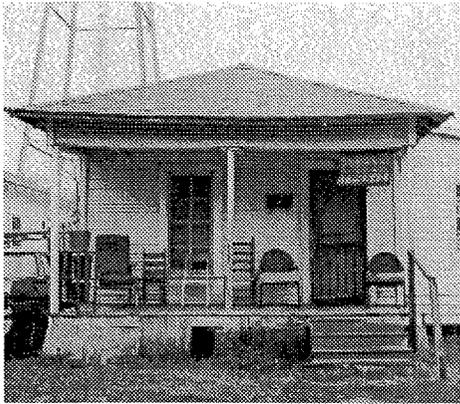




The Baptist Town Community



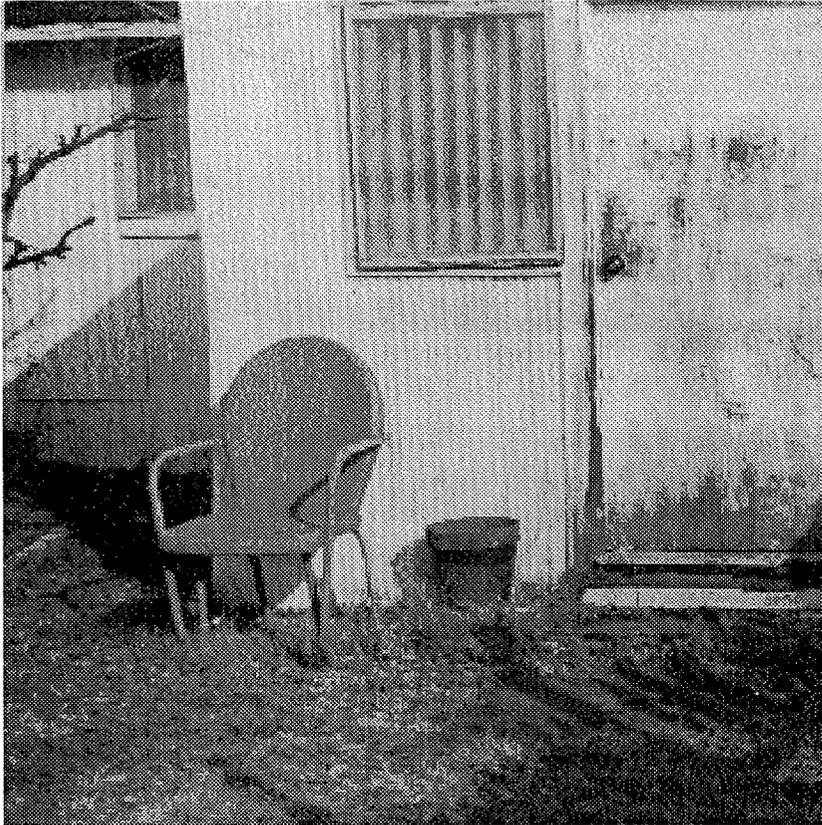
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We would first like to thank Fred Carl, the President and CEO of Viking Range Corporation, for bringing the Baptist Town community to our attention and for his civic vision. Mr. Carl's commitment, time and resources offered toward a bright future for Baptist Town and Greenwood are most inspiring.

Also, we would like to thank the residents of the Baptist Town community for their support and encouragement throughout the project. They opened their doors and allowed us to enter their lives photographing, sketching and documenting aspects of the neighborhood. This project would not have been possible without the input and support of all those who attended the community meetings, talked with the students and faculty, answered surveys and provided constructive feedback.

We also want to express special thanks to Dr. Pauline Pearson-Stamps for her wonderful encouragement, support and input throughout the project. Her unending enthusiasm and commitment to the Baptist Town Community motivated everyone.

We thank the City of Greenwood representatives for information and their insight into issues of the neighborhood. Nick Joseph, chief administrating officer, and Melvin Harris of the City of Greenwood Building Department have contributed important details to this report.

This document is the result of many hands working together.

Introduction

Baptist Town is a community of families, which was once vibrant but is now declining. The Baptist Town Community is in Greenwood on the eastern edge of Mississippi's Delta. Unemployment and poverty abound. Facilities and homes are in desperate need of repair and renovation to accommodate the community's and each family's current needs. Many families have outgrown their homes; many need training to overcome their unemployment; and the community needs a set of improvements around which to rally. The community has the desire to improve its lot, and it hasn't lost its ability to dream. There are also positive components that current facilities provide, such as the community socialization that occurs on the homes' front porches. The following study documents that desire and these positive features and it sets out recommendations for improvements.

In the spring of 2000, with the support of the Greenwood-based Viking Range Corporation and its President and CEO, Fred Carl, Jr., the entire Third Year studio class of the School of Architecture at Mississippi State University, under the supervision of faculty and the Dean of the School, became involved with this community. The students and the faculty met with and worked with the community to identify critical areas of concern with which they might assist those living in Baptist Town. On numerous occasions throughout the semester, they met with the residents of this community of twelve homes to discuss the issues confronted by its members, their concerns and their needs, individually and collectively as a community. The class also sought input from various other contributors, including those serving with governmental agencies, civic leaders, and faculty from other institutions. These investigations and the study of the community's history and its pride set the context for the students' design investigations and the resulting recommendations.

After identifying the community's and individual family's needs and dreams, the studio class set out to provide input regarding three critical areas of concern:

1. community-wide planning;
2. the addition of a new community center; and,
3. the renovation of the existing housing stock.

The following report outlines the improvements proposed to address the community's concern about safety, its need for affordable and reasonable housing that accommodates its individual family needs, and its need for community facilities to provide educational

support and employment advice and to house a series of youth activities.

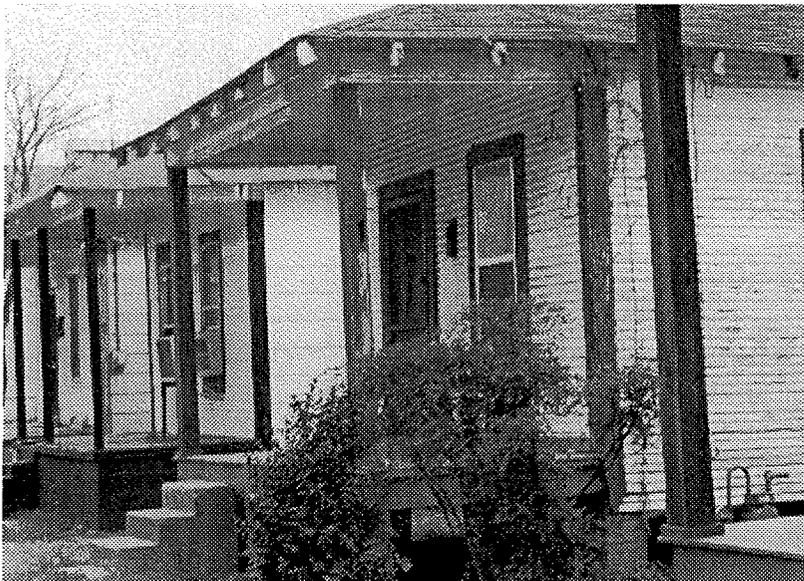
The community-wide planning took into consideration the impact that vehicular traffic and parking can have on a community and the need for a more formal, safe pathway system through the community and the identification of play lots for the children. A series of proposed pathways are presented here.

