylton III, Kristine Ziedina, & Linda Stevenson
Property Owner(s): University Evangelical Lutheran Church

SITE INFORMATION:

Address: 1826 West University Avenue
Parcel Number(s): 14983-000-000
Existing Use(s): Place of Religious Assembly
Zoning Designation(s): Urban 8
Historic District: N/A
Historic District Status: N/A
Date of construction: Church: c. 1962 ACPA & c. 1961 AL07308;
Campus Center: c. 1970 ACPA & c. 1971 AL07308

PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION:

Information Item A. National Register Nomination: University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex. Located at 1826 West University Avenue. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, owner.

STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The property, located at 1826 West University Avenue, has been nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places by the State of Florida, Division of Historical Resources. The nomination proposal will be reviewed by the Florida National Register Review Board in a public meeting early this year. If the Review Board finds that the property meets the criteria for listing established by the National register, a formal nomination will be submitted to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington D.C., who will make the final decision (see Exhibit 1).

Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places provides recognition that the property is deemed by the federal and state governments to be significant to our history at the national, state and/or local levels.

BACKGROUND

“The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex (Complex), located at 1826 West University Avenue in Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida, consists of two buildings: **University Evangelical Lutheran Church** (1961) and **Lutheran Campus Center** (1971). Positioned along the north side of West University Avenue, the Complex sits across from the main campus of the University of Florida (UF). The University Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church), designed by award-winning master architect Albert Wynn Howell, features a prominent, double-pitched, A-frame roof. The Lutheran Campus Center (Center) is designed by Moore, May, and Harrington, one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms. Linked by covered walkways, the placement of the two buildings on the site forms a series of rectangular exterior spaces, which are partially enclosed with concrete block privacy walls. Both buildings and adjacent site comprise a coherent architectural ensemble that represents trends of mid-century modern architecture in Florida. The design of the whole Complex reflects the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright and the principles of Organic architecture including a structure that is well integrated with the natural context; a visual and physical connection to its setting; and unified design with repeating elements and details. The spatial configuration of the Church's and Center's interior spaces remains intact. The construction materials, exterior and interior finishes, and light fixtures are original and characteristic of the mid-century period. In 2019, a standing seam metal roof replaced the original red-brown Ludowici roof tiles, initially used for the Church's and Center 's roofs. Despite these minor alterations, both buildings individually and the Complex as a cohesive entity, retain a high level of integrity for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.”

SUMMARY

“The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex in Gainesville, Florida is significant under **Criterion C** at the **State and Local levels** in the area of **Architecture and Work of a Master**. The Complex is an example of Florida regional mid-century architectural trends, represents the works of master architects, and possesses high artistic value. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex consist of two contributing buildings, adjacent landscaped areas, and gardens. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church was designed in 1960 by award-winning master architect Albert Wynn Howell, and features a prominent, double-pitched, A-frame roof. The one-story, mid-century modern in character and style, University Lutheran Center was designed in 1970 by Moore, May and Harrington Architects, Inc., one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms, to relate to the original Church. Both buildings individually, and the Complex as a coherent entity, retain a high level of the physical integrity for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. The period of architectural significance of the Complex extends from 1960 to 1971.”

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

“The original design of the Church and Center remains intact. Both buildings retain their historic relationships within the property and neighborhood, especially the Church that maintains its

impressive presence within College Park, one of the oldest suburbs of Gainesville. The proportion and scale of the buildings have not been altered, and the door and window openings remain in their original form and location. The transparent glass surfaces that ensure a blend of interior and exterior were typical for midcentury buildings. The original and expressive exposed structural system of laminated fir beams remains visible on the interior of the sanctuary. The distinctive architectural treatment of the surfaces, such as the decorative arrangement of textured concrete block walls, are original and remain intact. Both buildings, as well as adjacent landscaped areas, contribute to a coherent architectural ensemble that represents trends of mid-century modern architecture in Florida; and retain a high level of the integrity of location, setting, design, materials, feeling, associations, and workmanship.”

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Board support the nomination of this property to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the HPB may provide official comments to the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation as to whether or not this property meets eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit 1 **Florida National Register Nomination Proposal**

Exhibit 2 **Photos**



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex

other names/site number AL06981; AL07307; AL07308, Old Savoir's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kaiser Center, ULC

2. Location

street & number 1826 West University Avenue not for publication

city or town Gainesville vicinity

state Florida code FL county Alachua code 001 zip code 32603

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain) _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

"N/A"

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Church

RELIGION: Student Center

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: Church

RELIGION: Student Center

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Concrete

Glass

roof Metal

other Stained glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1961-1971

Significant Dates

1961 - dedication of University Evangelical Lutheran Church
1971 - opening of Lutheran Campus Center

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Howell, Wynn Albert, architect
Moore, May and Harrington, Architects Inc.

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

University of Florida

University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex
Name of Property

Alachua County, Florida
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 0.99 acres

UTM References
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

UTM grid for Zone, Easting, Northing with values 17, 369568, 3281038

UTM grid for Zone, Easting, Northing with empty boxes and a 'See continuation sheet' checkbox

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristine Ziedina, Linda Stevenson, Morris Hvlton III
organization University of Florida date 06/29/2020
street & number DCP Arch 148, 1480 Inner Road telephone 352 294 1438
city or town Gainesville state Florida zip code 32611

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Clear and descriptive photographs under separate cover. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Each photograph must be numbered in the order they are referenced in the manuscript, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name University Evangelical Lutheran Church
street & number 1826 West University Avenue telephone 352 373 6945
city or town Gainesville state Florida zip code 32603

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places provides recognition that the property is deemed by the federal and state governments to be significant to our history at the national, state and/or local levels.

BACKGROUND

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SUMMARY

“The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex in Gainesville, Florida is significant under **Criterion C** at the **State and Local levels** in the area of **Architecture and Work of a Master**. The Complex is an example of Florida regional mid-century architectural trends, represents the works of master architects, and possesses high artistic value. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex consist of two contributing buildings, adjacent landscaped areas, and gardens. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church was designed in 1960 by award-winning master architect Albert Wynn Howell, and features a prominent, double-pitched, A-frame roof. The one-story, mid-century modern in character and style, University Lutheran Center was designed in 1970 by Moore, May and Harrington Architects, Inc., one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms, to relate to the original Church. Both buildings individually, and the Complex as a coherent entity, retain a high level of the physical integrity for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. The period of architectural significance of the Complex extends from 1960 to 1971.”

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

“The original design of the Church and Center remains intact. Both buildings retain their historic relationships within the property and neighborhood, especially the Church that maintains its

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County and State

N/A

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The exposed, textured concrete blocks, a local building material, are used for construction of the exterior walls, as well as for the privacy walls that enclose the Complex and its gardens. The original interior materials such as wood paneling, laminated fir wood roof beams, cedar wood plank ceiling, and veneered flush doors all are in good condition. The skylight that illuminates the interior of the Church, as well as all interior light fixtures within the Church and Center, are original.

Setting

The Complex is located within the College Park neighborhood, set within the boundaries of the City of Gainesville. Platted in 1907, located between the UF campus and the growing northern suburbs, College Park is one of Gainesville's oldest neighborhoods. College Park is recognized for its architectural and diversity of building uses, with a wide range of building types, including residential, educational, spiritual, and commercial structures. The neighborhood extends along the north side of West University Avenue, enclosed by NW 13th and 22nd streets, and bordered by NW 8th Avenue to the north. The first developers of College Park were the Phifers, members of a prominent Gainesville's family.²

Anticipating a potential single-family house building boom, the owners subdivided their property into narrow lots (Figure 001). Because of College Park's proximity to UF, during the post-World War II period the area became a predominately student-oriented neighborhood. While commercial, institutional, and multi-family apartment buildings replaced most of the earlier single-family residence along West University Avenue, College Park retained its overall residential character. The Church's soaring, A-frame roof dominates the built environment along the north side of West University Avenue in the western section of College Park (Photo 3).

Site Description

The Complex sits on a flat, rectangular 0.99-acre parcel, located along the north side of West University Avenue (Location Map 1). The parcel, No. 14983-000-000, is bordered on the west by NW 19th Street, to the north by NW 1st Avenue, and to the east, it is adjacent to the parcel, owned by Delta Upsilon Alumni Club Inc.³ The property consists of eight original lots, numbered 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, of Block 3 in the College Park subdivision (Location Map 2).

The Complex includes two contributing buildings, the Church and the Center, landscaped areas, gardens, and a parking lot (Location Map 3). The Church building is located close to the western border, along NW 19th Street, and with its dominant roof form, towering above the walls, anchors the south-west corner of the property. The Center is located close to the parcel's south border, along West University Avenue.

² Foster, "William Phifer Was Active in Business."

³ The legal description of the Parcel No: 14983-000-000, as per is as follows: College Park PB A-9 Lots 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 BK 3, according to the Alachua County Property Appraiser website, accessed on October 12, 2019. "Public Viewer."

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N/A

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Vehicular and Pedestrian Access

Two vehicular entrances give access to the parking area on the property. The entry, located on the parcel's north-west corner, provides access from NW 19th Street, and the entry located on the property's south-east corner gives access from West University Avenue. The paved driveway connects both entrances to the paved parking area, located along the north and east borders of the parcel.

The paved walkway connects the sidewalk along the north side of West University Avenue and Complex and gives access to the Church's south-east entrance and Center's south-west entrance. The walkway extends to the north along the privacy wall that encloses the garden adjacent to the Church's east façade and gives access to the Church's north-east entrance. The pedestrian walkway, surrounded by freestanding concrete block privacy walls, connects the Church's south-west entrance and sidewalk along NW 19th Street. Pedestrians use a driveway that connects vehicular entrances to access the Center's north and south-east entrances.

Landscape

The areas within the Complex, between the buildings, and along the borders of the parcel are landscaped and form distinctive outdoor spaces. The gardens extend along the east and west walls of the Church. The shrubs and evergreen groundcover flank the Church's north wall, the Church's and Center's south walls, and the privacy wall at the Center's east side. Mature trees grow along West University Avenue, NW 19th Street, and the lot's eastern border. Two groups of palm trees emphasize the pedestrian entrance to the Complex from West University Avenue. Two mature pine trees accentuate the Complex's north-east corner. The community garden occupies a courtyard formed by the north and west walls of the Center building and the privacy wall that encloses the Center.

The sign that reads "University Lutheran Church & Campus Center (ELCA)" in red letters on a white background and "Worship Service Sunday 10:25 am" in white letters on a red background, is located to the east of the main pedestrian entrance to the Complex, perpendicularly to West University Avenue (Photo 4). The sign that reads "Lutheran Campus Center" in red letters on a white background is located parallel to the Center's windowless south wall (Photo 5). Both signs are visible from West University Avenue.

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

UNIVERSITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (1961)

Architect: Alfred Wynn Howell, AIA, Lakeland, Florida

Builder: Arnold & Wright, Inc., Builders, Gainesville, Florida

Exterior

The University Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church) is a striking example of a double-pitch A-frame roof construction. The sweeping roofline, simple geometric plan form, and the rectangular, main interior space, which soars to forty-seven feet at the ridgeline, define the building's form and massing. The building footprint encloses about 5,000 square feet, with the longer axis running from north to south. The lower one-story wings, which contain service spaces, protrude to the north and south of the Church's narrow nave (Figure 002).

Roof

The Church's main gable roof ridge line runs in a south-north direction and consists of two sections. The roof's lower section features a 45-degree angle pitch and supports a much steeper upper, almost 80-degree pitch (Figures 003; 004). The steep roof sections terminate in a skylight, which forms the peak of the roof. The triangular copper finials that extend above the ridgeline accentuate the roof's soaring silhouette (Photo 6). Steel plates, laid on top of the exterior concrete columns, support the beams that hold the roof system. Horizontal beam sections at each column run from interior to the exterior over the east and west walls and are expressed on the exterior as outriggers with a bevel end cut (Photo 7). The flat roofs extend outwards from the south and north gables over the Church's south and north wings and shade the concrete block walls. Originally, red-brown Ludowici flat terracotta tiles covered the roof (Figures 005; 006). Currently, a standing seam sheet metal covers the sloped section of the roof, which in color resembles a shade of the original roof tile material (Photo 1). The copper-colored gutters and flashings finish the bottom edges of the roof.

Gables

The roof gable end walls are clad with diagonal, upward-oriented wood planks that meet at the centerline of the gable end and mirror the angle of the lower roof pitch (Photo 8). The south gable faces West University Avenue. At some point in its history, the upper wall plane was projected past the original face of the gable end wall (Photo 8; Figure 007). This alteration may have occurred after the installation of the organ pipe loft behind this wall. The projecting wall covers the original windows and provides a background for a Christian symbol, a simple wood cross. The space, formed by offset but parallel planes of the south gable, is filled with ribbon windows (Photo 9). Three stained-glass windows embellish the upper section of the north gable. The mullions of the stained-glass windows are oriented at 45 degrees from horizontal and meet at a ninety-degree angle to mirror the pattern of the wood siding (Photo 10).

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Initially, the wood siding finish was a wood stain. Several years after the Church's construction, the siding of the gables, as well as the tongue-and-groove cedar decking at the soffits of the roof overhangs, were painted light grey. The grey shade of paint is an essential historic character-defining feature for the Church building, as the decision to use paint instead of transparent stain was made a few years after the completion of the building.

Exterior Walls

The Church's exterior walls sit on concrete slab foundations. The building's exterior nine-foot-high south and north walls are identical, composed of alternating bands of dark grey, eight-inch high, textured concrete blocks, and light gray, four-inch high smooth concrete blocks (Photos 11; 12). The upper section of the south and north wall consists of a narrow ribbon window that extends from east to west corner of each wall (Photo 13). A six-foot high section of the south wall extends to the east, turns ninety-degrees towards the Center of the building, and forms one of the sections of the privacy wall that encloses the Church (Photo 14; 15). A similar wall extends to the west. The north wall of the Church is identical to the south wall; it extends to the east and west; its wings turn towards the south and forms a section of the privacy wall. The privacy walls consist of six-foot high and twelve-foot wide segments, constructed of alternating bands of concrete blocks, arranged in the same way as the main walls. The privacy walls extend in a north-south direction and enclose gardens, adjacent to Church's walls (Photo 16).

Window Walls

The east and west walls of the Church are identical and consist of nine bays, separated by poured-in-place concrete piers. Between each pair of columns, substantial wood beams provide header support to wood-framed window walls. The seven bays in between each of the entrance bays on both sides of the building provide natural light to the building's interior. Each bay is symmetrically composed and consists of a centrally located group of five narrow, vertical, floor-to-ceiling fixed glass panes, separated by vertical wood mullions. The wood mullions are deep in profile and extend from the interior to the exterior of the building (Photo 17; 18). While clear-glass panes provide natural light to the interior, the mullions mitigate the intensity of sunlight. The redwood жалюзи that initially provided natural ventilation to the Church's interior flank the glazed section (Photo 17). The exterior side of the mullions, as well as window frames and жалюзи, have initially been stained. Currently, they are painted grey.

Entrances

The northern and southern bays of the east and west wall provide four, identical in appearance, entrances to the Church's interior. The exterior side of the simple, wooden flush double doors is painted dark-red. The doors are flanked by large, floor-to-ceiling high, clear glass sidelights (Photos 19; 20). The south-east and south-west entrances give access to the narthex, located at the south side of the building. The north-east and north-west entrances lead to the east sacristy and west sacristy, situated to the north of the sanctuary (Figure 002). A flat-roofed canopy extends over the walkway and shelters the north-east entrance (Photo 21). A similar canopy extends from the Church's south-east entrance and connects to the

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south-west entrance of the Center (Photo 22). The grey-painted wood tongue-and-groove planks clad the underside of the canopies. The south-east and north-east entrances are sheltered by the Church's sloped main roof that extends above the east and west walls and above the gardens (Photo 23). The soffits forming the underside of the projecting roof are clad with grey-painted wood planks (Photo 24). The custom-designed light fixtures that illuminate entrance area are original (Photo 25), depicted on architect's drawings (Figure 003).

Interior

The interior of the Church is divided into the narthex, nave, sanctuary, sacristy, and service and mechanical spaces that form a coherent spatial entity, united by a uniform design. Two primary sections, the narthex and nave, define the forty-seven-foot wide and one-hundred-eight-foot deep interior space of the Church. The nave extends to the north of the narrow, twelve-foot wide narthex. The wall that separates the narthex and nave supports the floor of the balcony that opens to the nave. The sanctuary occupies the northernmost area of the nave. Behind the nave's north wall there are two sacristies, linked by a narrow hallway. The two eight-foot wide, one-story high wings that extend to the south from the narthex and to the north from the nave contain restrooms and mechanical spaces (Figure 002). The spatial configuration of the Church's interior spaces remains intact.

Narthex

The narthex is accessible from the Church's south-east and south-west entrances. Two double-leaf doors that give access to the narthex are identical, veneered, and stained from the interior side (Photo 26). Two large, fixed, clear glass sidelights flank each door. Another two fixed glass panes are located on the east and west side of the narthex's north wall. The sidelights and fixed windows flank structural columns and form almost transparent south-west and south-east corners. These generous gazed areas allow natural light to penetrate the interior and provide a view to the Church's gardens.

The custom-designed, suspended open stairs extend along with the narthex's south wall and provide access to the balcony. The stair design features wood treads supported on the south side by a wall and on the north side by rods threaded into vertical wood members. The stair does not have risers or stringers. The simple, rectangular wood supports serve as railings as well as make a screen wall between the stairs and narthex (Photo 27; 28).

The poured-in-place structural concrete columns, located in the corners of the narthex, are painted white. As initially envisioned by the architect, a dark red carpet covers the narthex's floor. Vertically-oriented, stained wood planks cover the narthex's interior walls. Narrow, stained wood planks clad the narthex's ceiling and run parallel to the Church's east and west walls. All wood details, including the stained window frames, custom-designed stairs, and square, custom-designed ceiling-mounted light fixtures, retain their original appearance and emphasize the influence of design principles of Organic architecture (Photo 26; Figures 003; 004).

