

A BAPTIST STUDENT CENTER  
for  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

by

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MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

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### III

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**SECTION ONE**

**Introduction**

## Introduction

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In the study of psychology, physical and mental securities are found to be two of the main objectives of the human race. Physical security is emphasized to an overwhelming extent due to the wars and domestic strifes our country has had. Many philosophers maintain that the only real security man can have is the security of his soul. Man finds this real security in the belief of a supreme being, in our case the Christian God.

Organizations are extensive throughout the world for the advocacy of a belief in God. These groups deal with different beliefs and different types of people within sects or denominations. The type of person with whom this thesis is concerned is a college student who has had indoctrination and training in a home church. In college he is being exposed to a new type of environment and learning that, for the most part, will affect his physical security. The church is left with a small remaining part of the student's mind; with this, the church must try to develop a more mature person of the student.

Many buildings are built for the advancement of religion. The purpose of this thesis is to show the need for a building to house the activities of a student group working toward Christian fellowship. The building shall be designated as a Baptist Student Center. The purpose of this Baptist Student Center is to provide a center for the religious, cultural, and intrafaith activities of the Baptist students of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia.

SECTION TWO

**Thesis Objectives**

## Thesis Objectives

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This thesis has four objectives:

a. First, to investigate the need for a new Baptist Student Center for Charlottesville, Virginia.

b. Second, to show present trends in the Baptist Student Union program that would affect the design of a Baptist Student Center.

c. Third, to analyze the requirements of the various functions and areas needed to promote a program.

d. Fourth, to prepare detailed drawings of a Baptist Student Center incorporating the required elements as revealed by the investigation into the requirements.

**SECTION THREE**

**History of the Baptist Student Union**

## History of the Baptist Student Union

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The foundation of ideas for an organization such as the present-day Baptist Student Union was promulgated by a small group of men in a Texas college in 1918. This group of students and student leaders formulated plans for the organization and demonstrated the practicability of the plans on the local campus. These and other student leaders spent much time promoting conferences for foreign missions, conferences for student volunteers, and later the first state Baptist student convention in history.

Two years later, in 1920, a proposal was submitted to the Southern Baptist Convention; this proposal asked for the establishment of a program geared to the desired religious activities of Baptist students. Later the convention voted unanimously to create the necessary organization to promote and fulfill a southwide program for these desired activities.

The initial triumph for the Baptist Student Union and its program was to gain a prominent position in an already overcrowded field of denominational and non-denominational student religious groups and activities. Before this time and about this time, other denominations were starting student religious movements on college campuses over the country. Starting with the experience of prayer by small groups, students have made the influence of the Baptist Student Union penetrate the various local campuses, have revitalized student religious activity and spiritual zeal, and have won the confidence and admiration of the leaders in the Southern Baptist Convention.

## History of the Baptist Student Union

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The Baptist Student Union has been a success since the day of its organization in the South. A primary reason for this success is that students have held and participated in conferences which give the students a chance to exchange knowledge and testimonies and to join in Christian fellowship. The first conferences were held on a regional basis in Shreveport, Chattanooga, and Greensboro in 1923. Since the first two sets of conferences were conducted on this regional basis, only a small number of students were permitted to attend because of the distance, time, and money involved. Before the next year of conferences arrived, requests from many students asked for state meetings; in 1925 thirteen states took another step forward in the progress of the Baptist Student Union by formulating conferences on the state level. This act made available to more Baptist students a program suited to their wishes and needs.

A second reason for the success of the Baptist Student Union is its annual spring retreat at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. The purpose of the retreat is to hold a meeting of the leaders from local student unions throughout the South. Through the years Ridgecrest has become a spiritual generator for Baptist leadership in the South and a mecca for all Baptist students.

Ever since the day the ideas for a student movement were formulated, the local college or school and the local Baptist Student Union have been the backbone of the overall organization. The local Baptist Student Union is the link between the Baptist student and the Baptist denomination.

**SECTION FOUR**

**General Baptist Student Union**

**Organization and Program**

## General Baptist Student Union Organization and Program

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The Baptist Student Union sponsors a group of voluntary religious activities for the Baptist students in colleges and schools throughout the South. The program seeks to reach all students of Baptist preference in universities, business schools, nurses schools, and other higher educational institutions.

The main objective of the Baptist Student Union is to reach the student who is away from his home and his home church. At the same time the Baptist Student Union acts as the connecting link between the college student and the local Baptist church in the college town. This link serves to magnify the importance of the local church and to keep vital the student's interest in the various Baptist church organizations.

Three levels of organization are found in the work done by the Baptist Student Union: southwide, state, and local. The planning phases that affect all members in the South are accomplished by a student department in the Sunday School Board. Since no student organization has been formulated on the southwide level, students maintain close contact with this student department.

On the state level the Baptist Student Union functions by and for the students; this is the highest level available to student participation. The state Baptist Student Union has officers elected from student groups within each individual state. The major responsibility at the state level is organizing work on the local campus and maintaining a standard of efficiency. Each state has a Student Secretary. A Student Secretary is a minister who has chosen student work as his job preference

### General Baptist Student Union Organization and Program

in the denomination. His job is to co-ordinate the activities of all the colleges and schools in his area; the secretary also plans a perennial program of statewide activities, bringing all the schools and colleges into the program.

The most important level of organization is the local level. At this level the greatest amount of student work is done. Under the local Baptist Student Union constitution many officers and groups are elected. The officers are president, membership vice-president, devotional vice-president, social vice-president, recording secretary, treasurer, choir director, and pianist. The groups are the executive council, the greater council, and committees of the greater council. These councils and the committees plan and correlate the work of the various student organizations within the denomination. The local level also has a Student Secretary; he has a full-time occupation. His work with students is in two categories: with organizations, such as those set up by the local constitution, and with individuals for the purpose of counseling. The major function of the local Baptist Student Union is to enlist students in the organizations and activities of the Southern Baptist Convention. A secondary function of the local student organization is to provide a social program to help meet the social needs of the student. However, a great effort is made to refrain from allowing the Baptist Student Union to degenerate into a social or fraternal organization.