One of the community's top priorities is a new community center. The students worked with the community to identify the issues that might best be addressed through a new community center, and they investigated several sites for this new facility. They developed a program of spatial requirements to address the community's issues at a community center, and they designed facilities to respond to a large number of community concerns. The following report outlines several designs for the new community center.

The current housing consists of shotgun-style buildings, several of which have been abandoned and most of which are falling into disrepair. These three-room houses don't begin to meet the needs for the families that occupy them, including several multi-generational families. In this study, the students make some fascinating recommendations and look at alternative ways to respond to the current needs of the families.

This report ends with a series of Appendices that document city ordinances that apply to the improvement of the community's condition, various applicable home improvement techniques, case studies of two similar communities which have been redeveloped in Jackson, MS, a listing of various funding sources, and a variety of briefs and articles relevant, in particular, to the renovation of structures determined to be historically significant, as are many of the properties in Baptist Town.

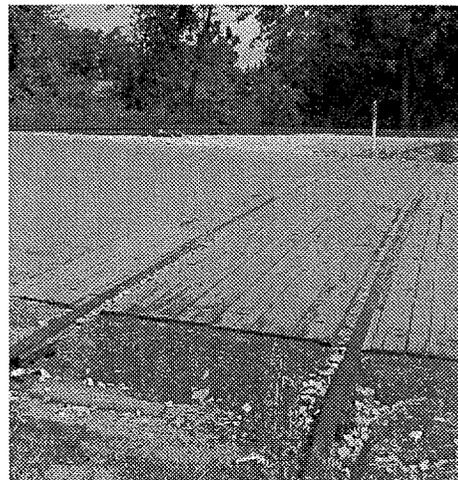
Baptist Town is a community in need, but rich in spirit.



History of Baptist Town and Greenwood

The land surrounding the Greenwood community was once tangled swamp and forest. In 1830, the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek was signed, allowing white settlers to develop the land once owned by the Choctaw Indians (1). The fertile swamp land became rich farming soil suitable for cotton production. Because of the intersection of the Tallahatchie and Yazoo Rivers, Greenwood developed into a prominent shipping port sending cotton crops down the Mississippi to New Orleans (2). In 1871, Leflore County was formed from portions of Carroll, Sunflower, and Tallahatchie counties, and Greenwood was named the county seat (3). The Columbus & Greenville Railway Company and the Illinois Central Railroad were formed with a junction in the center of Greenwood. The railroads changed Greenwood's emphasis from a shipping port to a rail-oriented distribution point, extending the town's influence to a wider number of cities, large and small (4). The introduction of the cotton gin and compresses, cotton oil mills, and lumber mills added agriculture-related industries to the Greenwood community. In 1932, a flood covered the entire town with water overflowing the banks of the two rivers (5). In response, various industries began to adjust to the changing economy.

McKinley Chapel was organized May 19, 1889, the Baptist church was built in 1891, and the neighborhood grew around the Baptist chapel. Zaddock W. Davis was the founder of the chapel. A.C.



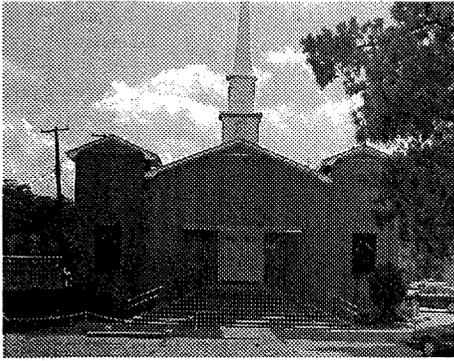
The Illinois Central Railroad and the Columbus & Greenville Railroad were built in the early 1880's, and now serve as boundaries around the Baptist Town community.

Footnotes:

- 1 "Leflore County Mississippi Centennial 1871-1971"
- 2 "Greenwood's History." Greenwood Commonwealth
- 3 "Greenwood's History." Greenwood Commonwealth
- 4 "Greenwood's History." Greenwood Commonwealth
- 5 "Leflore County Mississippi Centennial 1871-1971"

1998 Aerial Photo of Baptist Town





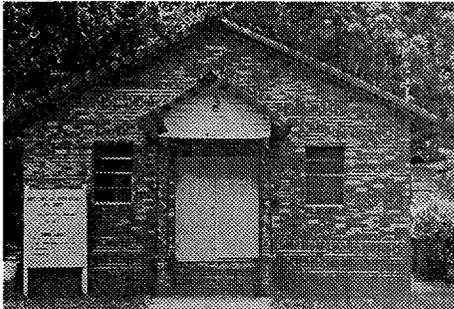
The congregation of McKinley Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was established on May 19, 1889, and the church itself was built in 1891. During the years of 1956 and 1959 the building was remodeled and renovated to its current state.

6 Stamps, Pauline Pearson. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.

7 Harris, Fanny. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.

8 Stamps, Pauline Pearson. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.

9 Stamps, Pauline Pearson. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.



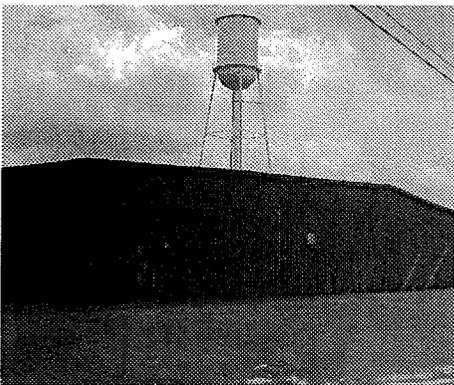
The Gospel Temple Life Center Apostolic Faith Church, located on Avenue A, traditionally had a congregation that served the Baptist Town community. The building has recently been renovated and is again being used for services.