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Nave

The system of laminated wood beams extends diagonally and up from the east and west exterior walls, enclosing the nave's forty-seven-foot high interior space (Photo 29). The lower beams extend to meet above the central aisle, extend upward, and support the upper beams (Photo 30). The upper beams sit on the lower beams, extend upward, and form a steeper angle. The cedar wood planks rest on the roof beams and form the underside of the roof deck. The solid decking does not extend to the ridgeline. The peaked, transparent skylight fills a gap that is created by two deckings. The triangular copper finials top the beams, reach above the ridgeline, and are visible through the skylight (Photo 31).

The fir wood beams extend between the poured-in-place concrete columns above the exterior east and west walls. Shorter beams are placed perpendicular to and above the long beam, and project from the exterior into the Church's interior. These beams support the ceiling above the narrow side aisles (Photo 32). A wide, simple cornice runs above the aisles and around the sanctuary.

The central, double door connects the narthex and nave and provides access to the nave's central aisle. Two additional side doors give access to nave's side aisles (Photo 33). All the doors are flush, veneered, and have narrow, vertical, clear glass inserts.

The aisle that leads from the south entrance towards the sanctuary divides the nave into two sections. On either side of the central aisle, symmetrically arranged wooden pews provide seating for the congregation. The pew ends are slightly slanted and echo the angle of the upper beams of the roof frame (Photo 34). The second pew, located to the west of the central entrance to the nave, is oriented toward the first pew. The space between the pews serves for congregation members with small children. On the other side of the aisle stands a baptismal font.

Sanctuary

Three steps rise above the nave's main floor and define the sanctuary's area. The central part of the nave's north wall slightly protrudes to the north, forms a U-form niche, and encloses the sanctuary. The difference in floor levels and the low, transparent rail define the altar space without obstructing the transition between nave and sanctuary. The first step from the nave to the sanctuary has room for kneeling. The lectern is located to the west, and the pulpit is located to the east of the altar rail. The altar is placed centrally, on the highest level of the sanctuary, in front of a simple wooden cross. The cross extends from the floor to the height of the stained-glass window, located high above the altar space (Photo 35).

Balcony (Organ Loft)

The balcony forms a second story above the narthex and is accessible by open stairs that start at the floor level within the narthex. The triangular back wall of the balcony is the south gable of the roof structure. To the north, the balcony is open to the nave and sanctuary. The Church's pipe organ stands at the balcony's back wall and is visible from the nave. The balcony's floor cantilevers over the entrances to

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the nave. Vertical, stained wood planks clad the balcony's low wall that extends from the west to the east and provides safety for the congregation's choir and organist (Photo 36).

Windows and Lighting

The transparent skylight, inserted between the roof planes, extends above the nave and sanctuary and provides daylight within the nave. The clear glass panes of east and west walls provide views to the Church's gardens (Photo 37; 38). Three stained-glass windows, located on the north gable, provide ambient daylight within the nave and direct one's attention to the sanctuary area (Photo 39). The rectangular, ceiling-mounted light fixtures provide artificial light for the side aisles (Photo 40). The wide cornice that separates the vertical and diagonal siding of the north wall conceals light fixtures and provides cove lighting that highlight the wall.

Interior finishes

The diagonal wood siding pattern of the triangular south and north walls repeats the siding pattern of exterior gables. All wooden details within the interior are stained, as specified by the original project documents. The ventilation grilles are inserted into the floor tiles and extend along with the glass segments of the east and west walls. Initially, carpet covered the nave's central and side aisles and the sanctuary. Because of maintenance issues, the carpet was replaced by rectangular terracotta tiles, leaving the original concrete floor underneath the pews exposed (Photo 41).

The banners and religious symbols that adorn the Church's interior are made by members of the congregation, as well as by Gainesville's local artists.

Mechanical rooms and Restrooms

The discrete flush doors lead from the sanctuary's east and west sides to the sacristy area. The narrow hallway links the east and west sacristies. The hall also provides access to the mechanical room, janitor room, and restroom that occupy the one-story north wing. Two doors, located on the narthex north wall, to the east and the west of the stairs, provide access to gender-specific restrooms, located within the building's one-story high south wing. The clerestory windows provide natural light to the restrooms and technical premises.

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LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTER (1971)

Architect: Moore, May and Harrington, Architects Inc., Gainesville, Florida

Design Architect: Charles F. Harrington

Builder: Arnold & Wright, Inc., Builders, Gainesville, Florida

Exterior

The Center is a one-story, masonry building, sheltered by a flat roof that is intersected by a steeply pitched, hipped roof (Photos 2; 42). The ridge of the hipped section of the roof is oriented east-west and is perpendicular to the long dimension of the Church building. Two rectangular, one-story high wings form the building's L-shaped floor plan. The almost square south wing extends with its longer side along West University Avenue. The flat roof, intersected with a hipped roof, shelters the south wing (Photo 43). The narrow north wing extends with its longer side along the west side of the driveway that connects the two vehicular entrances to the Complex (Photo 44). Concrete block columns support the roof over the walkway, which extends along the north wing's west wall and leads to the south wing's fully glazed north wall (Photo 45). The architecture of the Center, including its scale, form, roof, and materials, is highly compatible with the earlier Church building.

Roof

The copper cap, that extends in an east-west direction above the hipped part of Center's roof, echoes the form of the Church's skylight. The red-brown metal sheets cover the roof's hipped section and replaced the original flat-profiled, red-brown Ludowici terracotta roof tiles (Photo 42; Figure 008). The flat section of the Center's roof is tar-and-gravel construction, typical for mid-century buildings. As with the Church, the exposed beams and underside of the roof are painted grey (Photo 46).

Walls

The masonry walls of the Center are constructed of dark grey, textured concrete blocks, altered with rows of light grey, smooth blocks. The material is visually identical to the one used for the construction of the Church's north and south walls and privacy walls. The Center's south wall compositionally mirrors the south wall of the Church in its design and height (Photo 47). The concrete-block structural columns slightly protrude from the walls and support the Center's roof. The structure of columns repeats the alternate rows of textured and smooth concrete blocks used for the Church's and Center's walls (Photo 48). The fixed glass wall on the north façade of the south wing consists of floor-to-ceiling-high, large fixed glass panes, set in wood frames, and provides natural light to the main interior hall. A horizontal mullion divides each pane into two parts.

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The concrete block privacy walls enclose a narrow garden along with the buildings east wall, as well as extend from the south wing's south-east corner and encloses the Kaiser Vegetable Garden, located in the courtyard (Photo 49).⁴

Entrances

The main entrance to the Center is through a courtyard that faces the parking lot on the north side of the property. The north entrance is accessible by a sheltered walkway that runs along the east wall of the building's northern wing (Photo 50). Columns constructed of concrete blocks support the roof over the sidewalk. Two floor-to-ceiling high sidelights flank the glass door that opens to the Center's main hall. Two additional entrances provide access to the Center's interior. The west entrance is sheltered by a canopy that connects the Center to the south-east entrance of the Church (Photo 51). The east entrance is accessible from the driveway that connects property and the West University avenue. The Center's east entrance is deeply recessed under the roof and features a simple, wooden door, flanked by wide, floor to ceiling sidelights (Photo 52). The vertically oriented, narrow mullions are set in the wood frame that surrounds the sidelight. The composition of the frames replicates the design of the Church's windows walls. Wood mullions, as well as the underside of the ceiling that shelters the entrance, are stained dark-brown. Each of four classrooms within the Center's north wing has a separate entrance (Photo 50; 53). All four veneered flush doors are identical. Fixed glass panes flank the south side of each door. The vertical, dark-stained wood mullions have a deep profile, and the outward projection provides shading for the glass.

Interior

The Center's ceiling is supported by exposed beams that run from the north to south and from east to west, and meet at the exposed, structural columns. The laminated fir beams that support the hipped roof are exposed, and the ceiling above the southern part of the main hall is sloped. Stained wood planks cover the ceiling above the main hall (Photo 54).

The concrete block walls and structural columns that support the building's roof are exposed and reveal alternating rows of textured and smooth concrete blocks (Photo 55). The classrooms, kitchen, and office doors are simple, veneered, flush wood doors.

The offices and classrooms surround the main hall. The clerestory windows provide light to most of the premises. Additional light enters to the offices through the floor-to-ceiling high glass panes, protected by deep, vertical wooden mullions. The square, ceiling-mounted light fixtures provide artificial light and are supplemented by decorative fixtures suspended over the hall's south section (Photo 56).

⁴ The Kaiser Vegetable Garden was begun by a Lutheran Student Gator in the early 2000s and continues to thrive with the gentle nurturing by members of the congregation under the expert guidance of Andrew Noss, as stated by the website "Kaiser Garden – ULC Gainesville."

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The ceramic tiles that cover the Center's main floor appear to be a replacement of original material. The documents, available in the Church's archives, indicate that in 1996 several interior features of the Center were renovated.

ALTERATIONS

Most of the character-defining features of the Complex remain intact. The construction materials, exterior and interior finishes, and light fixtures are original and characteristic of the mid-century period. The current red-brown ceramic floor tiles replaced original carpet that covered the central aisle, side aisles, and sanctuary in the Church's nave. In 2019, a standing seam metal roof replaced the original red-brown, flat Ludowici roof tiles, initially used for the Church's and Center's roofs. In 2018, Perry Roofing Contractors replaced numerous broken tiles and the adjacent underlayment of the Church's and Center's roofs.⁵ However, the repairs did not stop leaking of both roofs, because the underlayment under the tiles had become brittle and required replacement. Therefore, the congregation decided to replace both roofs with metal roofing, similar in the color to the original material, the expensive ceramic tiles.⁶ These alterations are all reversible and do not impact the overall integrity of the Complex.

On the Church's exterior, the original stained wood planks that clad the roof's north and south gables were painted light grey. At a Special Council Meeting, December 1, 1963, the Church's council decided to refinish the exterior of the Church. Since early 1964 the exterior wood details of the Church are painted in a light grey shade.⁷ The grey shade is an essential historic character-defining feature for the Church building, as the decision to use paint instead of transparent stain was made only a few years after the completion of the building.

INTEGRITY

The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex possesses a high level of all seven aspects of integrity. The buildings within the Complex sit on their original sites. The organization of open spaces within the Complex remains as envisioned by A. Wynn Howell and realized by Moore, May, and Harrington, Architects. While the landscape has changed over time, several pine trees that initially enclosed buildings, still stand on the property. The physical environment of the Complex reflects the material conditions and character of the Gainesville area, that extends north of the main campus of UF, during the mid-century period. The buildings retain their original proportions and historic relationships within the property and neighborhood, especially the Church that maintains its impressive presence within one of the first suburbs of the City of Gainesville, College Park. The buildings and adjacent territory also represent the development of Gainesville during the exponential growth period in the 1950s and 1960s. The Complex maintains its historic functions and serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Gainesville's residents as well as UF students.

⁵ "Lampstand-August-2018.Pdf."

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ University Evangelical Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972.

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The original design of the Church and Center remains intact. The proportion and scale of the buildings have not been altered, and the door and window openings remain in their original form and location. The transparent glass surfaces that ensure the visual connection between the interior and exterior is typical for mid-century buildings. The original and expressive exposed structural system of laminated fir beams remains visible on the interior of the sanctuary. The distinctive architectural treatment of the surfaces, such as the decorative arrangement of textured concrete block walls, are original and remain intact. Most of the historic exterior materials, such as textured concrete blocks, wood cladding, clear glass window-walls, stained glass windows, and finials that accentuate the Church's prominent roof, are intact. The original interior materials such as wood paneling, laminated wood roof beams, wood plank ceiling, and veneered flush doors all are in good condition. The skylight that illuminates the interior of the Church, as well as all interior light fixtures within the Church and Lutheran Campus Center, are original. Two buildings of the Complex, as well as surrounding landscaped area, embody physical evidence of workmanship of engineers and contractors who ensured the quality of construction and employed building techniques, typical for mid-century Florida.

The physical appearance of the Complex, especially the intact design features and presence of original materials, convey the historic character of the property and expresses the aesthetic sense and feeling of the mid-century period. The Complex retains its association with the residents of Gainesville, as well as students and employees of the University of Florida. Since the dedication of its first chapel, attended by Dr. J. Hillis Miller, President of the University of Florida, the congregation always was part of Gainesville, as well as the University's community. For example, the membership list for 1969 depicts the congregation's diversity. Among members are Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Baldwin, Professor of Law; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Button, Director of Personnel, UF; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Cupitt, undergraduate students; Mr. and Mrs. Ralf Gielow, a graduate student from Brazil; Mrs. Kum-Hung Ho, wife of a graduate student from Singapore; and others. Among congregations' members were the family of Dr. James Robert Cade, a professor of renal (kidney) medicine at the UF College of Medicine since 1961. Dr. Cade, the lead inventor of the sports drink Gatorade, was known as an innovator who worked on inventions such as drinks and popsicles that could help replenish protein, pneumatic helmets, and several other projects.⁸ Mr. Cade was an active member of the Church Council during 1963-69, and as a head of a committee of social welfare, helped UF students to travel and work in developing countries. For example, Mr. Cade helped raise funding for medical student Carl Yeager's work in Congo.⁹

⁸ "Dr. James Robert Cade- Gatorade Inventor."

⁹ Church Council Meeting, May 12, 1968, as described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972*, 151.

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The Complex and adjacent area are well maintained and embody efforts of the congregation that over the years ensured the integrity of the Complex's design. For example, in 1969, Oscar Svarlien, Vernon Carr, Bob Kilgore, Stan Livengood, Bruce Holms, Dave Johnston, and Maurice Patrich were assigned to take care of different sections of the complex.¹⁰ The congregation continues to maintain the Church and Center, as well as the adjacent area.

¹⁰ Regular Council Meeting, February 16, 1969, as described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972*.

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SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex in Gainesville, Florida is significant under **Criterion C** at the **State and Local levels** in the area of **Architecture and Work of a Master**. The Complex is an example of Florida regional mid-century architectural trends, represents the works of master architects, and possesses high artistic value. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex consist of two contributing buildings, adjacent landscaped areas, and gardens. The University Evangelical Lutheran Church was designed in 1960 by award-winning master architect Albert Wynn Howell, and features a prominent, double-pitched, A-frame roof. The one-story, mid-century modern in character and style, University Lutheran Center was designed in 1970 by Moore, May and Harrington Architects, Inc., one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms, to relate to the original Church. Both buildings individually, and the Complex as a coherent entity, retain a high level of the physical integrity for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. The period of architectural significance of the Complex extends from 1960 to 1971.

Criteria Consideration A

Although the University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex is a religious property, its significance grows beyond its current usage. The Complex is notable as one of Gainesville's major landmarks that represent work of well-known architects and serves as an important architectural landmark that enlarged physically over time and reflects the urban growth of Gainesville in the post-war period when the City was significantly expanding. The complex is significant as an exceptional example of the craftsmanship of local builders.

The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex, located at 1826 West University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida, meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion C at the state and local level of significance, in the area of architecture, as a premier example of one of several design trends that prevailed in Florida during the mid-century period. The Complex as a whole entity is characterized by the principles of the Organic architecture as promoted by F. L. Wright, including a structure that is sympathetic and well-integrated with the natural context, a visual and physical connection to its setting, use of organic shapes and natural materials, and unified design with repeating elements and details.¹¹

The two contributing buildings, the Church and the Center, reflect two stages of construction of the Complex. Designed in 1960, the Church is a premier example of the work of A. Wynn Howell, a well-known Central Florida architect whose career began in the late 1930s and spanned over several decades, including the mid-century period.¹² The Center was designed in 1970 by Moore, May and Harrington

¹¹ Information on Florida Southern College and its architecture was informed by the website "Florida Southern College and the Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright" (<http://franklloydwrightatfsc.com/>)

¹² The Church was evaluated as architecturally significant building by the study and report Florida's Mid-Century Modern Architecture (1945-1975), a statewide survey of significant modernist structures meeting the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; see Hylton III and French, "Florida's Mid-Century Modern Architecture," 110.

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Architects, Inc., one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms. The landscaped areas, gardens, and parking lot were developed along the construction of the buildings.

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance of the University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex extends from 1960 to 1971. The Church was designed in 1960, the construction started on December 11, 1960, and building was dedicated on July 9, 1961. The Center was designed in 1970, and officially opened on May 16, 1971. The period from 1960 to 1971 represents Gainesville's post-World War II growth that stimulated the construction of new commercial, institutional, and spiritual centers, designed by Florida architects who practiced their original versions of Modern architecture, and developed a distinctive regional style.

Contributing /Noncontributing resources

Church: Contributing Building

Center: Contributing Building

Landscaped area and parking lot: Contributing Site

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Site History: Gainesville

Gainesville, the county seat of Alachua County, Florida, was officially founded in 1854 and incorporated on April 14, 1869. The railroad that connected two port cities, Fernandina on the Atlantic Ocean and Cedar Key on the Gulf of Mexico, served the City's residents and emerging businesses. After the Civil War, Gainesville expanded as a center of agriculture and transportation and experienced a building boom. Between 1890 and 1914, the Gainesville economy was broadened by the phosphate and lumber industry. The creation of the University of Florida (UF) in 1905 brought new residents to the City. The new housing developments were planned privately and shared several common features: they are located near the University and fall within about five blocks north and south of University Avenue. Their plans and names, such as College Park (1907), University Place (1909), and College Court (1922), reveal an intentional identification with UF.

Mirroring the situation across Florida and the country, Gainesville experienced significant growth during the decades that followed World War II. Perhaps the most significant reason for Gainesville's dramatic growth was the expansion of the University. With the introduction of the GI Bill and full integration as a co-educational institution, the University's enrollment dramatically increased and reached 8,000 in the year that followed the end of World War II (1945-1946). African-American students added to these numbers following the desegregation of the campus in 1958. By 1960, there were some 20,000 students and faculty.¹³ Gainesville's post-World War II growth and increased job

¹³ Larkin, Hylton, and Stevenson, "City of Gainesville Mid-Century Survey (1945-1975)," 16-17.