"To summarize: The great function of the Baptist Student Union on the local campus is as follows: to guarantee an attractive, inclusive program of organized Baptist religious work on

a campus; to include all Baptist students and all Baptist religious organizations on the campus in one co-ordinated program; to feature all the work of all boards and agencies of the denomination as it should be featured with students; to promote religious growth and spiritual development of all students through sustained Bible study, prayer, mission study, missionary activity, meditation, church life, and denominational loyalty in promoting Kingdom work."\*

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\*Leavell, Frank H. Baptist Student Union Methods. Southern Baptist Convention, 1944.

**SECTION FIVE**  
**Present Baptist Student Union**  
**in Charlottesville**

### Present Baptist Student Union in Charlottesville

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The Baptist Student Union at the University of Virginia was organized in 1949. Its first meeting place was in the University Baptist Church where it remained for only a short while. Later in 1949 the present location was occupied.

As a link between the student at the university and the denomination, the local Baptist Student Union has the opportunity of working with three Baptist churches in Charlottesville; it is in a position to be influenced by all three churches. Therefore, no one church alone may help to sponsor the student program. The University Baptist Church receives a majority of the church-going Baptist students. On the other hand, the remaining two churches feel they receive a reasonable number of the students to allow them to have a share in sponsoring the Baptist Student Union. The conclusion drawn by the Student Secretary and the author is that the Baptist Student Center should be in a location where it will feel no excessive influence from any one church.

The present program sponsored by the Baptist Student Union is based upon activities throughout the week. These activities are held in the evening hours; this facilitates the attendance of a greater number of students during their off-hours from school and work. However, the student center is open during the day to allow students to have counsel with the Student Secretary, to meditate, to participate in games, or to relax.

A description of the evening activities is as follows:

1. On Monday evenings the councils meet. The greater council

Present Baptist Student Union in Charlottesville

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meets on the first Monday of every month. The greater council is composed of the twelve members of the executive council and members of the committees which are directed by those persons on the executive council. It has a membership of thirty to thirty-five. On the remaining Mondays of the month the executive council meets. The meetings of both councils are of a formal nature. At present only a grouping of chairs is possible around an inadequately sized table.

2. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings there are vesper services. The mood is quiet. The number of students who attend usually ranges from five to twenty-five. The grouping is centered around a rostrum and is informal. These meetings are held every week on both days.

3. On Wednesday evenings programs sponsored by the local churches are held. Each church has its own program each week.

4. On Friday evenings the program is an hour set aside for Bible study. The number of students who attend this weekly program is from five to twenty-five. During this meeting reading and a general discussion are the main elements of the program. Because of this informal type of meeting a circular grouping of chairs is used.

5. Saturdays throughout the year are used to develop a social program to help meet the social needs of the college students. Three times a year a banquet is held. A speaker usually talks on these occasions; this situation warrants a formal arrangement of the tables. For this function from thirty to sixty-five guests and students attend.

On the remaining Saturday evenings a fellowship supper is held. The

### Present Baptist Student Union in Charlottesville

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food is prepared in the kitchen of the student center by the students. The whole affair is conducted by the students; therefore, all the activity is on a most informal basis. Tables seating four people at each are used. At this social function from ten to twenty people join in the fellowship. The students have these suppers weekly.

Every Saturday night, whether it be after a banquet or a fellowship supper, a social is held. The activities vary greatly: cards, singing, ping pong, chess, and general relaxation. The atmosphere is very informal. The average attendance is from ten to twenty.

One social during the year is the result of extra effort. It is held on one of the first Saturday evenings after the beginning of the school year. The purpose of this special social is to acquaint the new students with the local Baptist churches and the local Baptist Student Union, and the activities of each. This social is more organized; it includes entertainment, a small snack, and, most important, the students meeting with the personnel of the local churches. The entire function, except for the meetings, is held in the rear yard when the weather permits; the groups of students for the meetings are brought into the building. During the last few years more than one hundred people have attended each social. The number may vary greatly due to fluctuations in enrollment at the university.

6. After the evening services in the churches on Sunday evenings, the Baptist Student Union sponsors an hour for "singspiration". During this hour students gather to sing praise to God. A fellowship circle is

Present Baptist Student Union in Charlottesville

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formed for this function. At the present time "singspiration" is held in the Baptist Student Center once a month; on the remaining Sundays it is held in the University Baptist Church. Usually sixty to eighty participate wherever the service is held.

**SECTION SIX**

**Present Baptist Student Center**

## Present Baptist Student Center

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The building now being used by the Baptist Student Union in Charlottesville is a three-story frame house built some fifty years ago. It has been used by the Baptist Student Union since 1949. Previously the building was condemned by the city because of inadequate structure. To make the structure usable for a student center, the Baptist Student center braced the foundation walls with the addition of earth on the interior side, filled the chimney with concrete, and braced the wood framing system with large wooden beams.

The first floor and the basement are the only portions of the building open to the public. The second and third floors contain five rooms and a bath each. These rooms on the upper floors are used as dormitory space; they are rented to men students from the university. The building is overly large to house the Baptist Student Union alone. For this reason the extra area is rented to allow an income from what otherwise would be wasted space. The Student Secretary also has his sleeping quarters upstairs.

Since the areas used in connection with the Baptist Student Union program are of primary interest in this thesis, an analysis of the facilities and their uses is necessary.

### Lounge

Upon entering the front door one finds the main sitting room, or lounge. This lounge is the most generally used room in the center. The purpose of this room is to provide a place for the most informal activities in the house. In this room is located the most comfortable

## Present Baptist Student Center

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furniture, a radio-phonograph, and the latest popular and religious periodicals.

The number of square feet is approximately 250.