Footnotes:

10 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta

11 Harris, Fanny. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.

12 Shakoor, Jordana Y. Civil Rights Childhood.



The Cotton Storage Building is located at the rear of the community along Avenue A. Still in use today, the building is used as local storage for cotton.

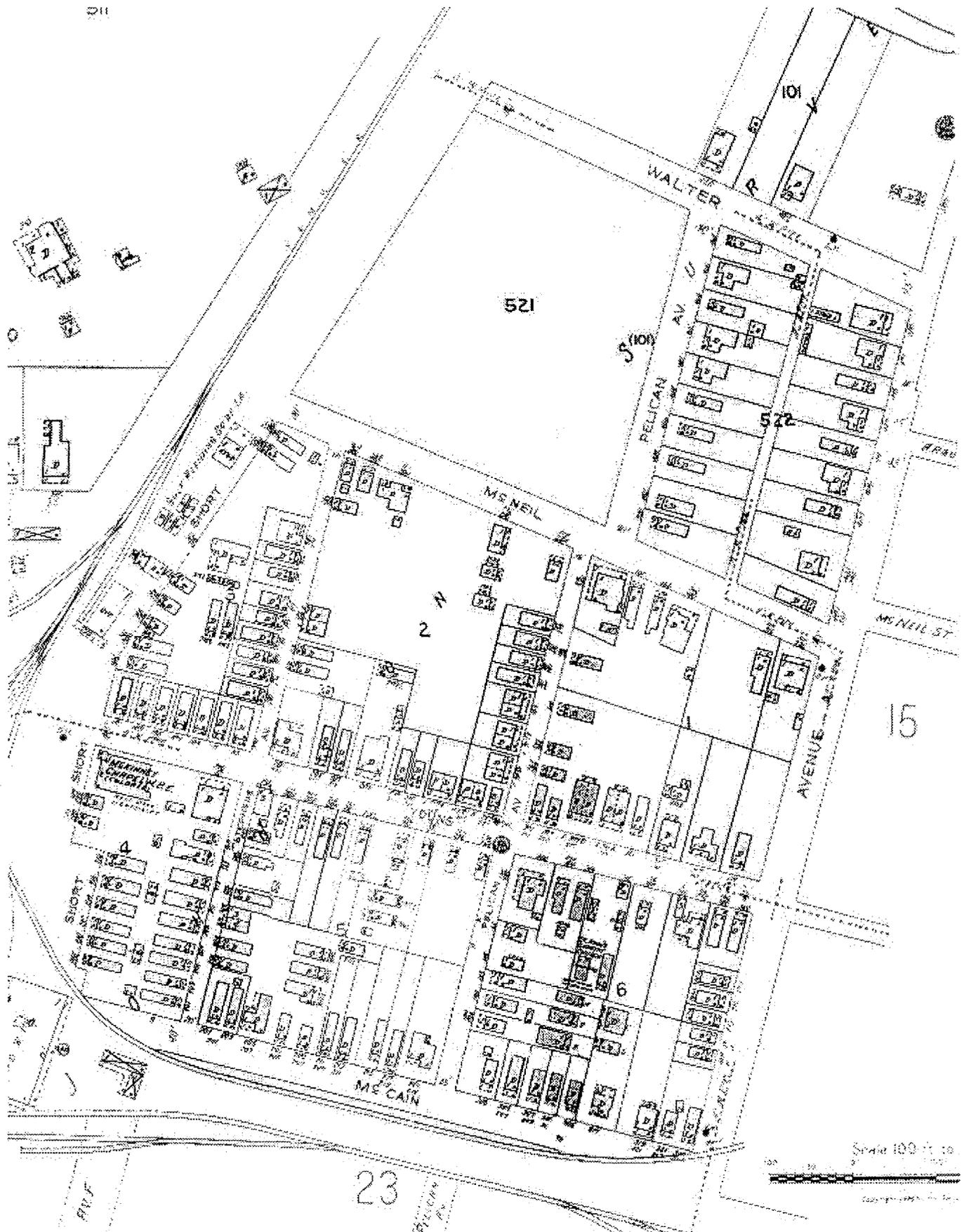
Campbell served as the first pastor. The gable-roofed, shotgun house became the defining structure in Baptist Town, and family and community spirit has run throughout the neighborhood. Life in Baptist Town in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century consisted of families who supported each other and prided themselves upon the sense of community that defined the neighborhood (6). While some families were single-parent households, the community members also helped raise the children. The adults in the neighborhood supported each other by watching all of the children as they played in the streets and alleyways, sharing food grown in the backyard gardens, and aiding each other in time of need. "The bond of community spirit tied the neighbors together into a larger family of fellowship and support."

(7)

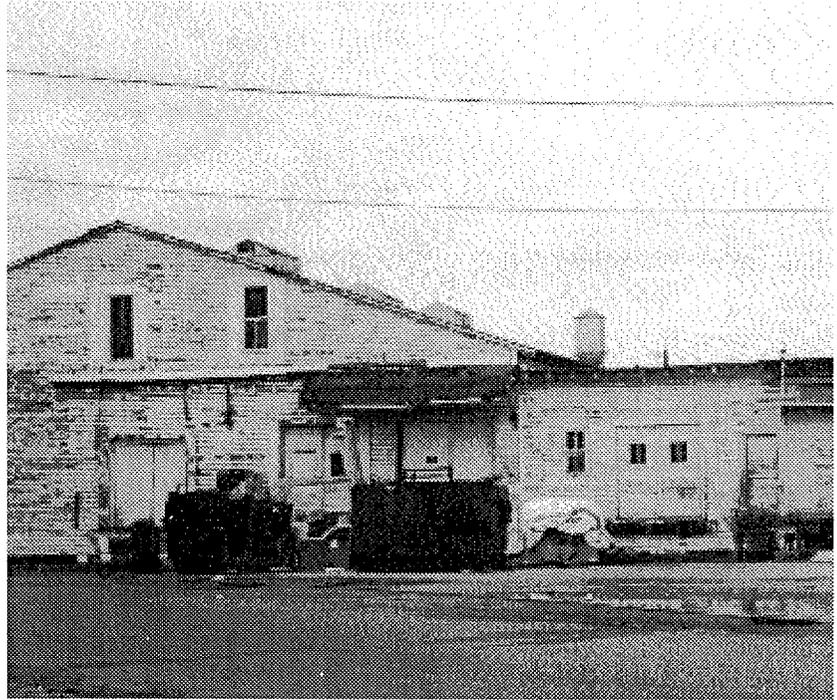
The children in Baptist Town played typical games, common to all children in the South. Favorites included playing with paper dolls, hopscotch, tea parties, mud pies, skits, baseball, basketball, and scooter and tire races (8). Usually playing in the streets, under the houses, or in the alleyways between the homes, the children were watched by various adults and cared for by all. At an early age, the youth learned basic cleaning and cooking skills and helped their parents with household chores. "Growing up, the church, family, and schoolteachers were prominent role models that helped shape the children's lives. The teachers in the local schools were very dedicated, dynamic, and devoted to the education of the children, and they were respected as an authority figure and role model." (9) In the schools, the children participated in clubs, after-school activities, and debutante societies where they were taught proper manners.