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opportunities stimulated the construction of new commercial and institutional centers that provided various services for the growing population.¹⁴

Among organizations that developed spiritual and educational complex typical for the mid-century period, was the congregation of Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church, organized on April 17, 1950, and currently known as the University Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gainesville (ULC).¹⁵ For his 1960 design for the congregation's new church building, Albert Wynn Howell (1912-1989), a well-known Florida architect, relied on the principles of Organic architecture and used local and natural materials.¹⁶ The ULC's church, defined by its prominent A-frame roof, is only one of the mid-century modern spiritual buildings, that is located on one of the busiest thoroughfares in Gainesville, West University Avenue, and close to the main campus of UF. All other churches, whose designers preferred one or other expression of Modern Movement design principles, are located within Gainesville's suburbs that were developed as a result of the City's rapid expansion. The architectural significance of the ULC church has been acknowledged since its dedication. In 1961 the Florida Architect Associations Awards Program evaluated the building as one of the imaginative examples of Florida's modern architecture and recognized A. W. Howell's design with its Merit Award. The ULC church gained statewide recognition after it was featured on the cover of the March 1962 issue of *The Florida Architect*, an official publication of the American Institute of Architects Florida chapter (Figures 007; 009; 010; 011).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Mid-century Modern Architecture

The history of architects and architecture in Florida in the mid-twentieth century is marked by a burst of creativity and innovation spurred in part by a period of enormous economic growth and physical expansion. This growth coincided with the adoption of Modernism – particularly by the federal and state governments – as the most appropriate design language to represent American democracy, progress, and optimism. According to the 2018 study and report *Florida's Mid-century Modern Architecture (1945-1975)*:

*Modernism is a general term used to describe a broad design movement of the twentieth century with many variations. Though multivalent in architectural expression, modern buildings frequently shared in common a focus on functionalism and aesthetic principles and forms that rejected historical precedents and styles.*¹⁷

¹⁴ Ibid., 26.

¹⁵ By the end of 1956, reflecting the congregation's involvement with the spiritual and cultural life of UF students and staff, it was renamed to University Evangelical Lutheran Church Gainesville, usually shortened to University Lutheran Church (ULC). Source: *History of the Florida Synod of the Lutheran Church in America*, 126–27.

¹⁶ Hylton III and French, "Florida's Mid-Century Modern Architecture," 110.

¹⁷ French and Hylton III, *Florida's Mid-century Modern Architecture (1945-1975)*, 34.

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The report identifies several architectural trends or styles that characterize the mid-century period, including Organic, International Style, Formalism, Neo-Expressionism, Brutalism, and regional variations, such as Miami Modern (or MiMO) and the Sarasota School of Architecture. In Florida, the Organic architecture was introduced and influenced by internationally renowned American modernist architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who was commissioned to design the master plan and principal buildings of Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida (1938-1958).¹⁸ The architecture of Florida Southern reflected the principles of the Organic architecture as promoted by F. L. Wright, including a structure that is sympathetic and well-integrated with the natural context; a visual, physical, and emotive connection to its setting; use of organic shapes and natural materials; and unified design with repeating elements and details.¹⁹ Several Florida mid-century architects, including Alfred Browning Parker (1916-2001), Robert C. Broward (1926-2015), Nils M. Schweizer (1925-1988), Alfred Wynn Howell (1912-1989), and Sanford Goldman (b. 1934), who is still in architectural practice, were influenced by F. L. Wright's design principles. Many of Florida's mid-century buildings were designed by the faculty and students of the School of Architecture at the University of Florida. Some notable faculty members included Dean Bryant Vollendorf, who had studied under F. L. Wright. Other notable local architects who practiced in the region include Harry Merritt, Jack Moore, David Reaves, Dan Branch, and Gene Leedy.²⁰ Florida architects explored the relationship between buildings, topography, landscape, and the semi-tropical natural environment, practiced their original versions of Modern architecture, and developed a distinctive regional style.

A-frame Type Buildings

Given the wide range of characteristics and myriad of materials used, many scholars and others struggle with describing the buildings of the recent past and avoid defining Modernism in stylistic terms. Authors of *What Style Is It? A Guide to American Architecture*, published in 2003 and recommended by NPS for identification of particular building style, expresses this ambiguity:

*Many buildings defy stylistic labels. They may represent transitional periods when one style was slowly blending into another; they may exhibit the conscious combination of unrelated stylistic elements for a certain effect; or they may be a product of pure whimsy or eccentricity.*²¹

There are, however, several trends that can be identified and categorized according to shared architectural features. The A-frame was a design trend that emerged in the 1950s and lasted through the 1970s. As described by *A Field Guide to American Houses: The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture*: "Resembling the letter A, the design is comprised of

¹⁸ Ibid, 34-36.

¹⁹ Information on Florida Southern College and its architecture was informed by the website "Florida Southern College and the Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright" (<http://franklloydwrightatfsc.com/>)

²⁰ Larkin, Hylton, and Stevenson, "City of Gainesville Mid-Century Survey (1945-1975)," 26.

²¹ Poppeliers, Chambers, and Schwartz, *What Style Is It?*, ix.

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two sloping roofs creating an overall triangular shape.”²² Architectural historian Chad Randl notes that A-frames did exist all over the world, from Switzerland to China to Polynesia.²³ Swiss and German architects rediscovered the form at the beginning of the 20th century and then rediscovered it again in the post-WWII era.²⁴ Rudolph Schindler (1887-1953), an Austrian born architect who worked with Frank Lloyd Wright and Richard Neutra (1892-1970), designed one-of the first modern A-frame buildings in the United States. Located on the steep slope at Lake Arrowhead, California, and designed in 1934, the vacation house for Gisela Bennati features an all-glass gable, cross-hatched with wood mullions.²⁵

As characterized by architectural historians, the A-frame is a building form, rather than a style. Typically, the structure is one-and-a-half-story tall mass, its high-pitched roof extends to the ground, and has numerous large windows within the gables. The open-plan and balcony space characterizes the interior of A-frame buildings. There are several subcategories within the general A-frame building type: 1) the standard A-Frame, 2) the arched A-Frame, 3) the gambrel roof A-Frame, 4) the A-frame with wings, and 5) the double A-frame. While A-frame type structures usually are associated with residential, small-scale commercial, and especially recreation-related buildings, many architects who worked at the mid-century period employed the form for designs of religious buildings, usually supporting the gable roof with sidewalls. By the mid-1970s, the design trend faded.²⁶

Mid-Century Religious Architecture

Jay M. Price, the historian who explored the history of mid-century design trends, describes the late 1950s through the 1970s as one of the most dynamic periods in the history of American religious architecture: “This was a time when religious worship and architectural concepts were confusing, complex, and exciting, when tradition and change merged, clashed, and unfolded in ever-changing ways.”²⁷ The change in American religious architecture owed much to the seminal work of Frank Lloyd Wright, who was among the first modernists to break with architectural tradition in church design. According to Louis P. Nelson, architectural historian, the earliest and most notable example of a shift away from traditional church architecture is Wright's Unity Temple, built for the Unitarian Universalist congregation in Oak Park, Illinois, in 1905.²⁸ Another iconic spiritual building that had a strong influence on shaping the modern church design was Frank Lloyd Wright's First Unitarian Society Meeting House in Madison, Wisconsin (1951). According to Gretchen Buggeln, an architectural

²² Chad Randl, *A-frame* (New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press, 2004,) 9-29, quoted in McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

²³ Lange, “The A-Frame Effect.”

²⁴ “A-Frame (1950-1980).”

²⁵ “The Very First Modern A-Frame.”

²⁶ McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, chap. A-Frame (1950s-1970s).

²⁷ Price, *Temples for a Modern God*, 18.

²⁸ Nelson, “Placing the Sacred.”

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historian, many regional A-frames borrowed ideas from this building, especially the sweeping prow on the north side of the building.²⁹

A growth in religious congregations was among the social and cultural changes that occurred following the end of the Second World War. In his 2013 book *Temples of a Modern God*, J. M. Price describes the phenomenon: "The percentage of Americans who were members of a religious organization grew from 25 percent at the turn of the century to 40 percent in 1940, 57 percent in 1950, and 63 percent in 1958, the highest percentage in the nation's history."³⁰ Mid-century architects themselves noted the subsequent boom in the construction of churches and religious structures. In 1958, Pietro Belluschi, an internationally renowned architect, wrote, "we will spend close to \$1,000,000,000 for new churches this year, and it is estimated that \$6,000,000,000 will be devoted to the construction of 79,000 houses of worship during the next ten years."³¹ Among aspects that influenced changes in church design, Belluschi emphasized the influence of social activities:

*The new churches tend to be less stately, and they serve smaller congregations. They are not only sanctuaries but also complex meeting places with Sunday schools, auditoriums for plays and dances, social rooms with dating parlors and hi-fi. Some have bowling alleys, table tennis and outdoor tennis courts. Most have kitchens to serve social gatherings.*³²

The architect's task was no longer to only provide a conventional structure as a place for worship; it was also to develop a religious complex in which facilities for educational and fellowship activities had the same importance as the sanctuary itself. Increasingly, the new churches from the mid-century period reflected the family-oriented informality that came to define suburban life during that period. To reach young families and remain relevant, churches had to become more informal and contemporary and provide space for activities outside of worship. In the absence of other civic buildings in the suburbs, churches, and church complexes, like public schools, were often used for other purposes such as daycares, concerts, and voting polls, among other practices. Growing congregations during this period often acquired a large parcel of land to accommodate parking and secure the possibility of future expansion.

The religious structures and complexes that began to appear during this period also represented a radical stylistic departure from traditional styles and forms of church architecture, such as the Colonial Revival structure with portico and steeple. As discussed in a 1962 *Tampa Tribune* article, a significant change occurred in the design of churches, synagogues, and other religious and spiritual buildings:

We have all been aware of the many modern and attractive church buildings that have appeared in the country's changing landscape. But it may not be generally known that they reflect a

²⁹ Buggeln, *The Suburban Church*.

³⁰ Price, *Temples for a Modern God*, 50.

³¹ Belluschi, "The Churches Go Modern," 36.

³² Ibid.

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*distinct break with traditional structures first made some 30 years ago. Since then, church design has engaged the talents of the world's most distinguished architects.*³³

The article specifically noted changes in structural materials that allowed for more exuberant forms, including the use of steel and reinforced concrete.³⁴ Although revival styles never entirely went away, by the late 1950s, they faced growing competition from other interpretations of religious architecture. Influenced by principles associated with the Modern Movement of architecture, these new buildings employed novel, pre-fabricated structural systems like laminated wood beams to create dramatic spaces and sweeping roofs, and they incorporated and blended a range of manufactured and natural materials. Stained glass windows and other decorative elements were often simplified and made more abstract.

During the mid-century period, architects who specialized in the design of religious structures frequently experimented with the form and scale of roofs. Often, replacing traditional steeples with formally expressive roofs helped visually communicate the building as a church or religious structure and provide dramatic interiors. As described by Price:

*Protestant congregations, among them Episcopalians, Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Disciples of Christ, preferred steep roofs or at least high interior spaces when possible, mirroring the nationwide trend. Many congregations started their existence in modest buildings with shallow roofs but later added more significant sanctuaries with a more imposing roof and interior space.*³⁵

Architects were not the only influence on design trends that became popular during the mid-century period. As G. Buggeln explains: "Church building committees traveled locally to appraise new architecture, architects often replicated their own or their competitors' work at the request of these committees, in the process crafting a new local norm."³⁶ Therefore, mid-century trends in church architecture were influenced by several factors, among them architect's and congregation's design preferences, available local construction materials, as well as local nature and climate.³⁷

Mid-century Churches in Gainesville, Florida

To address the growing spiritual, social, and educational needs of Gainesville's post-war population, the innovative worship spaces, inspired by the Modern Movement in American architecture, were designed by notable Florida architects. In 1970, Robert C. Broward designed the Christian Science Society Church, 3010 NW 16th Avenue, Gainesville, a symmetrical building that fits into a sloping hill and embodies characteristics of Organic architecture. To emphasize the connection of the building to nature,

³³ "Magnificent New Churches: World's Greatest Architects Creating New Settings for Worship," 53.

³⁴ Hylton III and French, "Florida's Mid-Century Modern Architecture," 25.

³⁵ Price, "When Traditional Could Be Modern. Religious Buildings in Kansas After World War II," 9.

³⁶ Buggeln, *The Suburban Church*.

³⁷ *Ibid.*

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Broward, who was Frank Lloyd Wright's student at Taliesin East and Taliesin West, used local and natural materials. The walls are constructed of local Ocala block, and laminated arches support the low-pitched gable roof.³⁸ Harry C. Merritt (1929-2016), a graduate from Harvard Graduate School of Design, Massachusetts, and later a full-time professor at UF, designed the first sanctuary for Westminster Church parish, 1521 NW 34rd Street, Gainesville. The one-story, flat-roofed structure was constructed of Ocala block exposed on the building's exterior and interior, and its nave was linked to nature by a clear-glazed altar wall.³⁹ The St. Michaels Episcopal church (demolished), was one of the most prominent regional architectural designs of Schweizer Associate Architects (Environmental Design Group) from Winter Park, Florida. The concrete-block and wood building, sheltered by a prominent roof, decorated by the stained-glass window of simple shapes and colors, and linked to nature by series of clear-glass windows, demonstrated how principles of Neo-Expressionist style architecture were adapted to the North-Florida environment.

Construction History of University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex

The University Lutheran Church was formally organized on April 17, 1950, and for the first six years of its existence was known as Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church.⁴⁰ By the end of 1950, the newly established congregation realized the need to be close to the UF campus and voted to purchase an L-shaped property on the south-east corner of West University Avenue and NW 19th Street.⁴¹ The property, located within one of the oldest Gainesville's neighborhoods, College Park, consisted of two vacant lots along the NW 19th Street, between West University Avenue and NW 1st Avenue, and a lot with a single-story frame house.

The one-story frame house was converted to a chapel and was dedicated on June 24, 1951.⁴² Among the special guests of the dedication ceremony was Dr. J. Hillis Miller, the fourth president of UF.⁴³ Despite its small size, the building provided space for worship and educational work, as well as a student program. In October of 1952, Reverend William Carl Kaiser accepted a position in Our Saviour's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Starting from early 1953, the congregation, which utilized humble facilities, was studying a possible addition to its property.⁴⁴ At the Florida Synod convention of 1953, Rev. F.I. Fesperman, admitted:

³⁸ University of Florida, "Christian Science Society Church."

³⁹ University of Florida, "Westminster Presbyterian Church United."

⁴⁰ By the end of 1956, reflecting the congregation's involvement with the spiritual and cultural life of UF students and staff, it was renamed to University Evangelical Lutheran Church Gainesville, usually shortened to University Lutheran Church (ULC). Source: *History of the Florida Synod of the Lutheran Church in America*, 126-27.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *University Evangelical Lutheran Church Minutes 1950-*.

⁴³ "Minutes of The Twenty-Fourth Annual Convention of The Florida Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America," 9.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, 12.

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*Pastor Kaiser and the small congregation are carrying on a very ambitious program almost unaided for the welfare of the Lutheran students. We are asking for increased support of the student program from the Division of Student Service for the coming year.*⁴⁵

With every year Gainesville's population, the University's student body, and religious congregations grew. By 1954, there were approximately seventy-two students from other Florida Synod churches who attended UF and a total of 260 Lutheran students and staff members connected with UF. The church's memorandum, issued on October 14, 1955, stated that the predominant membership in the congregation was professors and staff members of UF, and about one-half of the service attendants were students from UF.⁴⁶ The congregation continued to grow, and the need for the new church building became evident. In 1956, the congregation, supported by the Board of American Missions Division of Church Extension, purchased the property, adjacent to the existing L-shaped lot, and previously owned by UF.⁴⁷ The University Lutheran Church became an owner of U-shaped property and several wood-frame buildings. The renovation project for the newly acquired buildings, to provide a space for Lutheran Student Center and Sunday School, was designed in early 1956 by Gainesville's architect David Reaves (1925-1978) (Figure 012). By the fall of 1956, the two-and-a-half-story building was converted to the Lutheran Student Center, and smaller buildings were renovated to serve several functions, among them the Church's office.⁴⁸ The Student Center was dedicated on November 11, 1956, and the name of the congregation was changed to University Evangelical Lutheran Church Gainesville, usually shortened to ULC.⁴⁹

By January 1959, the Council of ULC was ready to discuss the building program for the new church building.⁵⁰ Dr. Elwood L. Bowman, Director of Church Extension of the Board of American Mission (BAM), and Dr. Royall A. Yount, President of Florida Synod, included Gainesville into their January 1959 visit of congregations, for which the Mission planned over a million-dollars' worth of construction program.⁵¹ During the summer and fall of 1959, the ULC building committee, led by Mr. Bruce Simpson, visited several churches in the north and central Florida. These visits included St. Agnes Lutheran Church, Sebring, designed by architect Albert Wynn Howell. At the time of the visit, Howell was already a well-known local architect, who designed several church complexes. On January 4, 1960,

⁴⁵ "Minutes of The Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention of The Florida Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America."

⁴⁶ "Memorandum. October 14, 1955."

⁴⁷ Since its establishment, the University of Florida was acquiring properties for its expanding campus. For example, on April 15, 1954, *Tampa Bay Times* described the purchase of "two pieces of property on West University Avenue, Gainesville, for \$35,000.

⁴⁸ "William C. Kaiser to W. Ellis Jones," September 29, 1956.

⁴⁹ *History of the Florida Synod of the Lutheran Church in America*, 126-27.

⁵⁰ January 5, 1959, as described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972*.

⁵¹ "Proceedings of The Thirty-First Annual Convention of The Florida Synod of the United Lutheran Church in America," 37.

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the building committee decided to commission A. Wynn Howell to prepare a master plan for the site and to design a new church building.⁵²

While the building program was in progress, ULC acquired property, legally described as "lots seven (7) and west half of lot six (6) of Block Three (3) in College Park sub-division in the City of Gainesville, Florida."⁵³ By July 1959, ULC became the owner of the rectangular parcel, situated on the north side of the West University Avenue, one of the busiest thoroughfares in Gainesville, and enclosed by NW 19th Street to the west, NW 1st Avenue to the north, and fraternity property to the east.