### Sitting Room

There is a second sitting room. This room houses most of the Baptist Student Center activities throughout the year. The activities held here are Bible study, socials, fellowship suppers, banquets, general discussion, "singspiration", and vespers during the summer months. The room is crowded when a large group comes for a banquet or for "singspiration"; for these occasions a large number of pieces of furniture are brought in. For socials this room contains card tables and a piano.

The number of square feet is 280.

### Kitchen

Behind the small sitting room is a kitchen. It contains only some wall and base cabinets, a sink, and a small range. The kitchen is used mostly for the preparation of the banquets and the fellowship suppers. Occasionally, the Student Secretary prepares his meals. The size and amount of equipment is sufficient for the preparation of the Saturday supper, but for a banquet women in the church contribute some food to help relieve the crowded conditions in the kitchen.

The number of square feet in the kitchen is 60.

### Prayer Room

For meditation and prayer for the individual, a prayer room is

## Present Baptist Student Center

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provided. There are only fifteen square feet in the room; the size is too small for the purpose it serves. One person is allowed in the room comfortably because of the area taken by a door swing and a table. It has no outside light, because it is an interior room.

### Office

The office in the student center acts as the Student Secretary's work room. Here he transacts official business with members of the Baptist churches and with businessmen, and he has conferences with the students and student organizations. The executive council holds its meetings in this room; the members of the council form a group around the Secretary's desk.

The office also acts as a library with the shelves placed against the walls. One disadvantage is found with the location of the library in the office; chances are that if the Student Secretary is out of the building for a while, the office is apt to be locked. Thus the student may not always have the opportunity to borrow a book. Those people who borrow books usually take them home rather than read the books while in the student center.

The number of square feet is 220.

### Game Room

The game room is located in the basement away from the more quiet elements of the building. The only game in the room is ping pong; no extra area is available in the room for other games.

The number of square feet is 210.

## Present Baptist Student Center

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### Work Room

The work room is also a basement room. The literature and the posters published by the Baptist Student Union are prepared here. A newspaper is printed about four times during the year, and posters are made only for banquets and special programs.

Once a month in the work room the greater council meets. All the members of the council may not sit at the tables because there is not enough room. Usually just the committee heads use the tables to take notes.

The number of square feet is 210.

### Toilet and Washroom Facilities

The ladies' toilet facilities are located on the first floor. Included with them is a coat room.

For the men, toilet facilities are furnished on the upper floors in the dormitory area. Insufficient coat room space is furnished for both groups.

### Miscellaneous

For the pleasure and convenience of all who come to the student center there is a concession corner which has a soft-drink machine and a candy counter.

Because of the intersection of two primary highways, the noise factor is great at the present location. No buffer zone against the noise is possible since the building is located close to the street.

### Present Baptist Student Center

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Parking facilities are at a premium in the immediate area of the center. Six parking spaces are available in the street in front of the building. Two one-way streets form the sides of this city block; limited parking spaces are on these streets. No parking facilities may be allotted on the property because of the size of the lot.

Accessibility to the present student center is fairly good. The student coming from the university dormitories or academic buildings must set aside fifteen to twenty minutes so that he will arrive on time for a meeting at the student center. The student nurses from the hospital are within ten minutes walking distance. Students who live in the Copeley Hill housing project usually take twenty minutes to walk the distance to the student center. Bus service to and from downtown may be obtained on three routes; the ride takes seven minutes.

The location is generally bad. The student center is not at the crossroads of any of the student's daily paths. The student does not see or come in contact with the center on his way to meals, to get his laundry, or to go to the movies. The nearest theater to the university is between the student center and the campus; students who attend movies downtown ride on the bus or in a car. Students do pass the student center on their way to Sunday services at the University Baptist Church.

**SECTION SEVEN**

**Proposed Baptist Student Union Program**

### Proposed Baptist Student Union Program

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An analysis of the proposed Baptist Student Union program in Charlottesville shows that the basic aim to enroll more students into the denominational program will remain unchanged. However, the approach and the means used to accomplish this basic aim may vary over a period of time.

The proposed program, as stated by the Student Secretary, shows that the activities for the evenings Monday through Saturday will remain as described in the existing program. One change is planned for the evening hours; the "singspiration" hour will be held in the proposed student center on every Sunday evening. This action will help the overall student program become more united, successful, and inspirational. These three qualities may be achieved if the university students from the three Baptist churches participate in a single program.

A second change in the program may be possible. It would be the introduction of two new services, a Morning Watch service and a Noonday meditation service. These new activities would be informal in nature and would have an estimated twenty-five participants.

If the size of the proposed site permits, the Saturday evening suppers and socials will be held occasionally in an out-of-doors area during the summer months. To allow for these functions, proper and adequate equipment should be provided.

The attendance at all the Baptist Student Union functions is expected to increase about fifty per cent. Justification of this assumed figure was based primarily on an expected increase in the enrollment of the university and the school of nursing over a period of years. Secondly, a

Proposed Baptist Student Union Program

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new location and a new physical plant would influence new members to affiliate themselves with the Baptist Student Union.

**SECTION EIGHT**

**Typical Practical Requirements of a**

**Baptist Student Center**

### Practical Requirements (Typical)

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The location of the student center in relation to the students who participate in the program is of extreme importance. Only through a good location can the Baptist Student Union serve to a greater extent its purpose of giving the students in colleges and schools an informal religious education. The student center then becomes the heart of the organization. A student center should be designed for use during both the day and the evening hours. Entrances should be located in a prominent place. Throughout the building a feeling of warmth and attractiveness is important for an informal atmosphere.

Considerable thought must be given to appropriate landscaping. Proper and skillful landscaping is important to the beauty of the building; it must define the area designated for functions carried on out-of-doors. Privacy for these socials can be gained by proper landscaping.