Many of the adults and children in the Baptist Town community worked in the cotton fields chopping cotton in the spring and picking cotton in the summer. Trucks would drive through the community early in the morning to pick up the workers and carry them out to the fields; "In the fall, I saw a lot of the Delta countryside, from the back of a flatbed truck...anybody who wanted a job—even town folk and children—could sign on as day labor." (10) "Most of the ladies were employed for day-work in the homes of Greenwood families where they provided various domestic skills such as cleaning, cooking, and babysitting. Men worked at the Greenwood Grocery Company, which consisted of four different warehouses around the town. Other jobs that employed residents were those of cleaners and skilled labor jobs such as mechanics, painting and carpentry." (11) The Greenwood Compress and Storage Company also employed many Baptist Town residents. Located on the edge of the community, it provided work that was only seasonal, but it also offered good wages.

The African-American communities in Greenwood experienced extreme hardships because of the racism that resulted from the actions of the white citizens in the Delta. Because of the segregation laws that guided the behavior of all people until the early 1960's, many basic rights were withheld from Greenwood's black communities. The



1926 Sanborn map of Baptist Town



Greenwood Grocery once employed many Baptist Town residents. Located on the edge of the community, the grocery was one of four warehouses located within Greenwood.

children attended separate schools, offering the black children inferior education, and they would often miss school to work in the cotton fields to help their families financially. Separate movie theaters, restaurants, grocery stores, and public restrooms isolated the black communities from the white one. "The Walthall Theater catered to both white and colored, but on alternate days. Across town, the Leflore Theater and the Paramount Theater were strictly for whites only." (12) All black people existed at the will of the white community. "We cannot safeguard you or your child, if the white men in sheets come to get you, because we can't even protect ourselves." (13) Beatings, rapes and lynchings were common trademarks associated with the times; "if you were black, you were always at the mercy of white people, and all you had in life was the hope of heaven." (14) These acts of physical abuse and murder displayed the control the white community held over the black citizens in Greenwood and throughout the South.

When The Civil Rights Movement began in Greenwood the Baptist Town community bonded together with the residents in the Grittney and Gee Pee communities, creating a national stir. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee—SNCC, The Congress of Racial Equality—CORE, and the NAACP, all entered of Greenwood during the early 1960's. Over the next decade, these organizations continued to fight for the rights of the African-American communities. The Movement unified the black communities with a spirit that began in the churches. "This is the first time I realized what the church meant to our community: a place where fairness and goodness—in short supply

Footnotes:

- 13 Shakoor, Jordana Y. Civil Rights Childhood.
- 14 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta: a memoir
- 15 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta: a memoir
- 16 "Atlanta Preacher Stirs Up Voter Registration Fervor." Commercial Appeal



Flood's Food Mart, operated by the Jue family, was a local grocery in Baptist Town. No longer a place of business, the building is located at one of the entrances into the neighborhood.

Footnotes:

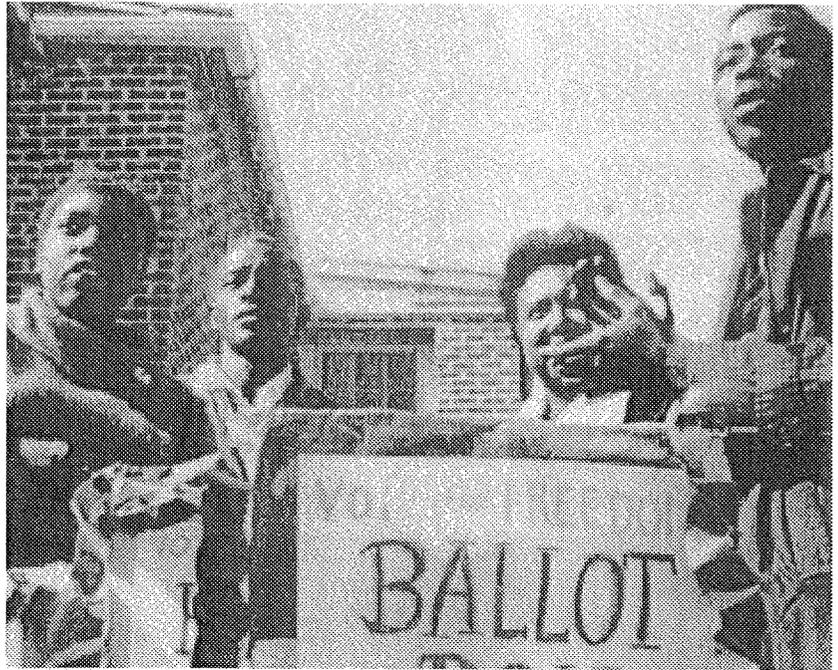
17 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta: a memoir.

18 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta: a memoir.

19 Stamps, Pauline Pearson. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.

20 Holland, Endesha Ida Mae. From the Mississippi Delta: a memoir.

21 Harris, Fanny. Personal interview. 8 June 2000.



Civil rights activists manning a mock polling center in downtown Greenwood in 1963. (20)

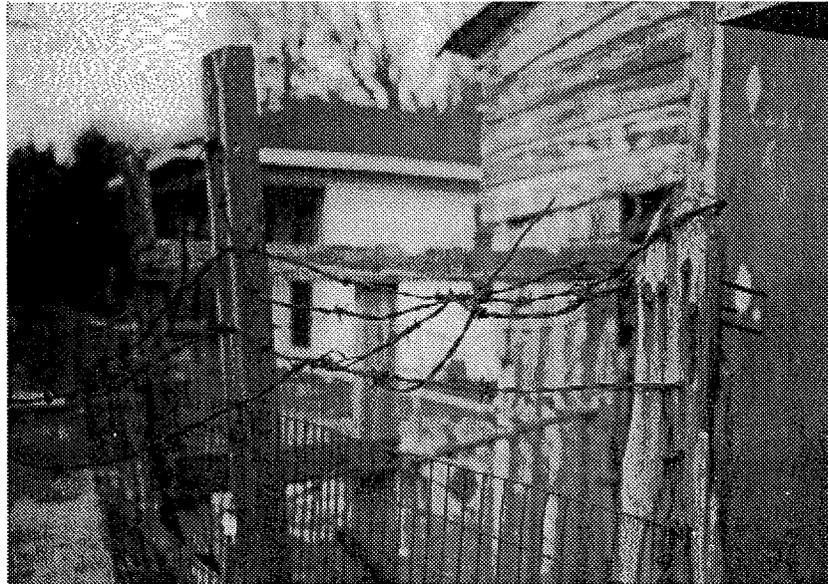
"For over a year we had been so concerned with protest marches demonstrations, passive resistance, and how to avoid being shot, bombed, and lynched that we'd all but forgotten the reason we'd been put on this earth: to love one another, even our enemies." (18) The Movement connected the community because the citizens shared a common goal. "After The Movement, minorities began to work in the downtown Greenwood business district. African-Americans became visible in government positions, police, fire, and city council jobs." (19)