At the Special Congregational Meeting of the ULC, held on July 6, 1960, A. W. Howell presented the layout of the new church complex and design for new church building, previously approved by the Department of Church Architecture and Division of Church Extension of the Board of American Mission, ULCA. By October 10, 1960, the building committee accepted working drawings for the building and sent them out for the bids.⁵⁴ On October 25, 1960, the building committee revealed the lower bidder, Arnold & Wright, Inc., Gainesville's local construction company.⁵⁵

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new Church was held on December 11, 1960.⁵⁶ The last inspection of completed construction works was planned for Thursday, June 29, 1961.⁵⁷ The opening service in the new church building was held on Sunday, July 9, 1961, and 260 people attended the dedication service.⁵⁸

The congregation continued to grow during the 1960s; there were 192 members at the beginning of 1970.⁵⁹ Until 1970 the congregation of ULC continued to use the Student Center building, as well as two one-story buildings, acquired in 1956. The Regular Council Meeting held on September 8, 1968,

⁵² *University Evangelical Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972.*

⁵³ *Ibid.*, 8.

⁵⁴ Regular Council Meeting October 10, 1960, in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972.*

⁵⁵ Regular Council Meeting November 7, 1960, described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972.*

⁵⁶ The letter, dated December 29, 1960, addressed to George W. Wright of construction company Arnold & Wright, Inc., Gainesville, and signed by A. W. Howell, an architect of the Church, states that the "Owner has disposed of the former frame building on the site of the University Lutheran Church, and this letter is your official notice to proceed with construction of the new building." The old chapel was acquired by Kanapaha Presbyterian congregation, lifted and moved to the property, adjacent to Stengel Field, Gainesville's first airport (site near the current intersection of SW Archer Road and Clark Butler Boulevard). From 1961 to 1970, the congregation continued to worship in the simple wood-frame building. In August 1970, the building was moved the second time and relocated near the Historic Kanapaha Church to its present-day location 6221 SW Terrace, Gainesville. The extensive renovation included the installation of central heating and air conditioning, and it became as today is known McCormick Hall of Kanapaha Presbyterian Church. "Kanapaha History Gainesville Alachua County, Florida."

⁵⁷ "A. Wynn Howell to George Wright," June 23, 1961.

⁵⁸ Regular Council Meeting July 10, 1961, described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972.*

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, 193.

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continued discussions about future building plans, especially the prospects of a combined Student Center and Sunday School facility. During the Regular Council Meeting, held on February 12, 1969, the ULC building committee proposed the construction of the multifunctional facility that could serve as a student center, daycare facility for low-income members of the community, office for the ULC, and an apartment.⁶⁰ On a special meeting, held on May 24, 1970, the Church Council discussed the contract agreement submitted by Moore, May and Harrison, Architects for architectural services, and accepted the motion to proceed and negotiate with the firm.⁶¹

On August 3, 1970, Moore, May and Harrington, Architects submitted the project documentation for the project, known as "1970 Additions to University Lutheran Church Gainesville, Florida," to Division of Church Building of the Board of American Missions, Lutheran Church in America for preliminary approval. On August 21, 1970, pastor Castor authorized architect Harrington to proceed with working drawings for the new building.⁶² The correspondence between the building committee, architects, and construction company Arnold & Wright, Inc., Builders, proves that the interior and exterior appearance of the newly build Center was coordinated to complement the existing Church building.⁶³ Mr. Simpson, chairman of the Church's building committee, wrote in his letter to Division of Church Building:

*The building committee is very pleased of the efforts of the architect. He has been able to give us the dual flexibility we had requested. We feel that the estimate submitted here by the contractor, with whom we will negotiate, is totally realistic and that the architecture of the new building will enhance the existing structure.*⁶⁴

The groundbreaking of the new building took place on November 22, 1970. The Open House of the Lutheran Campus Center held on Easter Sunday, April 11, 1971, and it was dedicated on May 16, 1971.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE Criteria C: Works of a Master

Albert Wynn Howell (1912-1989)

Albert Wynn Howell was born on March 24, 1912, in Elba, Alabama. In 1931-32, Howell studied architecture at the University of Florida and continued his studies at the International Correspondence School. After World War II, Howell completed a seven-year apprenticeship to the three established architects in central Florida. During an apprenticeship, Howell worked as designer-draftsman for Henry Augustus Tilden, an architect who practiced since 1919 in Winter Haven. Howell was a designer and office manager for Lakeland architect D. R. Pierce and worked as a designer and draftsman at the office

⁶⁰ Regular Council Meeting, March 16, 1969, as described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972*.

⁶¹ Special Church Council Meeting, May 24, 1970, as described in *University Lutheran Church Minutes 1959-1972*.

⁶² "Fred Castor to Charles Harrington," n.d.

⁶³ "Charles F. Harrington to Robert L. Kelly February 22, 1971," February 22, 1971.

⁶⁴ "R. Bruce Simpson to John D. Reich," August 3, 1970.

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of Donovan Dean, a Lakeland architect known for his designs for religious structures and commercial buildings, among them stores for the grocery chain Publix. On June 26, 1952, Howell was among thirty-seven Floridians who passed the State Board of Architecture's registration examination.⁶⁵ Since 1952, when Howell registered his practice in Lakeland, he worked from his home office at 2400 Circle Drive, Lakeland. The office was adjacent to the architect's residence, 406 West Poinsettia Street, Lakeland, designed by Howell in 1947.⁶⁶ In 1954 Howell became a member of the Florida Central Chapter of American Institute of Architects (AIA). Howell served as Vice-president of AIA Central Florida Chapter during 1958-59, was its President during 1960-61, and Director from 1962-63. In 1961-62 Howell served as a visiting critic at the Architecture Department of the University of Florida.

Howell was registered to practice architecture in Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Washington state, as well as was certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). Howell's architectural designs included residential, commercial, religious, educational, recreational, health facilities, penal institutions, and public buildings and structures. Howell also designed landscapes and interiors for his projects. In 1962, for the AIA short biography, Howell self-selected buildings that represented his style, strongly influenced by principles of Organic Architecture. All the buildings were located in central Florida; and included the Rochelle Junior and Senior School, Lakeland (1955); Saint Agnes Episcopal Church, Sebring (1959); Saint Edward's Episcopal Church, Mount Dora (1959); Lincoln Avenue Elementary School, Lakeland (1960), Placid Tower, Lake Placid (1960); and University Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gainesville (1961).

During his career in Florida, Howell's church designs were well known throughout the state.⁶⁷ One of the first spiritual buildings, designed in 1954, was St. Luke's Episcopal Parish House located at NE 1st Ave and NE 6th Street Mulberry, Florida. The facades of the L-shaped, one-story concrete block building features rows of narrow, floor to ceiling high windows. The concrete block planters, typically of Howell designed buildings, are located in front of the windows and provide a link between interior and exterior.⁶⁸ In 1957, the Vestry of St. David's By the Sea Episcopal Church, Cocoa Beach, approved the preliminary plans drawn by Howell. The typical master plan for the mid-century religious complex included several buildings: a church planned for 400 people, parish hall, rectory, and classrooms. Anticipating the growth of the parish as well as many functions that churches served during the mid-century, Howell proposed to include in plans an Olympic size swimming pool.⁶⁹

⁶⁵ "37 in State Pass Architect Test," 2.

⁶⁶ "Ease Of Living Theme Of Homes In Lakeland, Florida," 86.

⁶⁷ "Lutherans Plan Building...," 7.

⁶⁸ "Construction Is Begun On New Mulberry Church," 8.

⁶⁹ "Episcopal Church Plan Approved," 25.

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In August 1957, Howell was hired to design the St. Edwards Episcopal Church, Mount Dora.⁷⁰ The cruciform church is constructed of simple, natural materials; native, grey-brown fieldstone from Dade City, pine paneling, exposed cedar beams, and glass.⁷¹ Fieldstone piers support the sidewalls of the church, and the large glass panels, characteristically of Howell, merge the interior and exterior. The design of the building was inspired by early Christian churches, with the altar located to the east, and lighted from above by a skylight.⁷² The Howell's design for Mont Dora church gained statewide recognition; Florida newspapers described the unusual design of the church complex that included the swimming pool.⁷³ The description of the church was included in the February 1961 issue of *The Florida Architect*, devoted to the mid-century trends in church design. "Traditional design no longer provides an adequate expression for facilities needed in their expanding church service programs," the article admitted.⁷⁴

On October 18, 1959, the first services were held in the St. Agnes Episcopal Church, Sebring. Designed by Howell, the complex includes the church, parish house, Sunday school rooms, and rectory.⁷⁵ The church building, an A-frame structure, enclosed by screen-block walls, gained nation-wide recognition. One of the largest producers of laminated wood structural elements, Rilco, included Howell's design into the company's marketing materials. The company's leaflet described the laminated beams that supported the A-frame roof as an integral part of Howell's design concept "of organic unity employing a minimum number of building materials."⁷⁶ The St. Agnes complex, one of the few projects, fully realized according to Howell's plan and design, became an inspiration for ULC's new complex, as it was envisioned in 1960.

During the late 1960s, Howell continued to design religious structures. The master plan for Trinity Lutheran Church complex, Port Charlotte, was planned to serve a congregation of 6,000. The parish hall building, clad in Bradenton travertine, sheltered by a gabled roof, sits on the intersection of Tamiami Trail and one of the many Port Charlotte canals and is the only evidence of ambitious plans. Other churches, designed by Howell in the 1960s, are the Faith Lutheran Church at Leigh Acres (1964), the United Methodist Temple, Lakeland (1963), the Christ Lutheran Church, Lakeland, (1964), the Faith Lutheran Church, Tampa (1965), and the Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Tampa (1965). In 1966 Howell moved to Menlo Park, California. The architect maintained membership to the Florida Central Chapter of the Florida Association of the AIA.⁷⁷ Albert Wynn Howell died on May 31, 1989.

⁷⁰ Lauben, "Episcopalian Congregation To Worship In New Church," 16.

⁷¹ "A New Look In Florida Churches: St. Edwards of Mount Dora," 70.

⁷² "Three Noteworthy Small Churches...," 16.

⁷³ Cooper, "Mount Dora Houses of Worship," 51.

⁷⁴ "Churches...," 8.

⁷⁵ "Sebring Episcopal Will Hold Services In New Church."

⁷⁶ Weyerhaeuser Company, "Economical Way to Beautiful Architectural Effects," 42.

⁷⁷ "Florida Central Chapter, Officers," 25.

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Moore, May and Harrington Architects

At the time of construction of the Lutheran Campus Center, Moore, May, and Harrington Architects was one of the best-known of Gainesville's architectural firms. Many architects who left a significant imprint to the City's built environment were the firm's partners. In 1911 architect Newbold L. Goin established a firm, that from 1947 was led by his son Sanford W. Goin, a graduate from the UF architecture program. Jack Moore, another graduate of UF, accepted a permanent position in Goin's office in 1947, soon became a partner, and managed the successful firm until his retirement in 1985.⁷⁸ Lester May, a resident of Gainesville since 1949, was associated with Goin and Moore Architects since 1956. After Mr. Goin's sudden death in 1958, L. May partnered with J. Moore, therefore from 1959 until 1969, the practice was known as Moore and May Architects. Charles F. Harrington, a design architect for Lutheran Campus Center, joined the partnership in 1969. Other partners in later years included Raymond W. Graham (since 1978) and William W. Brame (since 1978).⁷⁹

The architectural firm of Moore, May, and Harrington, that started to design buildings at the beginning of the 20th century, always followed the most recent trends in residential, educational, and institutional architecture. One of Gainesville's best examples of mid-century design trends is the office building on 606 North East 1st Street, designed by J. Moore in 1961 for his firm. The southern wing of the one-story, asymmetrical building, is enclosed by a screen wall, made of pierced pre-cast concrete blocks. The screen wall, both functional and decorative, protects the office building's interior from Florida's intense sunlight. The boxed, wide roof overhang shades the building's ribbon windows. The decorative, copper fascia emphasizes the horizontality of the building, typical for mid-century modern buildings. The successors of Moore, May and Harrington, the Brame Heck Architects, Inc., still use the building.

The architectural firm of Moore, May, and Harrington designed a wide range of building types; private residences, professional offices, education facilities, and churches in Gainesville and throughout Florida. One can find schools, planned, and built by the firm not only in Alachua County, but also in Columbia, Taylor, Nassau, Leon, Putnam, Bradford, Lafayette, Osceola, Lake, Jefferson, Dixie, and Suwannee counties.⁸⁰ The firm's impressive design portfolio includes the United States post offices in Pinellas Park, Lake City, and Jacksonville; the Amphibious Operations Building in Panama City; and the John R. Alison Air terminal, Gainesville. Most of the buildings, designed and constructed by the firms' partners and associates, still stand and contribute to the urban landscape of north and central areas of Florida.

⁷⁸ "Jack Moore: Spirit of Gainesville Nominee."

⁷⁹ Moore, *100 Years of Architecture 175 Years of the Moor Family*, pg. 218.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

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HISTORIC SIGNIFICENCE

Criteria C: Architecture

The University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex, located at 1826 West University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida, meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion C at the state and local level of significance in the area of architecture as a premier example of one of several design trends that prevailed in Florida during the mid-century period. The Complex as a whole entity is characterized by the principles of the Organic architecture as promoted by F. L. Wright, including a structure that is sympathetic and well-integrated with the natural context, a visual and physical connection to its setting, use of organic shapes and natural materials, and unified design with repeating elements and details.⁸¹

The two buildings within the Complex are set in relationship to each other to respect the design intent of the original architectural concept of the Church. The hierarchy of building forms is expressed in the contrast of the dramatic, towering roof form of the Church with the smaller scale flat roof of the Center, which reinforces the dominant massing of the Church building. Linked by covered walkways, the placement of the two buildings on the site forms a series of rectangular exterior spaces, which are partially enclosed with concrete block privacy walls and landscaping.

The Complex consists of two contributing buildings, the University Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Campus Center, and reflects two stages of construction. Designed in 1960, the University Evangelical Lutheran Church is a premier example of the work of A. Wynn Howell, a well-known Central Florida architect whose career began in the late 1930s and spanned over several decades, including the mid-century period. The architectural value of the Church is the well-preserved, prominent roof that represents a variation of A-frame construction, a design trend that emerged in the 1950s and lasted through the 1970s.⁸² Defined by a double-pitched A-frame roof, the Church is the only remaining example of Howell's work in north-central Florida, and it is the only one of the mid-century modern spiritual buildings that is located on one of the busiest thoroughfares in Gainesville, West University Avenue, and close to the main campus of UF. All other churches, whose designers preferred one or other expression of Modern Movement design principles, are located within Gainesville's suburbs that were developed as a result of the City's rapid expansion. During his career in Florida, Howell's church designs were well known throughout the state.⁸³ The architectural significance of the Church has been acknowledged since its dedication. In 1961 the Florida Architect Associations Awards Program evaluated the building as one of the imaginative examples of Florida's modern architecture and recognized A. W. Howell's design with its Merit Award. The ULC church gained statewide recognition

⁸¹ Information on Florida Southern College and its architecture was informed by the website "Florida Southern College and the Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright" (<http://franklloydwrightatfsc.com/>)

⁸² McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

⁸³ "Lutherans Plan Building..." 7.

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after it was featured in the March 1962 issue of *Florida Architect*, an official publication of the American Institute of Architects Florida chapter.⁸⁴

The Lutheran Campus Center was designed in 1970 by Moore, May and Harrington Architects, Inc., one of Gainesville's oldest architecture firms. The firm, that started to design buildings at the beginning of the 20th century, always followed the most recent trends in residential, educational, and institutional architecture. The one-story, masonry building is sheltered by a flat roof that is intersected by a steeply pitched, hipped roof. The ridge of the hipped section of the roof is oriented east-west and is perpendicular to the long dimension of the Church building. The architecture of the Center, including its scale, form, roof, and materials, is highly compatible with the earlier Church building.

The original design of the Church and Center remains intact. Both buildings retain their historic relationships within the property and neighborhood, especially the Church that maintains its impressive presence within College Park, one of the oldest suburbs of Gainesville. The proportion and scale of the buildings have not been altered, and the door and window openings remain in their original form and location. The transparent glass surfaces that ensure a blend of interior and exterior were typical for mid-century buildings. The original and expressive exposed structural system of laminated fir beams remains visible on the interior of the sanctuary. The distinctive architectural treatment of the surfaces, such as the decorative arrangement of textured concrete block walls, are original and remain intact. Both buildings, as well as adjacent landscaped areas, contribute to a coherent architectural ensemble that represents trends of mid-century modern architecture in Florida; and retain a high level of the integrity of location, setting, design, materials, feeling, associations, and workmanship.

⁸⁴ "The Cover..."

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary encompasses all of rectangular 0.99-acre tax parcel 14983-000-00, according to the Alachua County Property Appraiser Office Records.⁸⁵ The legal description according to the Alachua County Property Appraiser Office Records is: COLLEGE PARK PB A-9 LOTS 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 BK 3. See Location Map 2 for more information.

Boundary Justification

The above boundary encompasses all of the property historically associated with the University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex during the period of significance.

⁸⁵ "Parcel Number Search."