### Offices

To administer the Baptist Student Union the Student Secretary requires adequate office space. The type of work done by the Student Secretary can be classified in three categories: business with church officials and businessmen, general affairs of the Baptist Student Union, and counseling with students. To have the office function properly two office areas are recommended; for the general business and the Baptist Student Union affairs an outer office is adequate. Both students and visitors who enter the building should have good accessibility to this office. No supervision from the office is necessary for the activities of the Baptist Student Union; supervision of the front entrance is recommended

### Practical Requirements (Typical)

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to control general deliveries and strangers who do not know the physical plan of the student center. This office should contain a desk, some office chairs, filing cabinets, storage space, and a closet. If a receptionist-secretary is warranted, an additional office may be considered as part of the requirements.

The second office area recommended is a counseling room. Its main purpose is to provide a quiet area for the Student Secretary to have a private meeting with one student or a small group of students. This room should have a cheerful feeling and should lack the official look. A cheerful room is good psychologically for the person asking for advice.

### Lounge

A lounge is one of the most important requirements of a student center; a lounge affords a place for the quiet and informal activities of a college student. He may participate in general discussion with other students, read recent periodicals, or listen to the radio-phonograph. A warm and informal atmosphere is necessary. To achieve this atmosphere a domestic character can be created; low ceilings, slightly subdued lights, light colors, and open fenestration are elements of a domestic character. Upholstered furniture is recommended for a lounge.

### Meeting Rooms

During the week groups congregate for vesper services and Bible study. These meetings should have a quiet atmosphere; therefore, the areas reserved for them should have a location free from the noise of other functions in the building. The atmosphere suggested by the room

### Practical Requirements (Typical)

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should be semi-formal. Low ceilings, open fenestration, and light colors are recommended for these areas, but the lights may be more direct than in the lounge. The types of groupings suggested are semi-circular for vesper services and circular for Bible study so as to allow for discussion.

### Chapel

In some Baptist Student Union organizations the use of a chapel is warranted. The usual reason for the presence of a chapel in a student center is due to the program of the local Baptist church; if the church sponsors few services, the Baptist Student Union will try to supplement the need for them. Then, too, those organizations that have a large attendance at vesper services must resort to a chapel or an auditorium.

### Prayer Room

The purpose of a prayer room is to provide a place for quiet and private meditation. Many student centers now in use have a large prayer room which may double as a conference or committee room. By allowing an entirely different type of function to interfere with the use of a prayer room, the purpose of the room has been defeated.

The size of the room may vary. It can be planned to accommodate a small group if necessary. The size will depend upon the local situation; the variables in the local situation may be the frequency of student use, the nearness to the campus, and the type of students. The furnishings of the prayer room are few: chairs and a point of interest for the worshiper. The lighting and the point of interest are the most important items to be

### Practical Requirements (Typical)

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considered. The intensity of light in the front of the room should be more than that in the seating area. Above all, the worship center must be changeable. People have a variety of daily challenges; different worship centers may help the individual become more inspired or to have new religious experiences. The location of a prayer room should be away from the noisier elements of the building.

### Library

A library in a Baptist Student Union should house and make available books and periodicals for religious reading. Because of the small range of reading material only a small stack area is necessary. A reading room is necessary; comfortable chairs should be provided. The library should be a beautiful and quiet room with attractive shelving; it should carry through the theme of the student center--one of common fellowship and relaxation. Reading alcoves are not necessary; not enough people will use the library at one time to warrant them.

Fenestration is a most important item. The book shelves should be placed so as to allow the windows to be brought to the reader's eye level. Many readers like to look into the distance to relieve their eyes of possible strain.

### Council Room

The council room is the business room for the students. In this room the executive council and the greater council meet. The requirements for a council room depend upon the number of members in the

## Practical Requirements (Typical)

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greater council since it is the larger of the two.

### Work Room

A work room is used as a place to produce the necessary posters and literature to help encourage a better Baptist Student Union. The room should contain filing cabinets, shelves, a typewriter, a mimeograph machine, and adequate table space for working.

### Recreation Room

The game room is the noisiest element in the student center. In some cases it may be the largest. The games recommended for each student center depend upon several variables: money, other available recreational facilities, and the types and number of members in the Baptist Student Center. During the day hours the game room is one of the important elements in the student center, especially if the center is on or near the campus. It helps the student fill the vacant class hours during the day. The equipment should be set up at all times.

### Kitchen

The size of the kitchen and its requirements are based upon the amount of cooking done in a student center. Most student centers usually serve no more than one meal per week to a group. The amount of cooking equipment needed will depend upon the number of people who attend the large suppers during the year. If snacks are to be served at socials, the kitchen should be near the area used for the socials.

## Practical Requirements (Typical)

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### Dining Area

Few student centers have a definite area devoted only to dining. The usual practice is to combine the dining area with the recreational area or the area devoted to socials. An out-of-doors dining area may be introduced into the plan. If both inside and outside dining areas are used, they should be adjacent to each other. The kitchen should be near both dining areas.

### Apartment for the Student Secretary

The size of the apartment may vary because of several reasons: the marital status of the Student Secretary and, if he is married, the size of his family. The areas of the elements of the apartment should be minimum. The ideal location of an apartment is away from the student center; this allows the psychological association with the center to be broken at times.

### Apartment for the Caretaker

As noted in the preceding paragraph, the requirements for an apartment for the Student Secretary may vary greatly; for this reason it would be better to have the Student Secretary find an apartment or home to satisfy his needs more fully. A caretaker's apartment may then be substituted for the Secretary's apartment. This arrangement would furnish a place for one or two students to live; they would be able to earn their rent by cleaning and caring for the student center. The requirements of a caretaker's apartment are a bedroom area, bathing facilities, and an area for studying if students are to occupy the apartment.

## Practical Requirements (Typical)

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### Dormitory Facilities

Dormitory facilities may be incorporated into the design of a student center. The rooms would be rented to students in the local school or college. This practice of having dormitory facilities generally is considered impractical because of many variables, e.g., fluctuations of college enrollment, possible changes in college regulations as to where students may live, and the sex of the majority of the students in the school or college.