"Today, Baptist Town is losing the community spirit centered on sharing, love, and kindness that once thrived in the neighborhood. Because of the large drug availability in Baptist Town and surrounding communities in Greenwood, children can easily obtain drugs, alcohol, and tobacco." (21) There are currently a number of owner-occupied homes in Baptist Town, but over half of the houses are rented. Because of the lack of home ownership in the community, a sense of pride and control over the properties is weak. Single mothers living below the poverty line occupy many of the homes. Without the support of neighbors and friends in the community, these mothers often struggle to maintain their households. Lack of employment opportunities is also a problem in Baptist Town.

With the decline of the cotton industry, unemployment continues to pull Baptist Town down. Several Baptist Town families have benefited from employment with local industries such as Viking Range, but the physical environment continues to deteriorate and offer challenges to the families who still reside in Baptist Town.

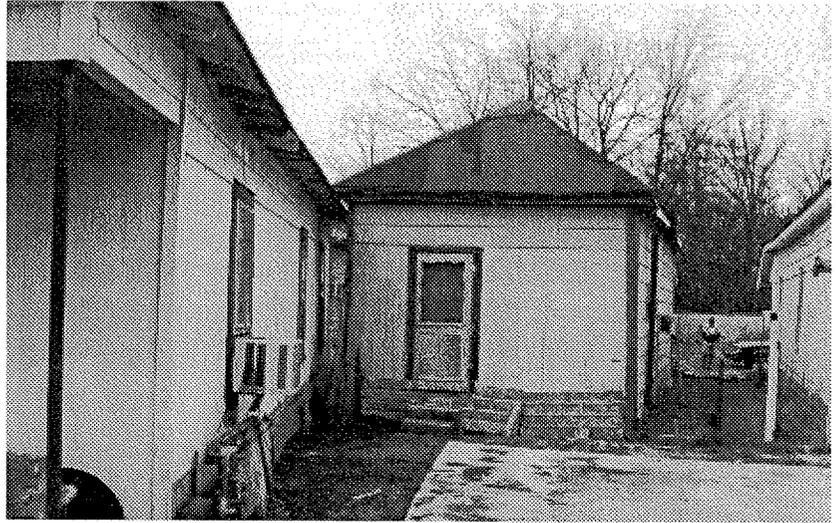
Baptist Town's Needs

In the spring of 2000, a series of meetings were held with the Baptist Town community to determine the most pressing needs of the neighborhood.



Safety

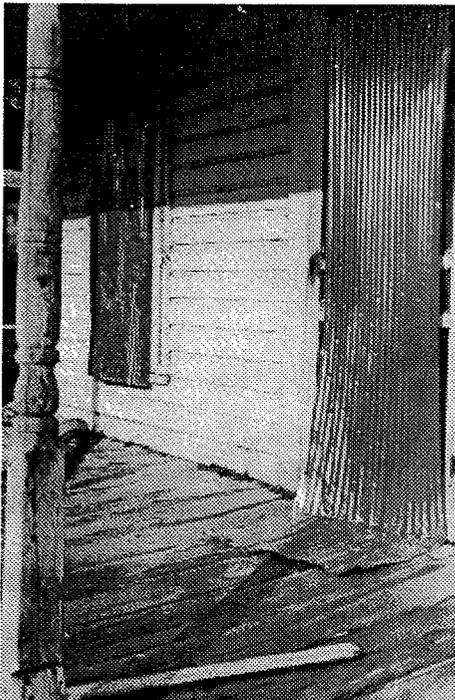
Many Baptist Town residents felt that making a safer environment in the Baptist Town Neighborhood is the most pressing issue. One resident strongly recommended that a police station be placed in Baptist Town which would increase the police presence and ultimately help to deter the local drug trade and other crime. If the City could work with this neighborhood directly, neighborhood watch programs could be developed to help community members keep the community safe for the children to play and the protect of individual properties. The residents stated that street and path lighting needed to be improved to make walking at night safer and allow property owners to monitor public spaces at night.



Housing

Much of the housing suffers from neglect and poor maintenance. Thirty percent of the housing is either owner-occupied or the owner lives in the neighborhood; the remaining housing is vacant or is owned by someone living elsewhere. There are numerous empty sites where housing has been removed due to neglect or fire.

Offering home-and-garden-maintenance educational programs would provide residents with the ability to attend to the routine maintenance of the property. Developing local volunteer programs focused upon Baptist Town housing would also improve the neighborhood; such programs as Habitat for Humanity and AmeriCorp would be good investments. Developing a space within Baptist Town where businesses and residents could donate and store building supplies would provide assistance to those wishing to improve their housing. It would be useful for the residents to have access to hand tools that they could borrow to improve their properties. Finally, developing a model housing program that would demonstrate how the houses could be made more supportive to larger family needs would be useful. The older shotgun house model is not adequate to support current family needs and lifestyles or even provide adequate privacy, and, therefore, the shotgun housing as currently configured is not marketable.



Employment

Finding and maintaining employment was among the most pressing needs identified. In our discussions, it was noted that many people from Baptist Town are not prepared for a job interview or for employment. Many felt that programs are needed to help prepare the unemployed for jobs. Job training is needed to develop fundamental computer skills, to teach how to use internet access for job opportunities and information, and to develop basic interviewing and employment skills.

Childcare for infants, toddlers, and pre-school children is needed so that parents can attend job training, vocational classes, or job

interviews. Childcare is only available for those who are employed. Such day care exists at Miss B's Playland.