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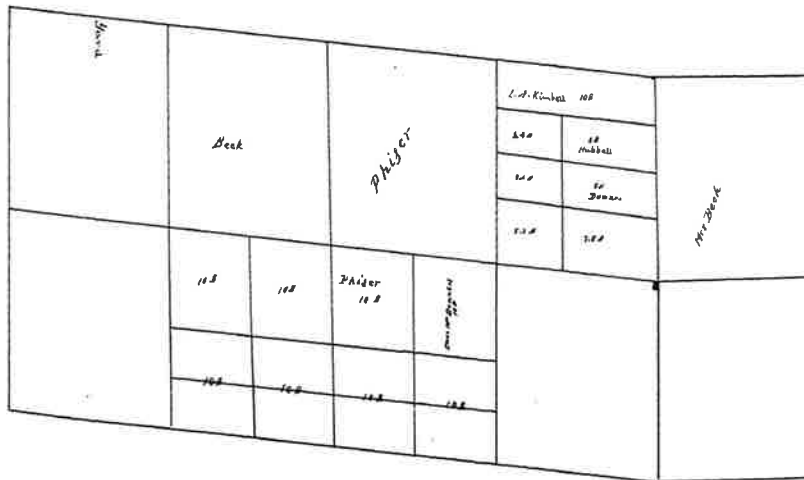
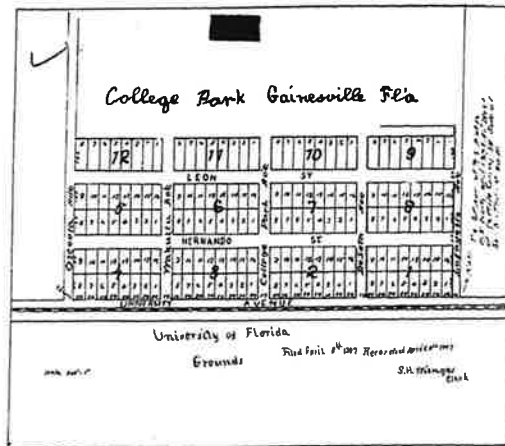
Section number Add. Doc. Page 1

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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION (FIGURES, PLANS, HISTORIC PHOTOS)

Figures

A-9
 A-9



A 9

WILLIAM M. BRUCE, COUNTY SURVEYOR
 MADRID, FLORIDA
 1884

CAMPVILLE
 ALACHUA COUNTY
 FLORIDA

SECTIONS 32, 33
 R.J. CARAN RIGHTS
 REVISIONS
 -7-9-5-7-22-5-

RECORDED 183, 1885
 UAC CLERK
 CURR

Figure 1. Plat map College Park Gainesville Fla, recorded April 8, 1907.
 Source: Alachua County Historic Plot Maps, <http://www.alachuaclerk.org>

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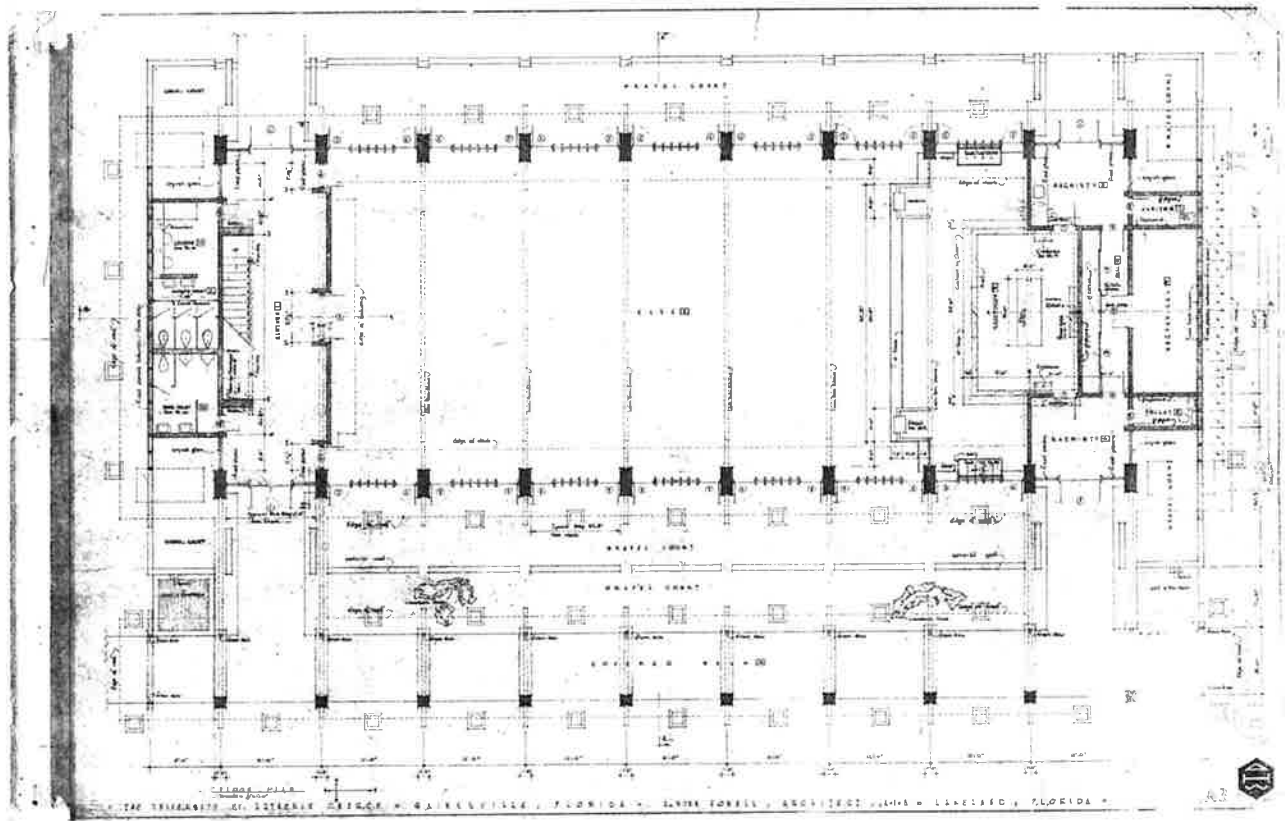


Figure 2. Architectural drawing The University Ev. Lutheran Church, Gainesville, Florida, A. Wynn Howell, Architect, AIA, Lakeland, Florida, Floor Plan.

Image source: Archives of the University Lutheran Church, Gainesville.

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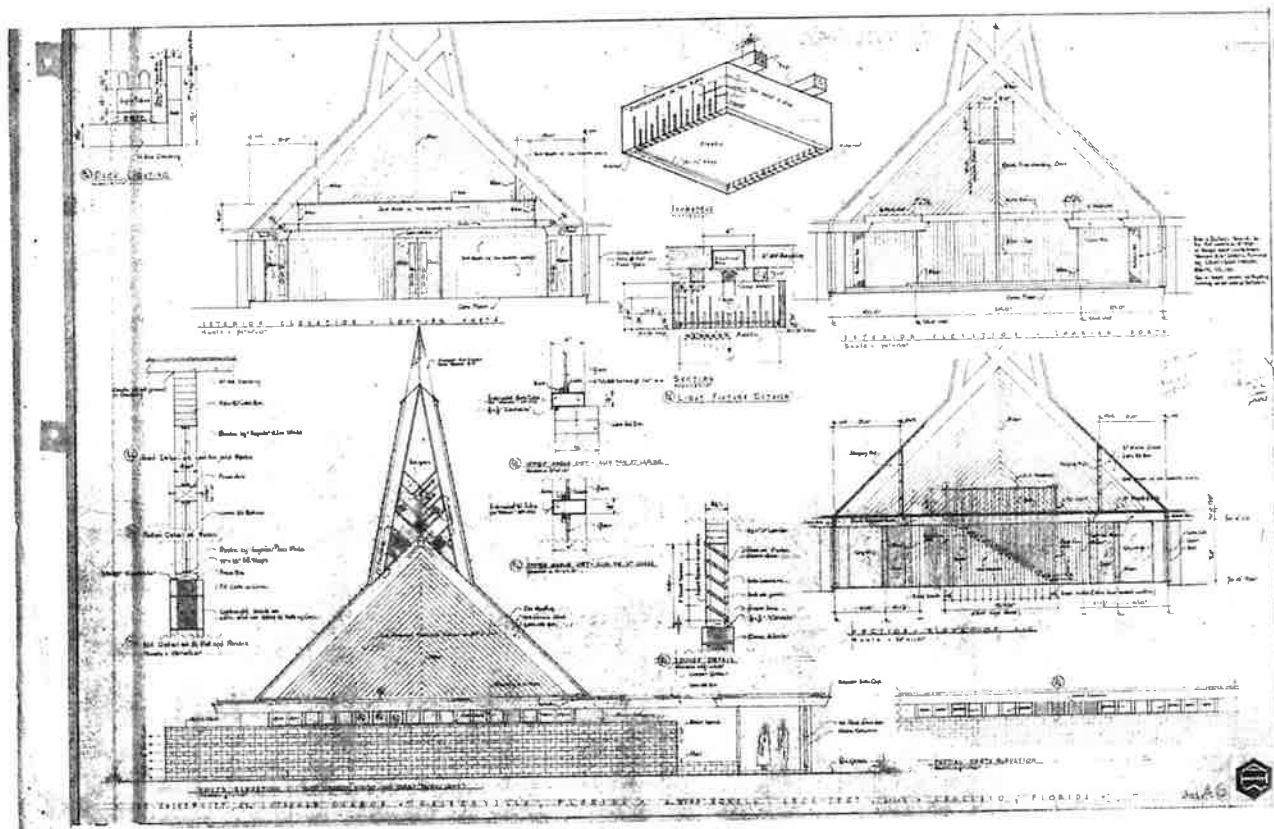


Figure 3. Architectural drawing The University Ev. Lutheran Church, Gainesville, Florida, A. Wynn Howell, Architect, AIA, Lakeland, Florida, Sheet A6.

Image source: Archives of the University Lutheran Church, Gainesville.

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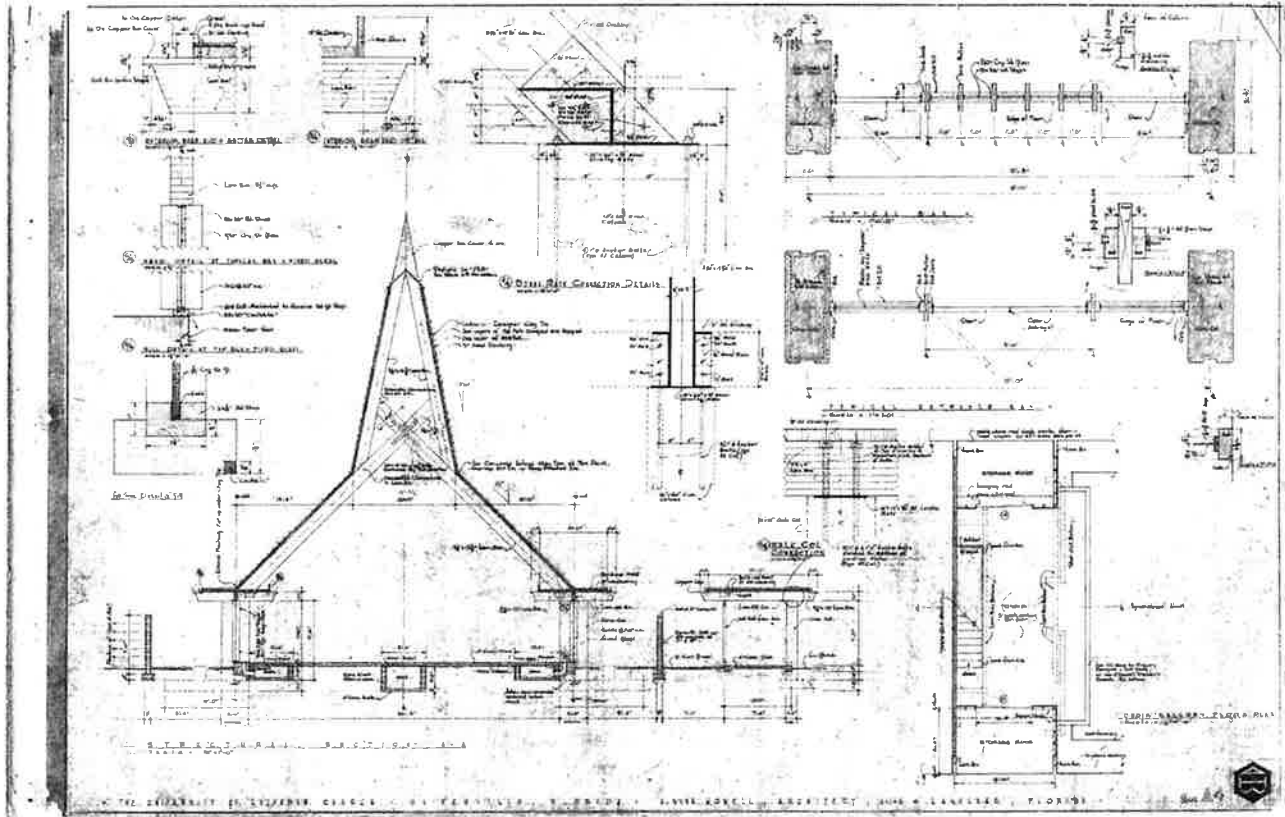


Figure 4. Architectural drawing The University Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gainesville, Florida, A. Wynn Howell, Architect, AIA, Lakeland, Florida, Sheet A6.
Image source: Archives of the University Lutheran Church, Gainesville.

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

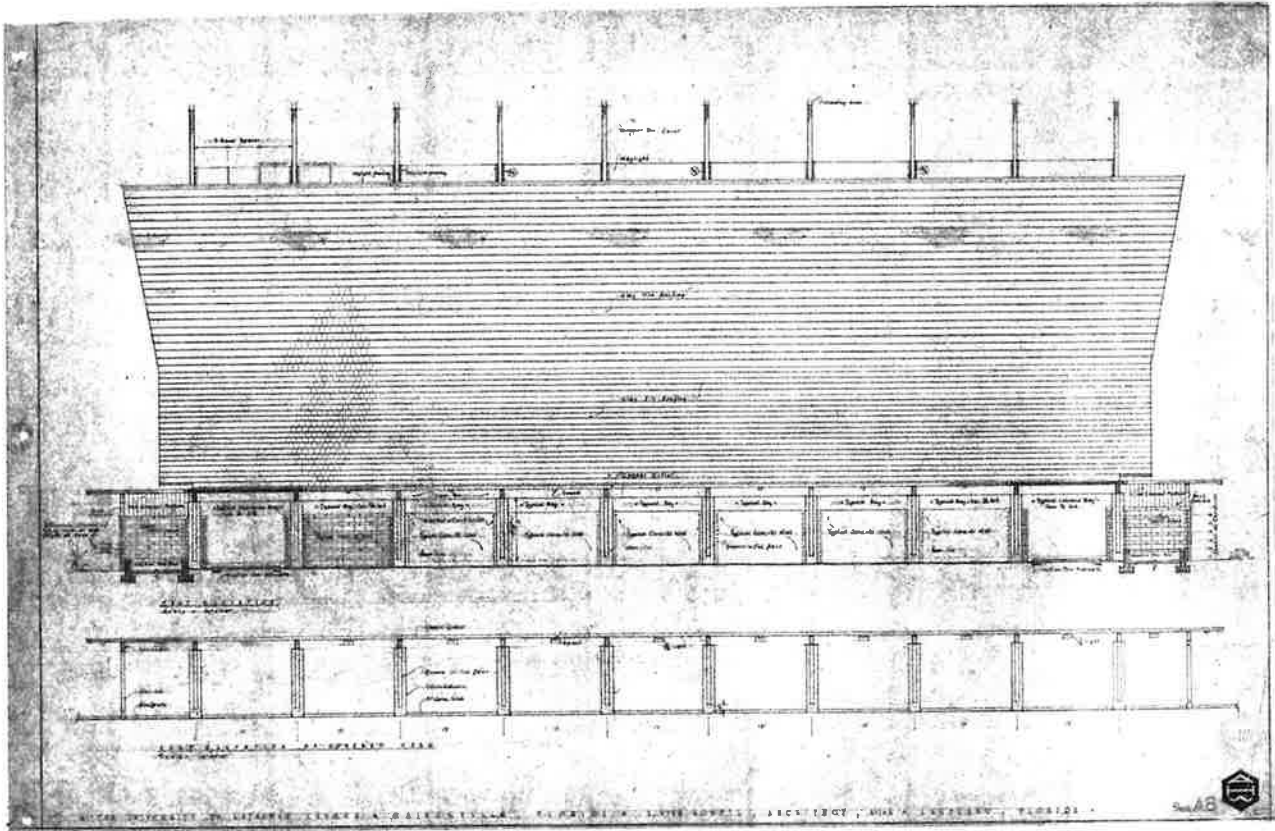


Figure 5. Architectural drawing The University Evangelical Lutheran Church, Gainesville, Florida, A. Wynn Howell, Architect, AIA, Lakeland, Florida, Sheet A8.
Image source: Archives of the University Lutheran Church, Gainesville.

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Figure 6. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ludovici tile roof. Image Sujin Kim, photographed September 7, 2016.