Included in these facilities are sleeping areas, toilet and bathing areas, and a small private lounge. The sleeping rooms may be private or semi-private; it is recommended that there be a limit of two students per room. The sleeping areas should be light and airy with consideration given to orientation with respect to the sun and prevailing breezes. If these facilities are to be included in the student center, they should have a direct access to the outside separate from the one leading to the public area of the student center.

### Miscellaneous Facilities

Lavatories must be provided. They should be located in an easily accessible, yet rather inconspicuous, place. A coat room should be provided adjacent to the lavatories.

An extra requirement in a student center is a refreshment area. It need only have a soft-drink machine and a candy booth.

A general storage area is another necessity. This affords a place to store foldable chairs and tables, out-of-doors equipment, and similar items.

A  
BAPTIST STUDENT CENTER  
FOR  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

**SECTION NINE**

**Proposed Site for Baptist Student Center**

### Proposed Site for Baptist Student Center

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The location of the proposed site is in the western section of the city; it is much nearer to the university than the present site is. The new student center is to be on a corner lot. Two residences adjoin the site, one to the east and one to the north. The lot to the east is classified as a business lot, as is the proposed site, under the existing zoning laws. Across Chancellor Street is the St. Paul Episcopal Church, and directly across Main Street are the grounds of the University of Virginia.

In this location the student center will be along some of the daily paths of the students at the university; many students will pass it on their way to the movies, the laundry offices, or to meals. The work of the Baptist Student Union demands that students have good accessibility to the center from all student areas on the campus. The site selected fulfills this requirement well. First, it is within five to ten minutes walking distance from the academic buildings and the dormitories. Second, the student nurses at the University Hospital may walk to the proposed center in five minutes. Third, the students who live in the Copeley Hill housing project are ten minutes away from the student center in walking distance.

The amount of noise near the student center will be reduced to a large extent as compared with the present location. The reduction of the noise will be the result of a smaller amount of traffic that passes the site. The traffic on Chancellor Street is light.

Parking facilities can be increased for students and visitors by

Proposed Site for Baptist Student Center

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allotting sufficient space on the property; the ideal situation is not to rely upon the street for parking area. The amount of vehicular traffic to the student center will be small relative to the amount of pedestrian traffic by students and visitors.



- 1 — PRESENT STUDENT CENTER
- 2 — PROPOSED STUDENT CENTER
- 3 — NURSES' HOME
- 4 — MEN'S DORMITORIES
- 5 — FRESHMEN DORMS (MEN)
- 6 — WOMEN'S DORMITORIES
- 7 — RESTAURANTS, LAUNDRY OFFICES, AND OTHER BUSINESS PLACES
- 8 — MOVIE
- 9 — UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