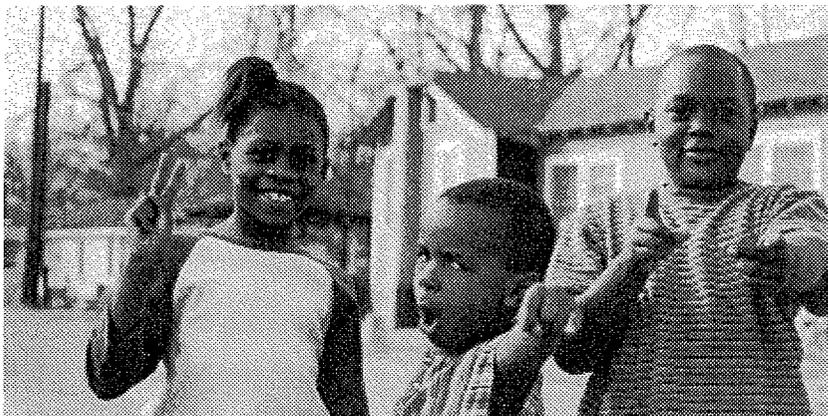
Vocational training that would support local industry is needed to fill available jobs. Some residents identified skills that would be useful to acquire: basic wood-shop skills for the carpentry trade, welding and metal working, and auto and mechanic's skills. The largest local industry is Viking Range, and they provide their own vocational training. For many, it appears that transportation to the job is also a critical need and should be addressed. Some residents expressed an interest in starting their own small businesses, and they need basic assistance in getting started.

Education

Many residents are very concerned for the youth of the neighborhood, as they feel they are often without supervision and lack constructive ways of engaging their time after school. Many residents expressed the need for an after-school tutoring program that would help K -12 students with their individual homework, enabling the students to excel in school. Such programs exist at the public schools; however, the locations may be too far away to expect the youth to travel to them. An active center within Baptist Town may be a more realistic option, enabling parents and children to more easily become involved. Adult education programs, such as adult literacy, GED classes, and ACT/SAT preparation classes, are offered at the public schools. If it were possible for these types of activities to occur within Baptist Town, they might be better attended. Local education programs on basic home repair and maintenance are needed as many residents do not know how to care for their homes and property.

Youth

Youths not only need assistance with their homework and programs to keep them in school, but they also need special programs that would involve them in positive activities. Bringing in an active chapter of the Boys and Girls Club, Girl and Boy Scout Chapters, 4H or other organized programs would help give students focus, encouraging positive values and engagement with the community. Personal

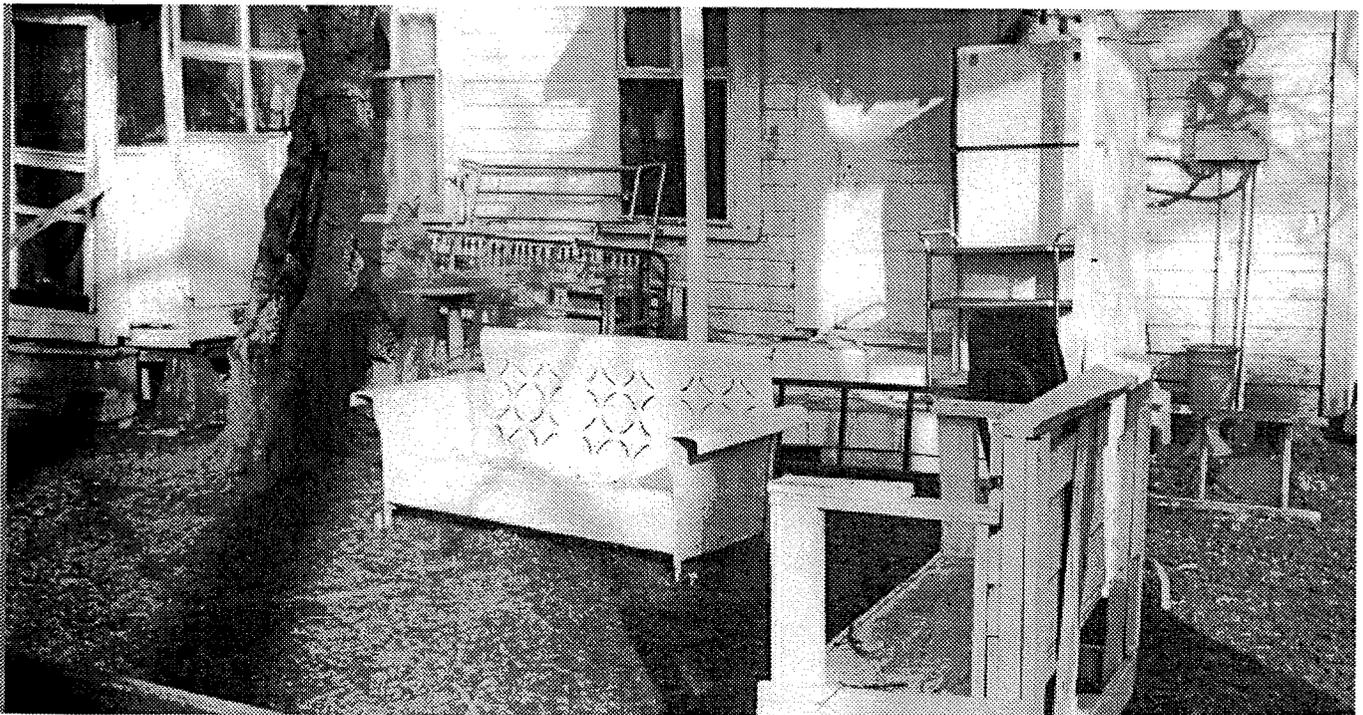


development programs that address teen issues, such as teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, and crime prevention, exist in Greenwood through the DARE program in the public schools. A local Baptist Town center would be able to give local residents the opportunity to develop art, music, and drama programs with a special focus upon the local community culture and history. Involving children in art-related activities would increase their self esteem and creative skills. Also sports-related programs, sports leagues, and 4-H programs would develop teamwork abilities. Giving special focus to these youth-related programs would strengthen families and the community. Special events would bring pride and re-investment to the Baptist Town community.

Community

Many residents share the feeling that the community lacks a cohesive sense of identity and shared values. There are social spaces in backyards and the inner-block areas; however, there is no established outdoor place for community gatherings, events, cookouts, performances, or meetings. By providing a public space that the entire neighborhood could identify as a shared space, the community could re-establish the community spirit that many identify as the most positive aspect of Baptist Town. Such an outdoor space could be associated with the series of pathways linking the different blocks .

Many communities across the country are developing community gardens where individuals and families maintain individual lots. These gardens provide the opportunity for residents to work together and share a variety of food grown in the garden. A community garden may be a possibility for this neighborhood.