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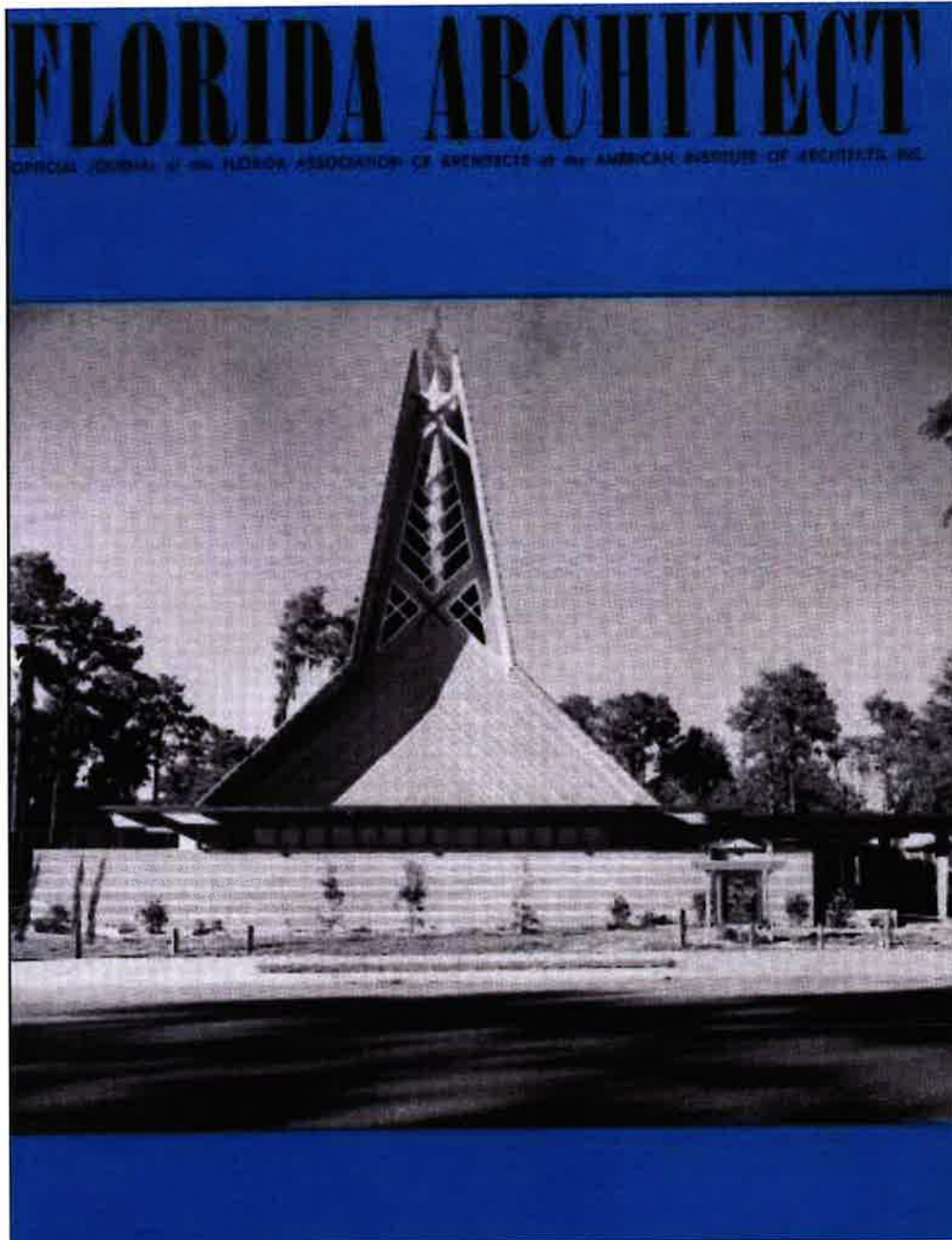


Figure 7. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, south façade, photographed c. 1962, *The Florida Architect*, March 1962, front cover. Image source: <https://ufdc.ufl.edu>

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Figure 8. Lutheran Campus Center, Ludovici tile roof. Image Sujin Kim, photographed September 7, 2016.

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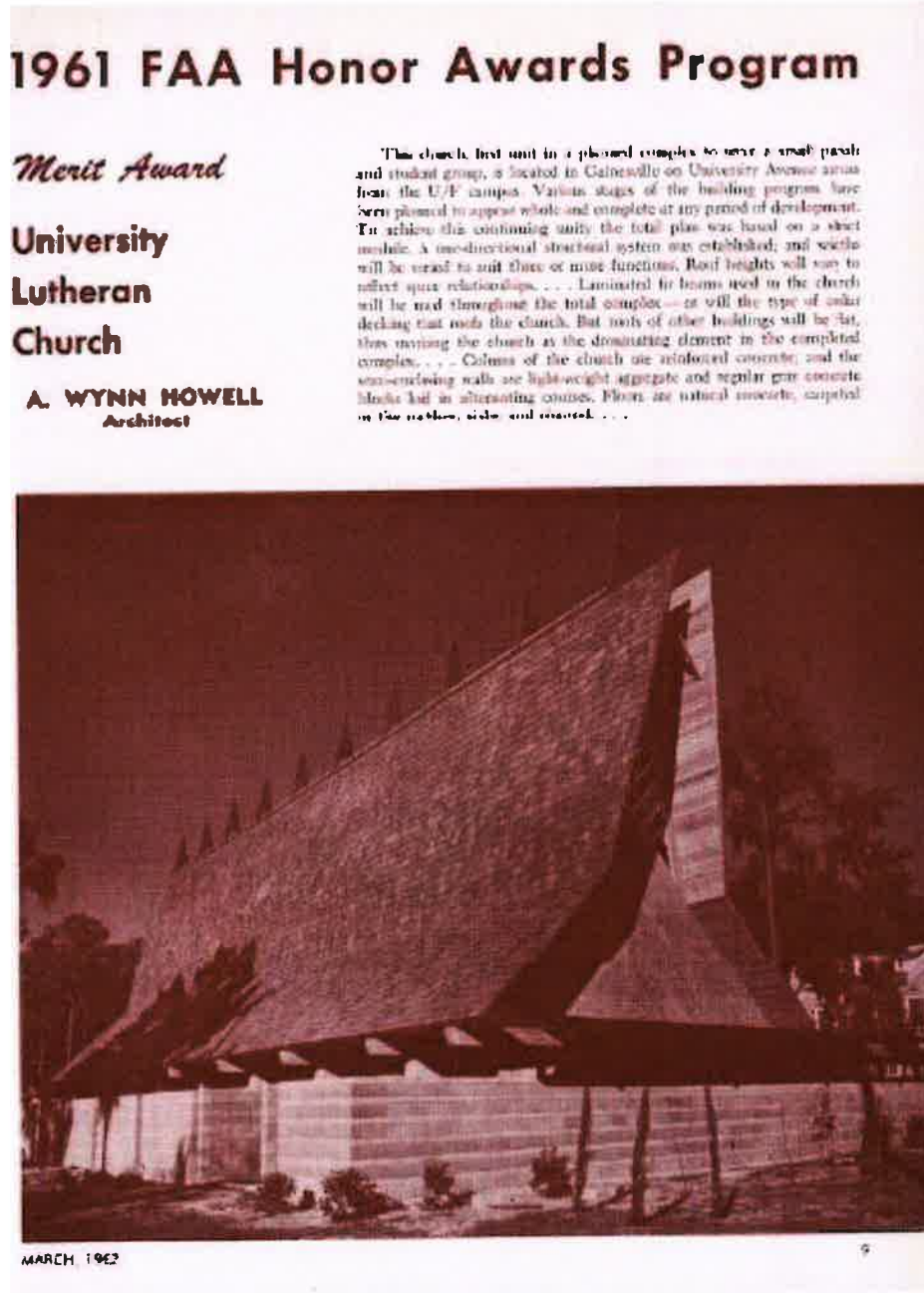


Figure 9. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, south façade and west façade, photographed c. 1962, *The Florida Architect*, March 1962, pg. 9. Image source: <https://ufdc.ufl.edu>

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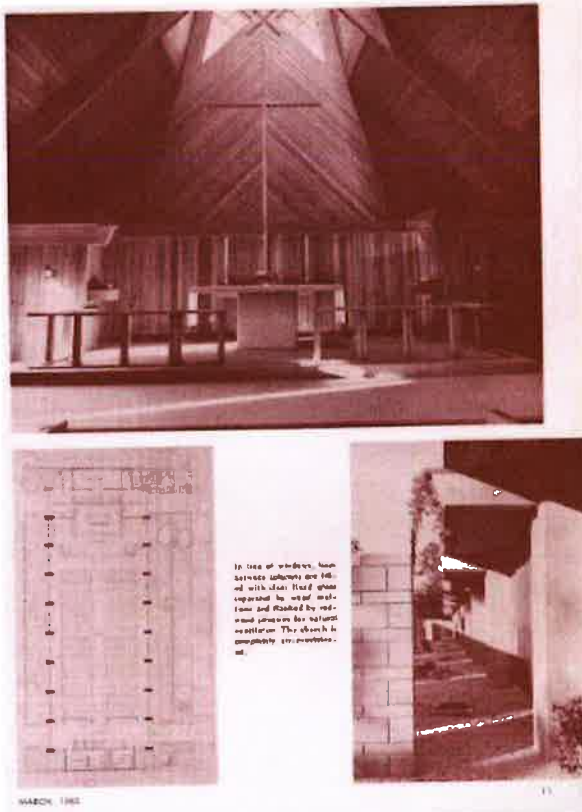


Figure 10

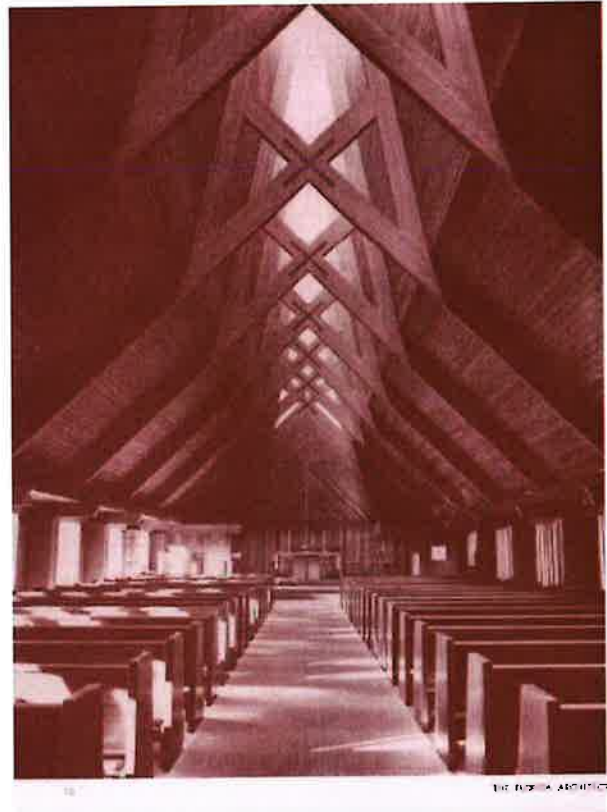


Figure 11

Figure 10. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, interior plan; altar facing north-east; details; photographed c. 1962, *The Florida Architect*, March 1962, pg. 11. Image source: <https://ufdc.ufl.edu>

Figure 11. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, interior, facing north, photographed c. 1962, *The Florida Architect*, March 1962, pg. 10. Image source: <https://ufdc.ufl.edu>

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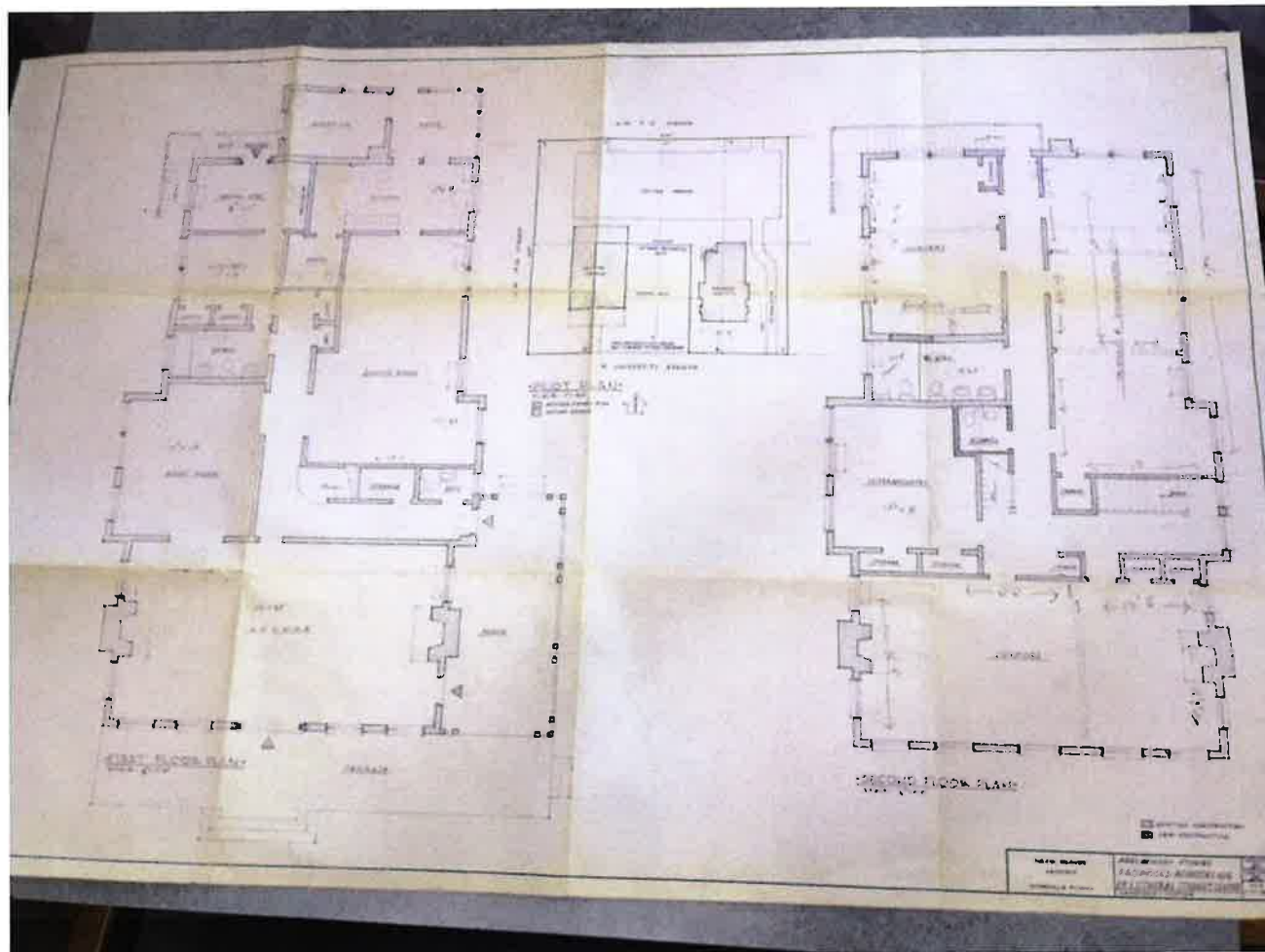


Figure 12. Ev. Lutheran Student Center, Proposed remodeling plan, dated October 1, 1956. David Reaves, architect. Source: University Evangelical Lutheran Church archives. Image Kristine Ziedina, photographed June 2019.

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Complex

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered in the order they are referenced in the manuscript, and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log.

Property Name: University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex

City or Vicinity: Gainesville County: Alachua State: FL

Photographer: Rayan Lester Date Photographed: June 22, 2020

Location of Original Digital Files: University of Florida, DCP Arch 148, 1480 Inner Road, Gainesville, Florida, FL 32611

Number of Photographs: 56

Description of photograph(s) and number, including description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south and east facades, camera facing north-west.
2. University Evangelical Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Center, view of east and north facades, camera facing south-west.
3. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south and west facade, camera facing north-east.
4. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south and west facades and informative sign, camera facing north-east.
5. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south facade and informative sign, camera facing north.
Image:
6. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of north and east facades, camera facing south-west.
7. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of exterior outriggers, camera facing north and up.
8. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south facade, camera facing north.
9. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south gable, camera facing north-east and up.
10. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of north gable, camera facing south and up.
11. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south-west corner, camera facing east.
12. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of east privacy wall, camera facing south-west.

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National Park Service**

University Evangelical Lutheran Church
Complex

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13. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of ribbon windows on north wall, camera facing south.
14. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south-west corner, camera facing north-east.
15. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south façade and privacy wall along west facade, camera facing north-east.
16. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view privacy wall along west facade, camera facing north-east.
17. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of west window wall, camera facing north-east.
18. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of west window wall from interior, camera facing north-east.
19. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of north-west entrance, camera facing east.
20. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south-east entrance, camera facing west.
21. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of canopy over north-east entrance, camera facing north.
22. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of canopy over south-east entrance, camera facing south.
23. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of west window wall, camera facing north-east and up.
24. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of north-west entrance, camera facing north-east and up.
25. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of exterior light fixture, camera facing up.
26. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, interior view of south-east entrance, camera facing east.
27. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior stair, camera facing south-east.
28. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior stair, millwork details, camera facing south.
29. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior, camera facing north-west and down.
30. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of ceiling and supporting beams, camera facing north and up.
31. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of skylight, camera facing north-east and up.
32. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of ceiling above east side isle, camera facing north-east and down.

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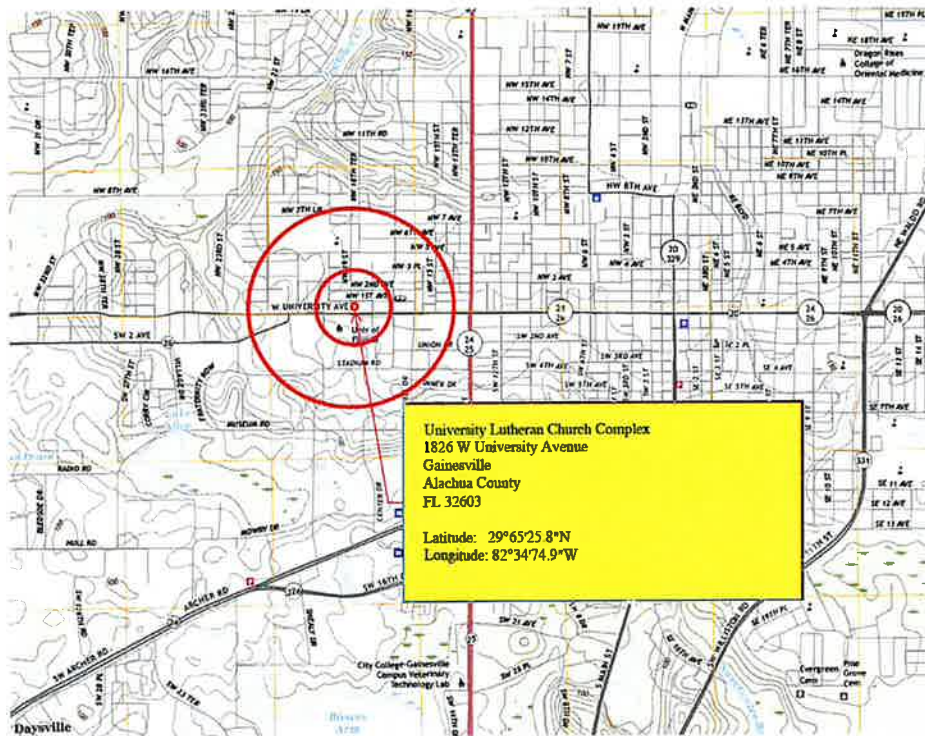
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33. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior, camera facing south.
34. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of east window wall, camera facing north-east.
35. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior towards sanctuary, camera facing north.
36. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of south wall, camera facing south.
37. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of window on west wall, camera facing west.
38. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of east wall, camera facing north-east.
39. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of stained-glass window and skylight, camera facing north and up.
40. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of interior light fixture, camera facing south-west and up.
41. University Evangelical Lutheran Church, view of floor tiles and concrete floor, camera facing down.
42. Lutheran Campus Center, view of east facade, camera facing north-west.
43. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south and east facades, camera facing north-west.
44. Lutheran Campus Center, view of north and east facades, camera facing south-west.
45. Lutheran Campus Center, view of north wing's west wall and south wing's north wall, camera facing south.
46. Lutheran Campus Center, view of north wall, camera facing south-east.
47. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south-east corner of south wing and fragment of privacy wall, camera facing north-west.
48. Lutheran Campus Center, view of north-east corner of north wing and fragment of privacy wall, camera facing south-west.
49. Lutheran Campus Center, view of Kaiser Garden, camera facing north-west.
50. Lutheran Campus Center, view of west wall of north wing, camera facing south-east.
51. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south-west entrance, camera facing east.
52. Lutheran Campus Center, view of south-east entrance, camera facing west.
53. Lutheran Campus Center, view of entrance to north wing, camera facing east.
54. Lutheran Campus Center, interior view, camera facing east.
55. Lutheran Campus Center, interior view, camera facing south-west.
56. Lutheran Campus Center, interior view, camera facing north-west.