MAP OF UNIVERSITY AREA



CHANCELLOR AVENUE

MAIN STREET

PLOT PLAN

PROPOSED BAPTIST STUDENT CENTER



SCALE - IN. FEET

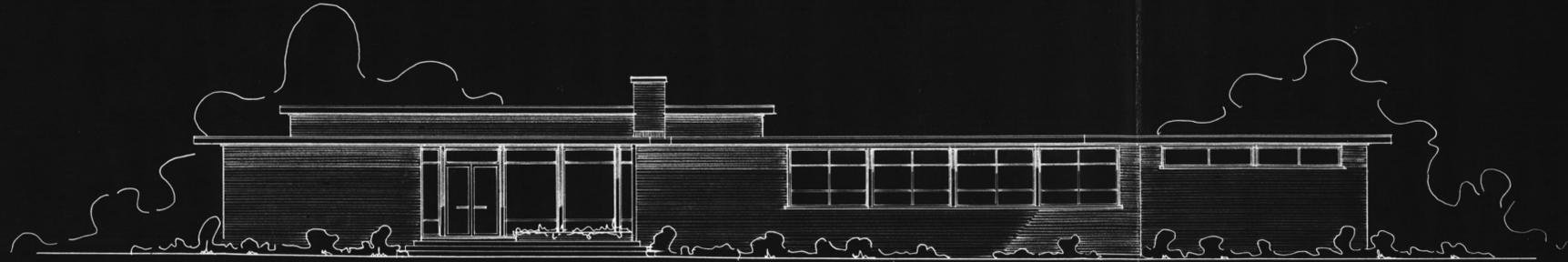


FLOOR PLAN

PROPOSED BAPTIST STUDENT CENTER

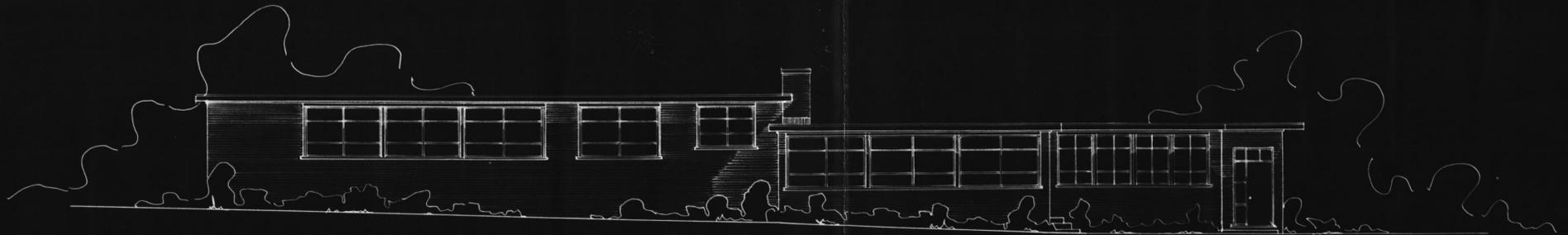
2 1 0 2 4 6 8 10

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



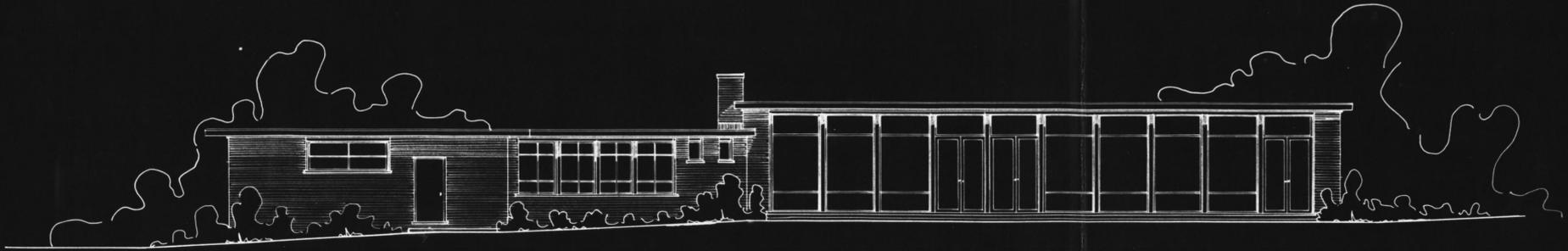
SOUTH ELEVATION

FROM MAIN STREET  
2 10 2 4 6 8 10  
SCALE IN FEET



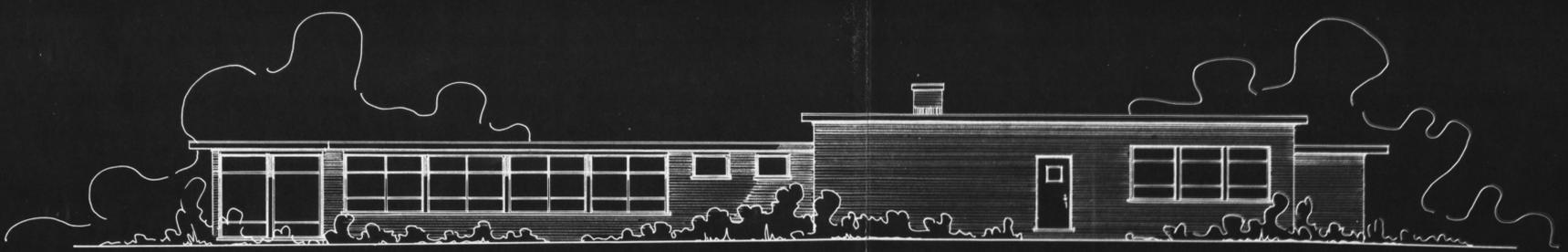
WEST ELEVATION

FROM CHANCELLOR STREET  
2 10 2 4 6 8 10  
SCALE IN FEET



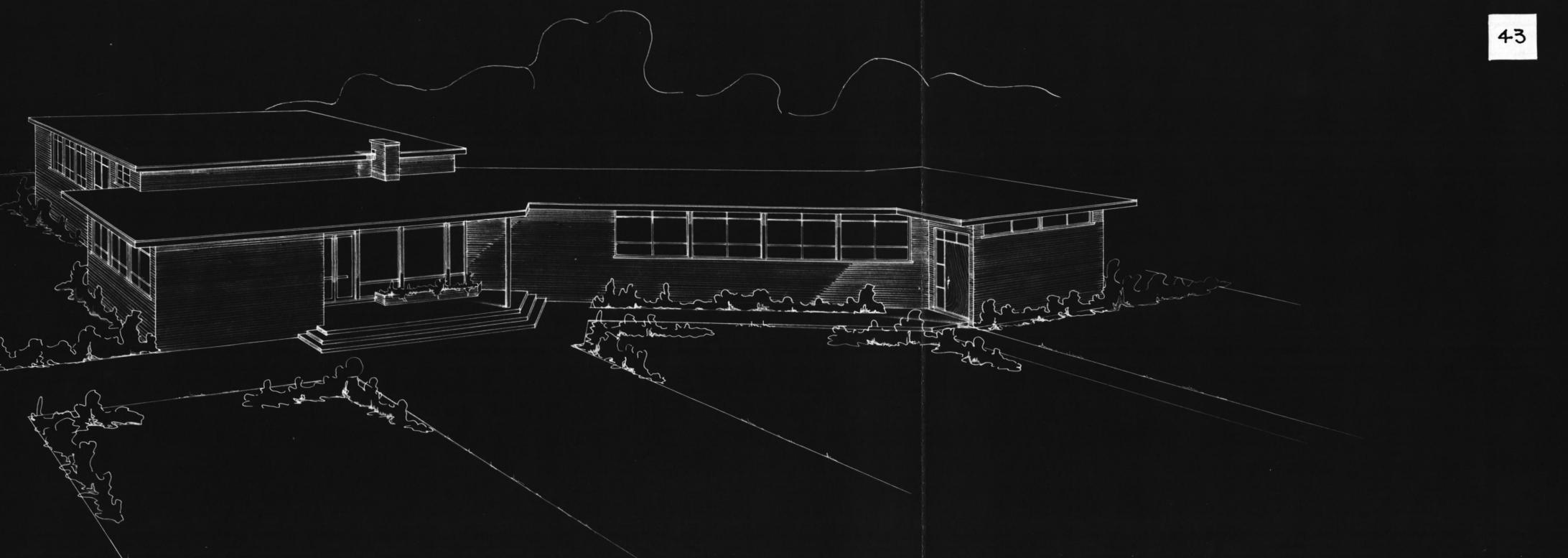
EAST ELEVATION

2 10 2 4 6 8 10  
SCALE IN FEET



NORTH ELEVATION

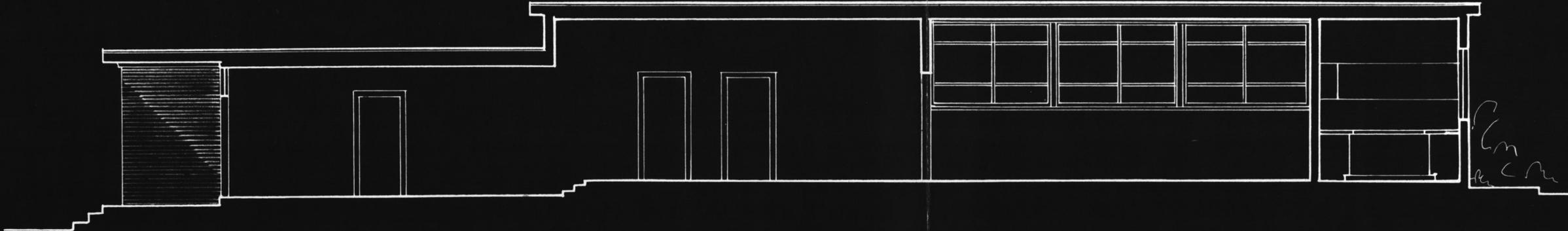
2 10 2 4 6 8 10  
SCALE IN FEET



PERSPECTIVE FROM MAIN STREET

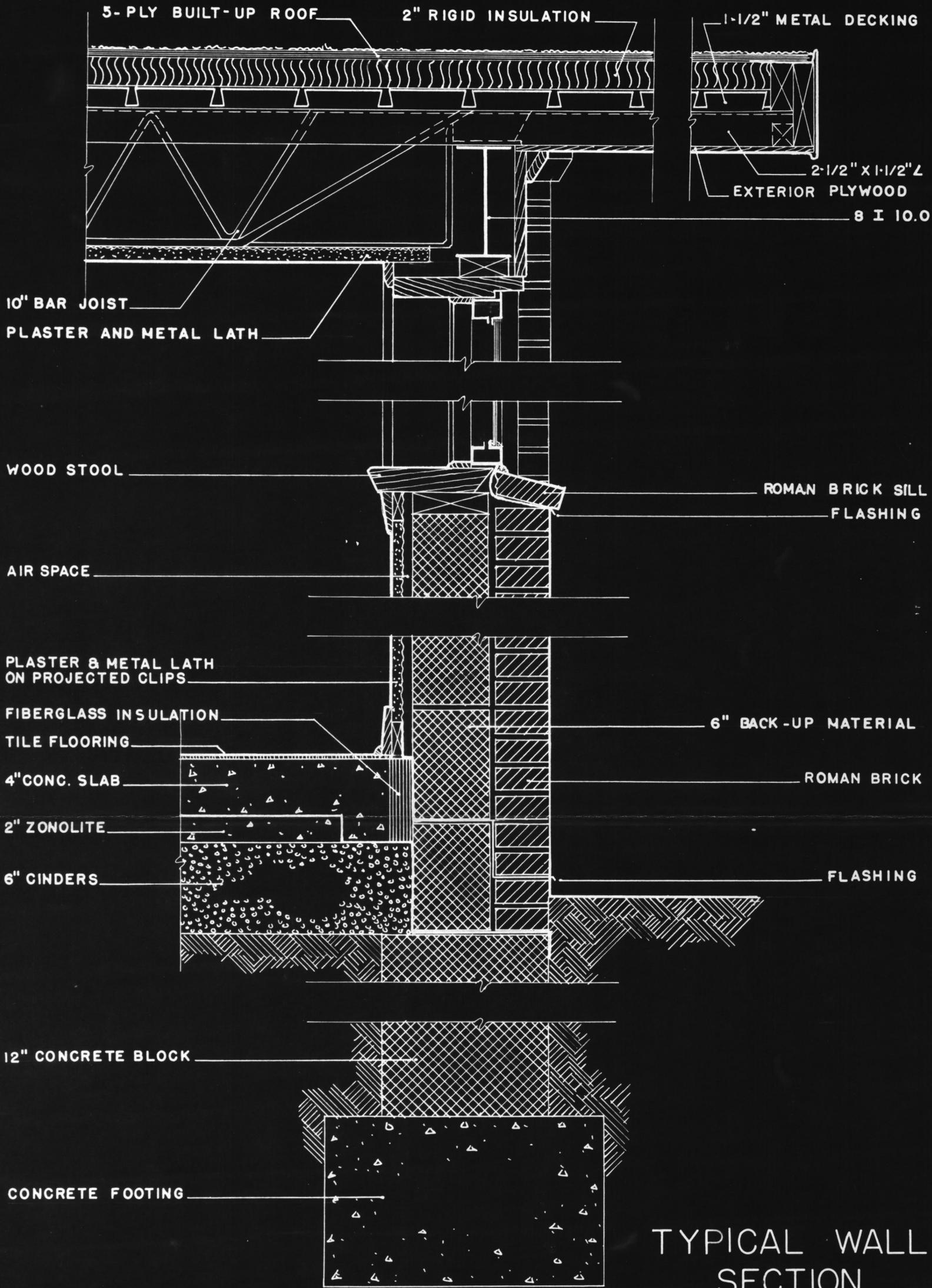


PERSPECTIVE OF TERRACE



LONGITUDINAL SECTION





TYPICAL WALL SECTION

SCALE · 1-1/2" = 1'-0"

**SECTION TEN**

**Design Analysis of the Proposed**

**Baptist Student Center**

## Design Analysis

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Several schemes for the design of a proposed Baptist Student Center for Charlottesville were considered before the final selection was made. The elements shown in the final design are the same as those considered in the initial schemes. Factors that affected the design are as follows:

1. Development of the entire site to best advantage.
2. Possible combinations of functions and areas.
3. Separation of the noisy elements from the quiet elements.

## Entries

The front entry is designed to allow a feeling of openness and flexibility to prevail. The elements of the student center are grouped around the entry hall, thus allowing easy accessibility to all extremes of the building. One primary entrance to the public areas is desired in order that some degree of control may be possible. The coat room is located to the right of the front entrance.

A rear entrance is available to those few people who may come to the student center in an automobile.