Addressing General Community Needs



Through round-table discussions and personal interviews, the Baptist Town residents identified concerns existing in their neighborhood, identifying such basic issues as litter, stray dogs, and discarded furniture and cars. In Appendix A we have identified the ordinances established by the City of Greenwood that deal with these issues. Code enforcement can be better served if each resident plays a more active role in reporting negligence. Through this report, we hope it will be possible for residents to be more educated of their collective rights and, therefore, empowered to organize ways to proceed with cleaning up the neighborhood.

The celebration of important elements that characterize and define the Baptist Town community is important to the revitalization of the neighborhood. In this section, we have identified the specific conditions that define the character of Baptist Town. In general, the overall appearance of the entries into the neighborhood need to be improved; in this report we help define the specific means to that end.

Providing a safe and secure neighborhood is one of the highest priorities expressed by the residents. This report helps define how a more secure environment can best be achieved, thus helping to reduce the crimes. Also, pathways serve to tie the neighborhood together, and we have offered ways in which their appearance, usability, and safety can be improved. Finally, we have offered some guidelines for general home improvements, one of the highest needs of the neighborhood.

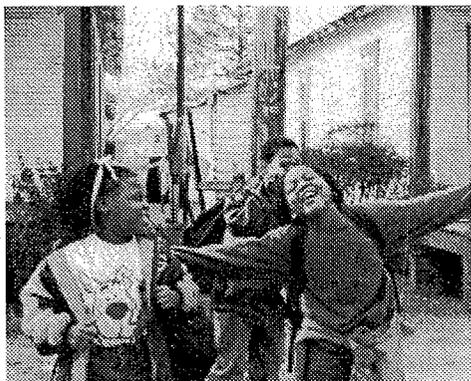
Important Elements in Baptist Town

The character and atmosphere of the Baptist Town community are defined through various elements established, repeated, and developed throughout the neighborhood. These elements form the sense of a district by creating a unity among the houses, businesses, and residents. Through the use of boundaries, materials, repetition of forms, and identifiable people, Baptist Town becomes a distinct neighborhood defined by culture, proportion, colors, rhythm, and spirit.



Identifying Baptist Town Neighborhood Boundaries

Distinct conditions define Baptist Town. The Illinois Central Railroad and the Columbus & Greenville Railroad respectively establish the south and west boundaries of the Baptist Town community, creating a clear physical barrier between it and downtown Greenwood. The Pelucia Bayou forms a natural border along the north end of the community, and, on the east side, the Cotton Compress separates Baptist Town from the neighboring housing district. The only limited access into the community from downtown Greenwood consists of Young Street, Pelican Street, and Avenue A. Within the community, fences and signage serve as boundaries between the individual properties.

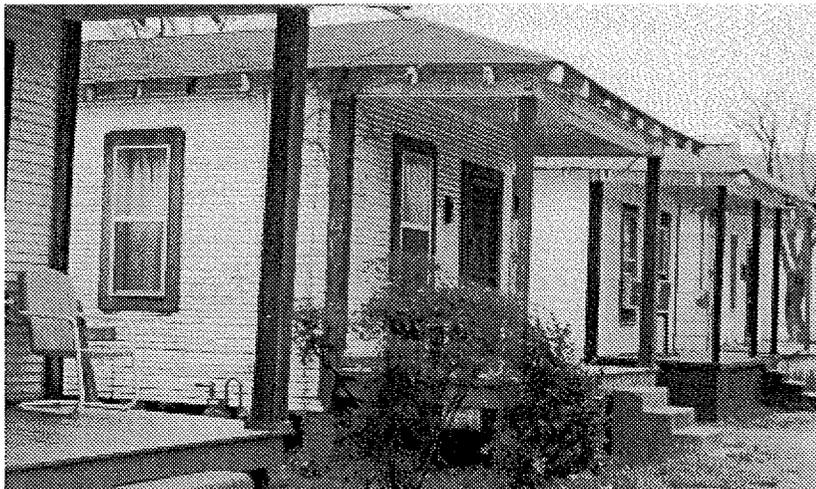


People

The people who live in Baptist Town frequently define how others identify it and help to shape its future. In the past, the community residents relied on each other, and the households shared a strong family bond that tied the community together. For generations, these bonds have been strong. Many fear that today the ties between the individual families are not as strong as they once were. The social interaction among residents is dwindling. The neighborhood lacks the support network it once had.

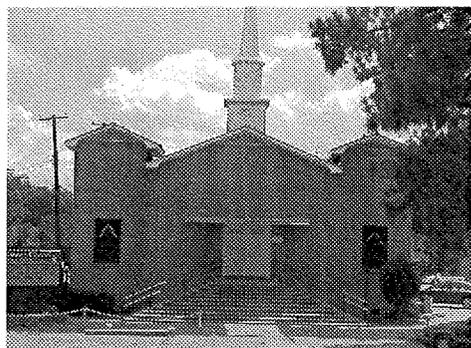
Repetition of Forms

The neighborhood's identity is also established through the repeated forms and proportions (width, height and depth) of the houses. The houses in Baptist Town are predominantly simple gabled structures with a porch on the front of each one. Not only do the houses share similarities, but the distance between the houses is consistent. As the blocks have been formed over time, there is a consistent pattern in the layout of Baptist Town. These characteristics are distinct, historically significant, meaningful to build upon in the renovation of the existing houses and the addition of new houses.