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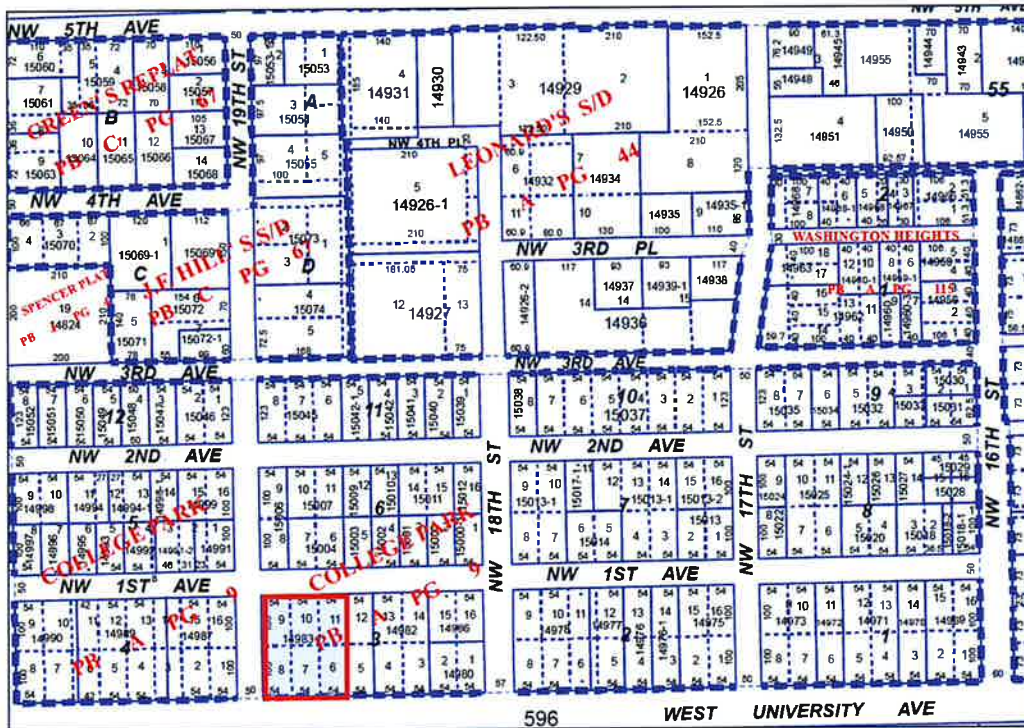
Maps



Location Map 1:
University Lutheran Church Complex
1826 West University Avenue
Gainesville
Alachua County, FL 32603

USGS 7.5 Map Name: Gainesville East FL 2015, fragment (for full map see: Additional Information
FL_AlachuaCounty_UniversityLutheranChurchComplex_USGS.pdf).

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Location Map 2:
University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex
1826 West University Avenue,
Gainesville
Alachua County, FL 32603

Legal Description: COLLEGE PARK PB A-9 LOTS 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 BK 3; Township 10S, Range 20E, Section 06; Tax Parcel No. 14983-000-000

Source: Alachua County Property Appraisal Section Map, fragment (for full map see: Additional Information FL_AlachuaCounty_UniversityLutheranChurchComplex_LocationMap.pdf), https://s3.amazonaws.com/acpa.pdf/PARCEL_201006.pdf

University Evangelical Lutheran Church
Complex

Name of Property

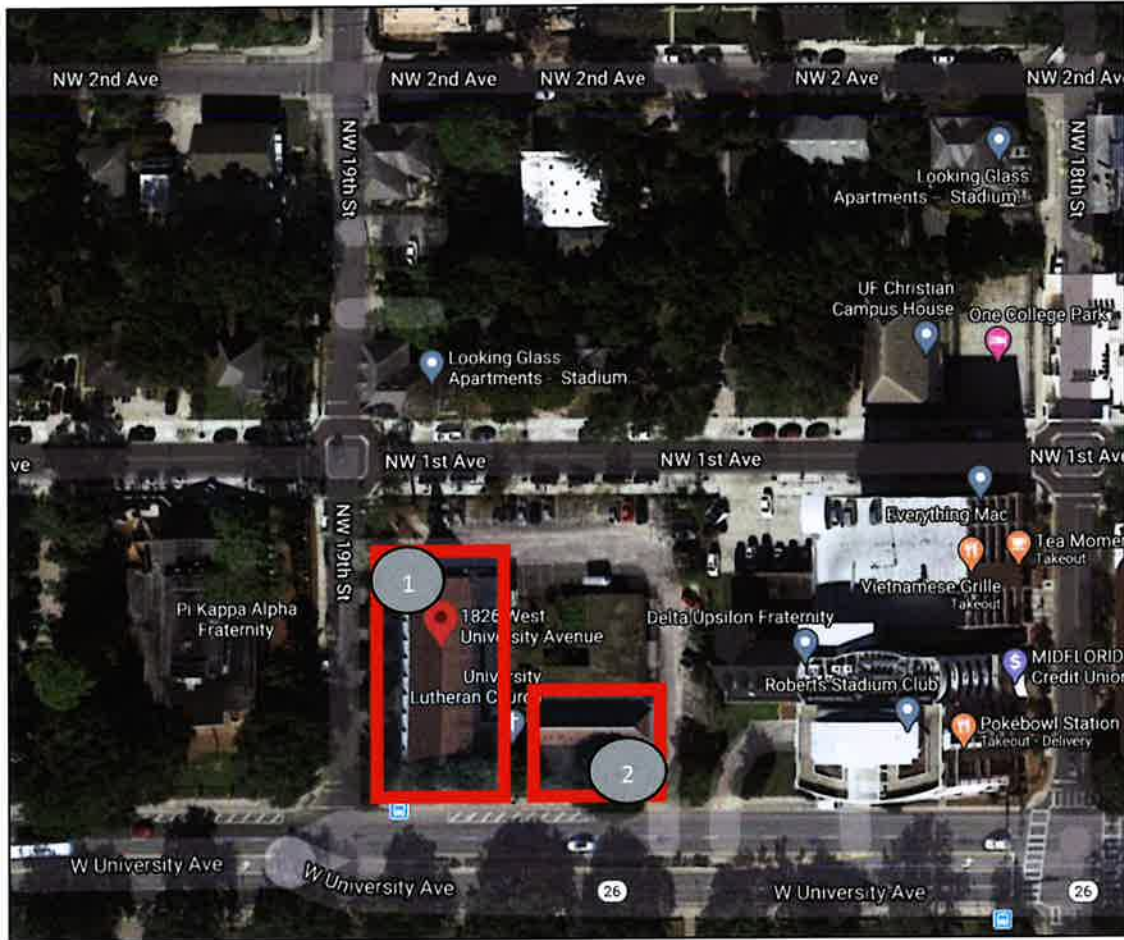
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Location Map 3:
University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex
1826 West University Avenue
Gainesville
Alachua County, FL 32603

1. University Evangelical Lutheran Church
2. Lutheran Student Center

Satellite view, source: <https://www.google.com>

University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex

1826 West University Ave.
Gainesville, Alachua Co.
Florida 32603

UTM: 17R 369568 3281038

Datum: WGS84

Legend



Univ. Ev. Lutheran Church Complex



1:1,000

Date: 12/4/2020



Map drawn by: Ruben A. Acosta, BHP, DHR

Basemap Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe,
GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/
Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping,
Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the
GIS User Community