## Office Suite

The office suite is in a good location. The Student Secretary's office is in such a position that a person may come to it easily from all portions of the building. From his office the Student Secretary has good supervision of the entrance and all major elements of the student center. A tack board for notes and notices is immediately outside the office; this location insures that all the Baptist Student Union members will notice the board, and that the Student Secretary has

## Design Analysis

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good proximity to the board so that he may post notices with little effort.

The second office (or counsel room) is directly off the Student Secretary's office; it is in such a position that no disturbance from the other functions in the building is possible. Adjacent to both offices are a private lavatory and a coat closet.

### Lounge

A person finds upon entering the student center that the lounge is the most noticeable element of the building since the entry hall and the lounge are separated by no physical barriers. The lounge also possesses an open feeling because of the large amount of fenestration facing the terrace. The lounge, in extreme cases when an excessive number of people attend a banquet or social, may be used to accommodate the extra people from the recreation and social room.

The character of the lounge is dictated by the informal activities that are carried on there. Two conversational groups, one small and one large, are formed with upholstered furniture to achieve an informal atmosphere. The colors of the partitions, walls, and ceiling are in light tones while the pieces of furniture are in slightly darker colors. A planting box in the rear of the lounge will help to maintain a fresh appearance in the room.

### Prayer Room

The prayer room is large enough for only a few people. This room is designed to be private and to be void of the interference of other functions.

## Design Analysis

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The selection of a worship center for the prayer room is to be determined by a committee or the Student Secretary. The room is easily accessible from the entry hall by those who will want to come to the student center for a few minutes of prayer.

### Library

The library is planned to accommodate about 260 lineal feet of books. The designed space allows two persons to sit comfortably in the room and read. Few seats are furnished in the library because most people take the books home to read rather than read them in the student center.

### Work and Council Room

This room is to be used primarily for council meetings. A large table is furnished so that all the members of the executive council may have adequate writing area. When the greater council meets, those in charge of the committees may sit at the table and take notes while the members of the committees sit away from the table in foldable chairs.

A work area is included in this room for two reasons: much working area for typewriting and mimeographing is available on the large table, and, secondly, the extra floor area may be used to set up small tables upon which such work as cutting and painting may be done.

### Recreation and Social Room

The recreation and social room is another dual-purpose area. Ping-pong tables and card tables are set up for use during the day and evening

## Design Analysis

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hours of the week-days. On Saturday evenings the recreational equipment may be moved to allow adequate area for the suppers and socials.

A storage wall is provided in this room to store the ping-pong tables, foldable chairs, tables, soft-drink cases, and other equipment. Included on the same wall as the storage area is the concession booth.

### Kitchen

The kitchen is located in such a position that it will not conflict with the other functions of the building. Service to the kitchen is obtained through the rear door; garbage may be taken through this door to the container at the rear of the lot. When suppers are held on the terrace, food may be taken directly across the recreation room to the outside area. However, much of the food for fellowship suppers which are held on the terrace during the summer months will be prepared on an out-of-doors grille. The kitchen contains a refrigerator, a double sink, a range, and a large amount of cupboard space.

### Meeting Room

Two meeting areas are provided in the room. This arrangement facilitates (1) one small meeting in a small area, (2) a large meeting in the whole area, and (3) two small meetings in both areas. The furniture arrangements are designed for informal meetings and discussion groups. The meeting areas are placed away from the larger elements, such as the lounge and the recreation area, because not all the people who come to the student center will attend a meeting which happens to be in process at the time;

## Design Analysis

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those people who do not attend the meetings will probably create various disturbances not wanted near a vesper service or a Bible study group.

### Apartment

The apartment is designed for use only by a bachelor. This solution allows an unmarried Student Secretary to remain in the student center if he wishes. Secondly, this solution permits two students to occupy the rooms. A sleeping area, a living area, and bathing facilities are the only elements in the apartment; if the occupant wishes to prepare his meals for himself, he must go to the kitchen of the student center.

(Most bachelors eat away from their living quarters.)

As many elements as possible denoting privacy and comfort are used. The apartment has a private entrance from the street and a private terrace immediately to the rear. A built-in area is provided for storage, a radio, some bookshelves, and other built-in items.

**SECTION ELEVEN**

**Analysis of Structure  
and Mechanical Equipment**

### Analysis of Structure and Mechanical Equipment

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A conventional structural system will be used. All the exterior walls will be composed of masonry construction with four inches of face brick and six inches of cinder block. The exterior walls will carry loads caused by the dead and live loads on the roof. The ceilings will be spanned by open-web joists covered with a metal decking, two inches of rigid insulation, and a top dressing of five-ply built-up roofing. All the door and window openings will be spanned by steel lintels.

The student center will be heated by hot water, radiant floor panels from a centrally located heating room. The system will be designed as a one-zone layout since all the building will be used in its entirety more times than it will be used in portions.

Domestic hot water will be provided by two heaters. The water for the facilities in the front of the building will be heated in a tank in the utility room; water for the kitchen will be heated by an electric table top style water heater.

**SECTION TWELVE**

**Conclusions and Summary**

## Conclusions and Summary

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At the time of this writing, Baptist Student Unions in the state of Virginia are using old buildings that were designed for other purposes. Most important, these buildings, in general, are not located near the local college or school. These organizations are losing members by using buildings that are old and that are ineffectively located. The members of the Virginia Baptist Convention must be shown that good buildings and good locations are necessary for the fulfillment of the purpose of the Baptist Student Unions.

It is believed by the author of this thesis that the proposed Baptist Student Center for Charlottesville would intensify the possibilities of a greater and more complete religious education for the students of Baptist preference at the University of Virginia. It is also believed by the author that student centers designed for student activities should be analyzed qualitatively and, lastly, quantitatively.

**SECTION THIRTEEN**

**Bibliography**



**SECTION FOURTEEN**

**Vita**

**The vita has been removed from  
the scanned document**