University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex Boundary Map

1826 West University Ave.
Gainesville, Alachua Co.
Florida 32603

UTM: 17R 369568 3281038

Datum: WGS84

Legend



Univ. Ev. Lutheran Church Complex

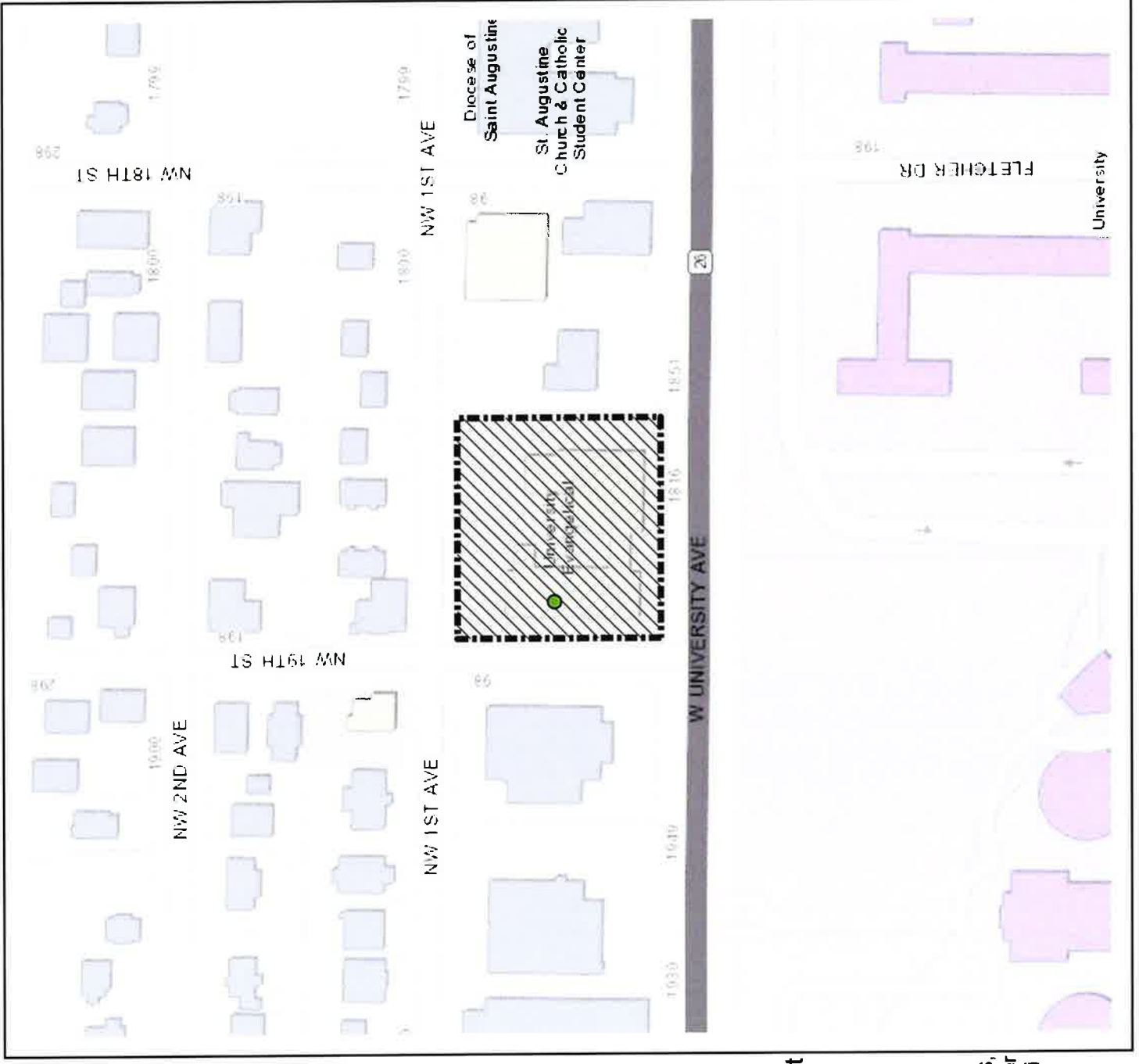


1:2,000 Date: 12/4/2020



Map drawn by: Ruben A. Acosta, BHP, DHR

Basemap Source: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



University Evangelical Lutheran Church Complex

1826 West University Ave.
Gainesville, Alachua Co.
Florida 32603

UTM: 17R 369568 3281038

Datum: WGS84

USGS Quad: Gainesville East

Legend



Univ. Ev. Lutheran Church Complex



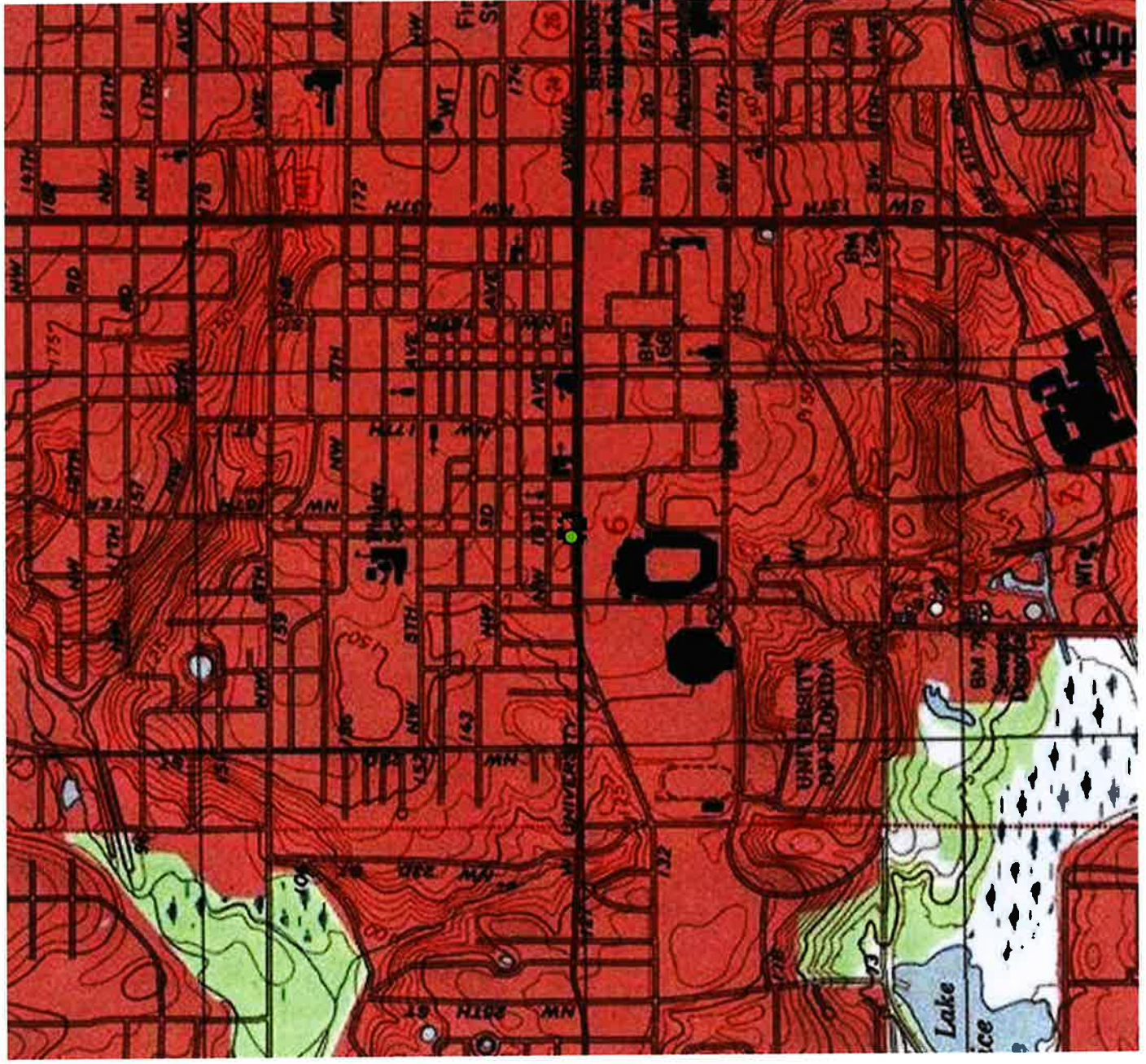
1:18,000 Date: 12/4/2020

0 450 900 1,800 2,700 3,600
Feet

0 125 250 500 750 1,000
Meters

Map drawn by: Ruben A. Acosta, BHP, DHR

Basemap Source: © 2013 National
Geographic Society, i-cubed



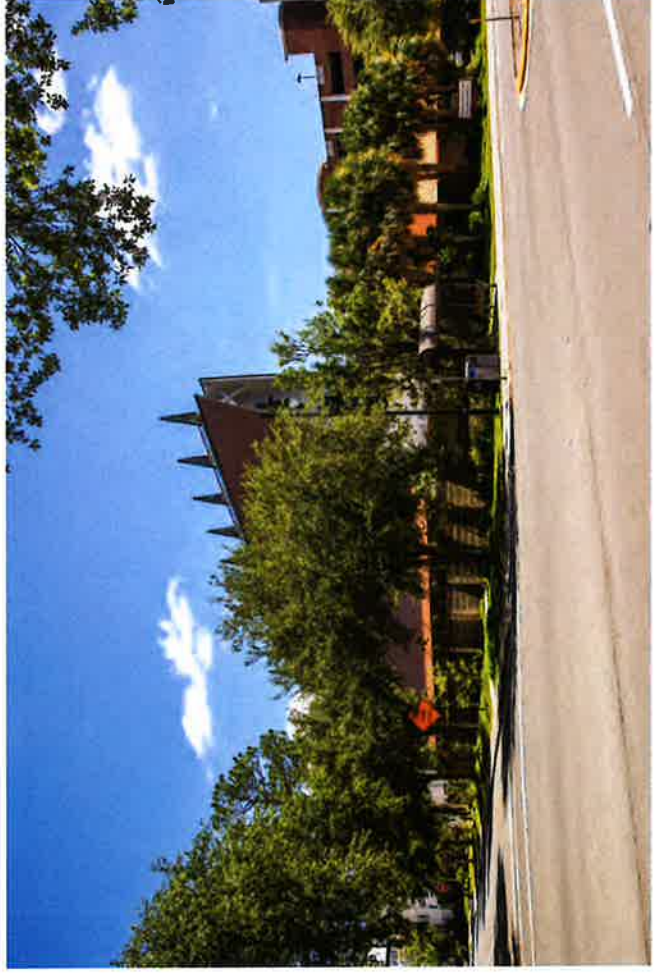


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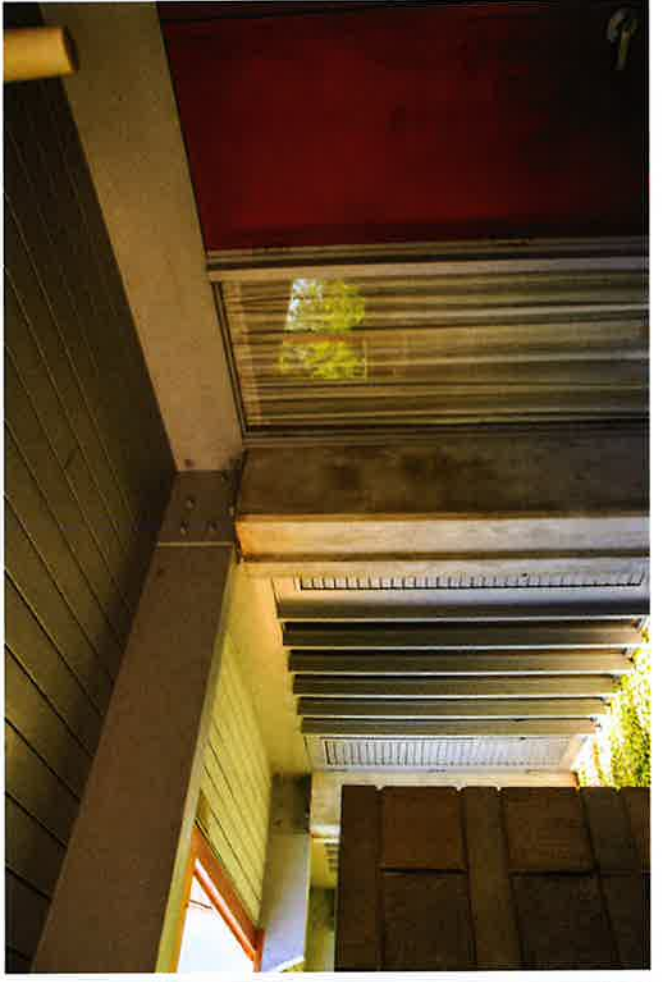


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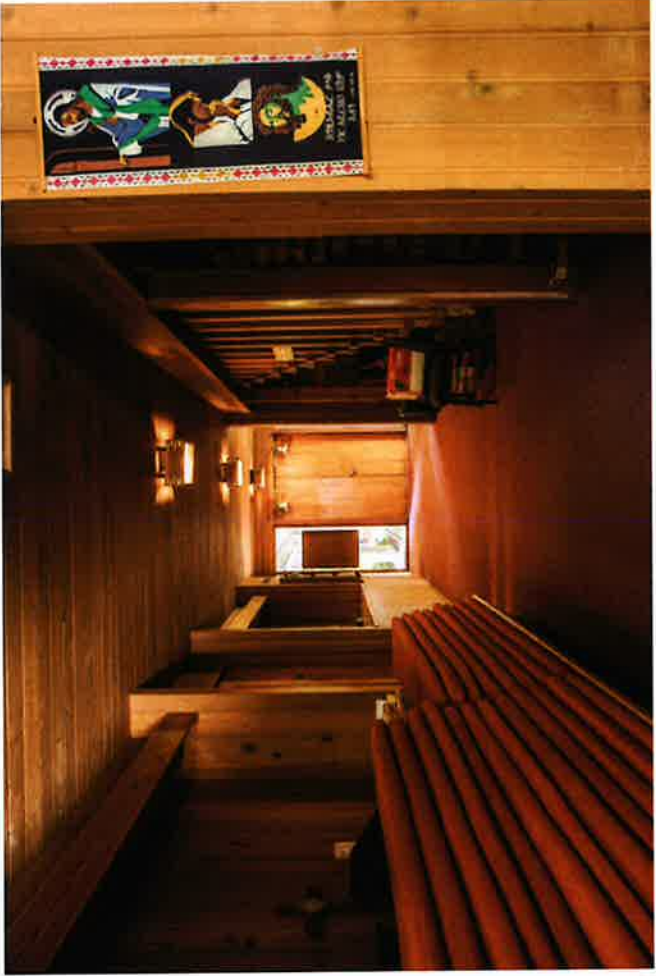


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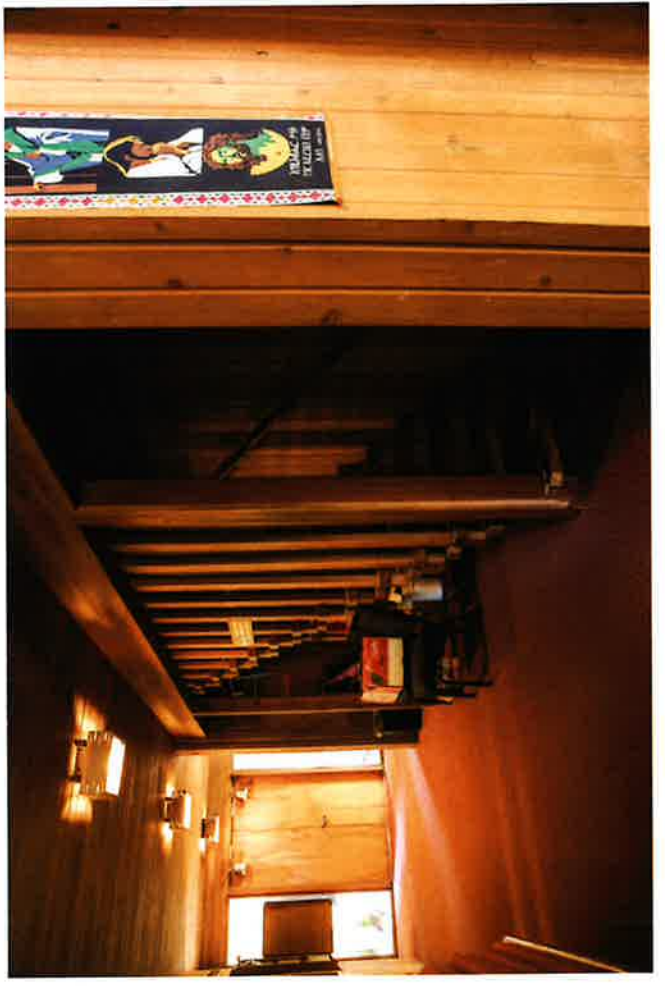


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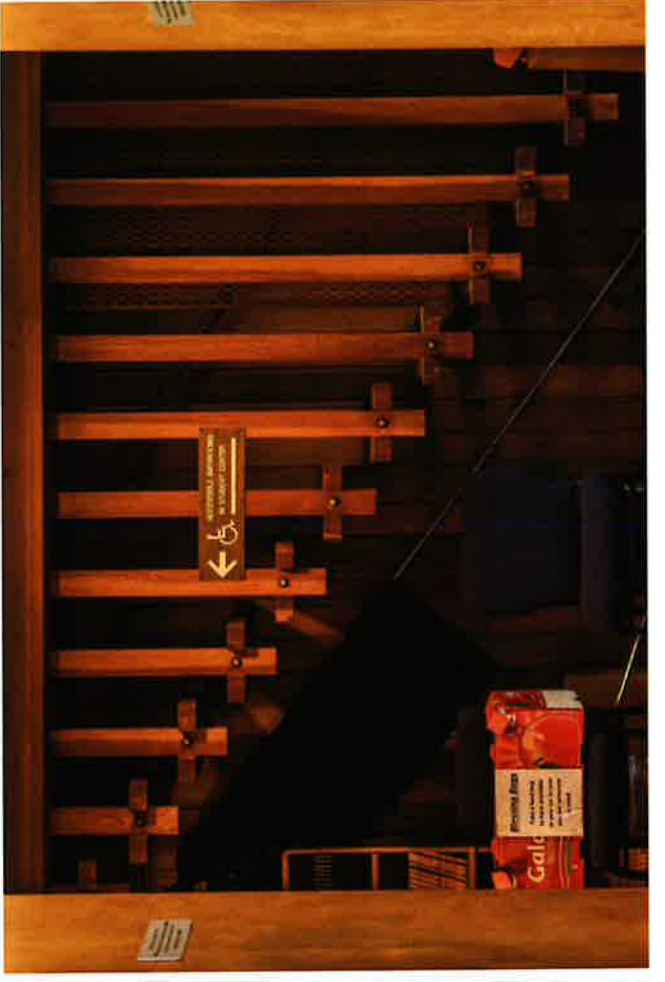


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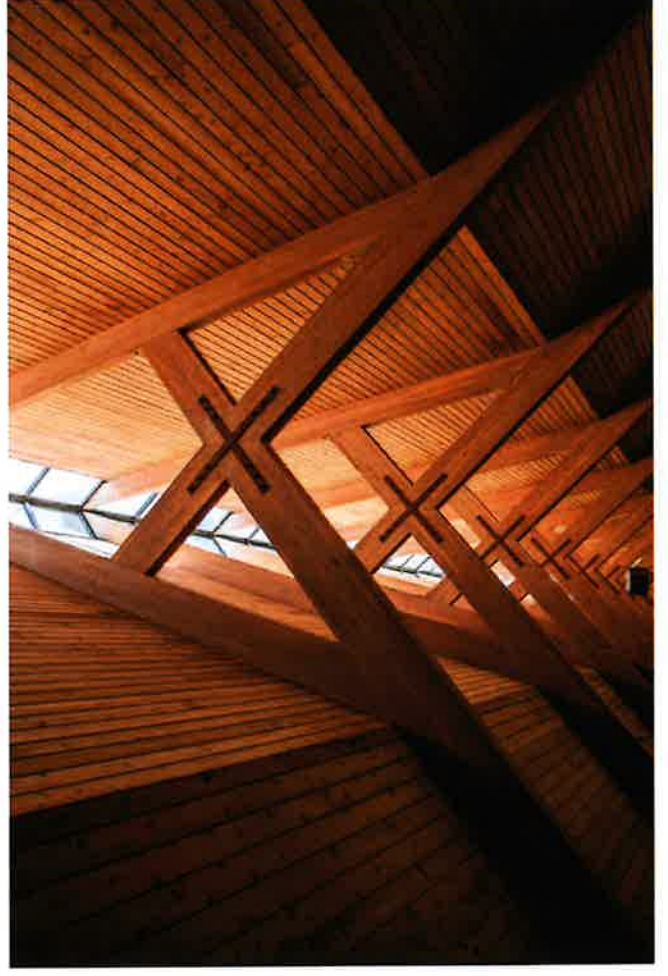
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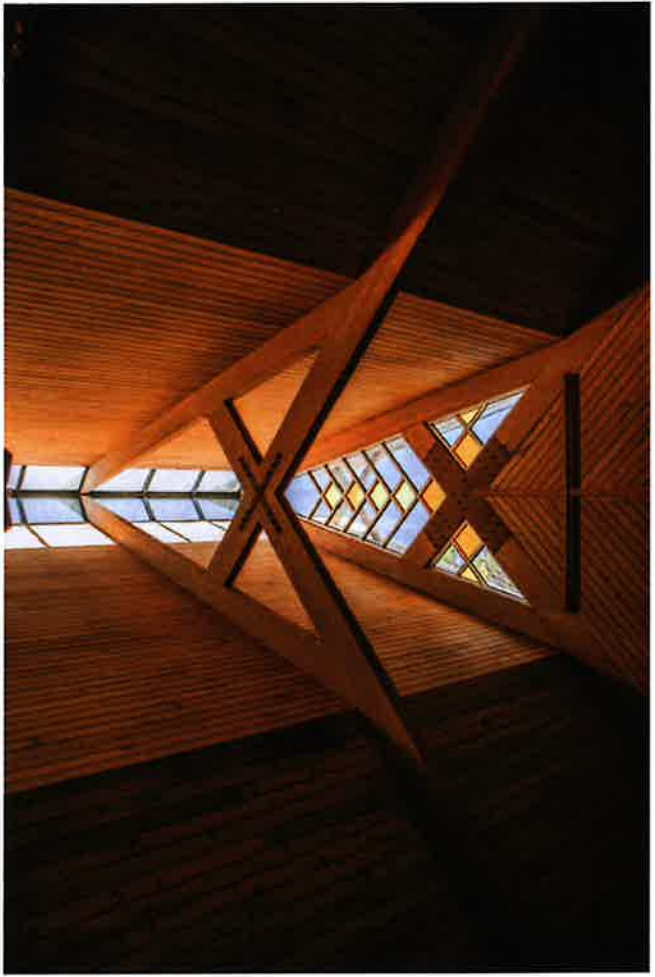


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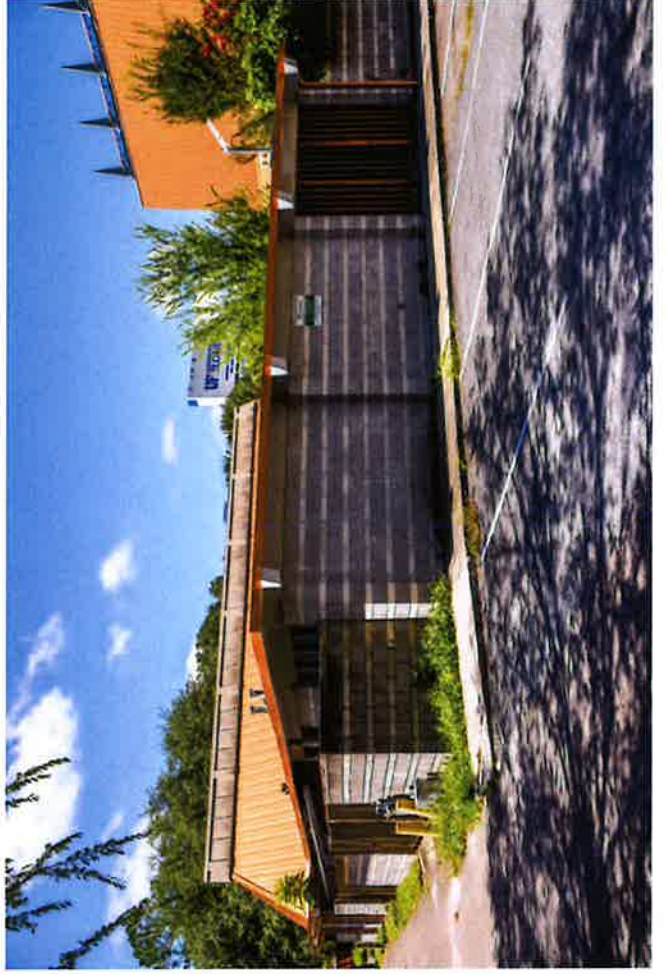


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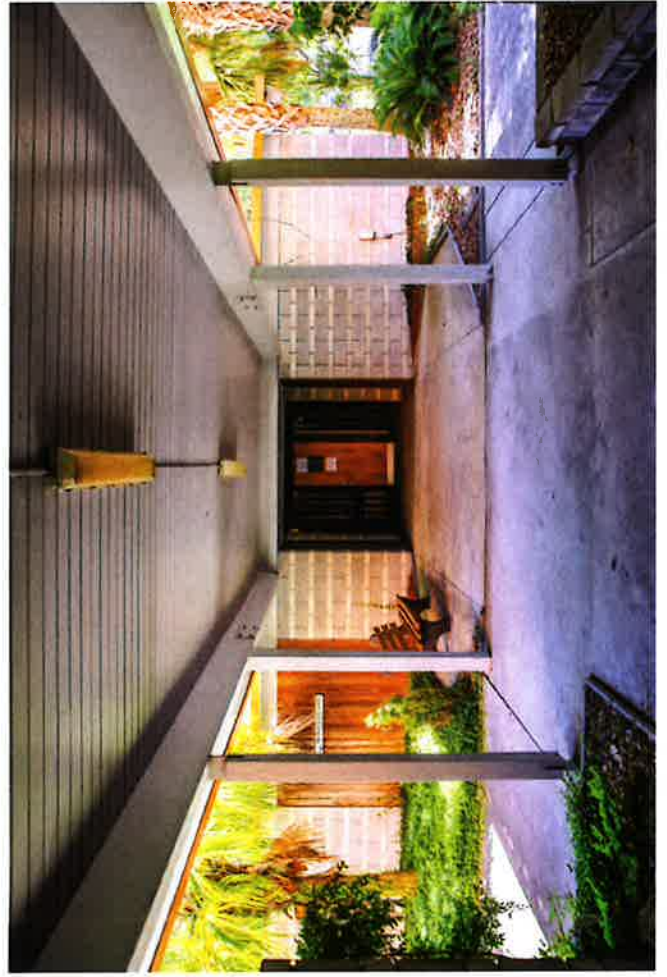


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