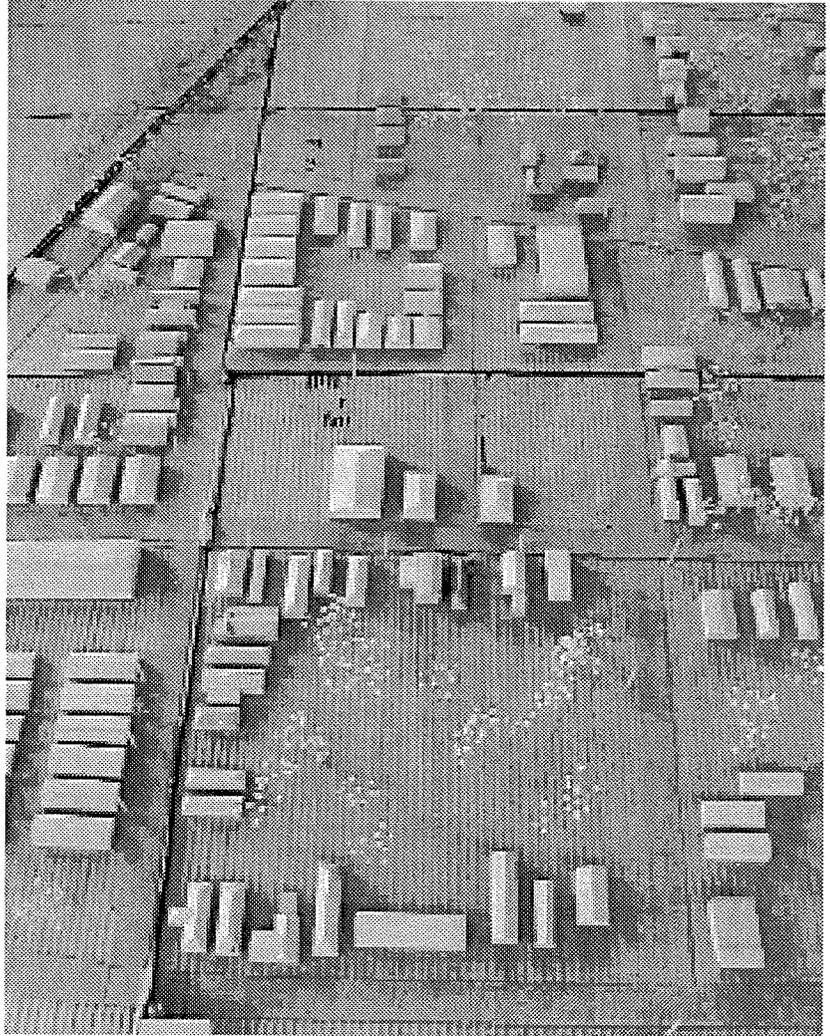
The Nature of Landmarks

Perhaps most striking to those who arrive in Baptist Town is the the McKinley Baptist Church and how it relates to the City of Greenwood. The church is the primary landmark in the neighborhood. The tall steeple can be seen throughout the neighborhood. The church is the community's largest building. Over the years, it has been an important social landmark to those who live in and to those who have moved away from the neighborhood. On a day-to-day basis, Hoover's Grocery and Washeteria are the primary, active businesses in the neighborhood, serving as favored gathering spots in the community and



contributing to the activity of Young Street. Miss B's Playland Childcare Center, the New Zion Church, and the basketball courts are also recognized as significant places in the neighborhood. Although no longer active trade centers, the industrial cotton storage buildings are historically significant and are recognized as important landmarks within the neighborhood.

A Shared Community Landscape:



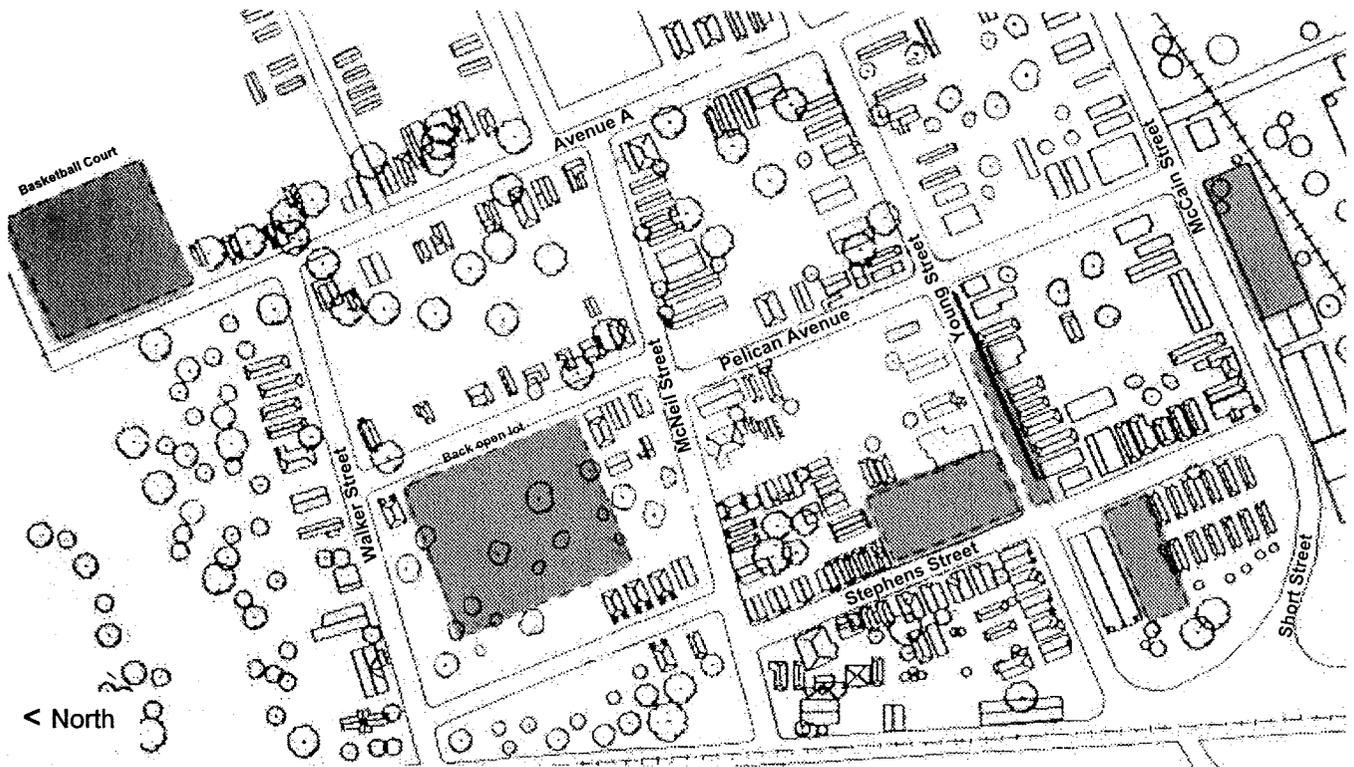
Existing Site, facing North.



Baptist Town Plan

Neighborhood Blocks

The streets have been laid out in a grid pattern parallel to the Illinois Central Railroad and Carrollton Street. The street grid system is the most prominent feature that establishes Baptist Town as one unified district. The houses reinforce the layout by their position and relationship to the streets. Property lines are established within the grid. Typically, the fences, alleyways, and pathways also follow this pattern.



Potential sites for development

Public Outdoor Spaces

Throughout the neighborhood there are empty lots and places where people regularly gather. The sidewalk in front of Hoover's Grocery and Washateria serves as a popular outdoor gathering spot for residents on Young Street. The back open lot with the large trees holds potential to provide an attractive place for large gatherings. The basketball court near the bayou is remote from other active places in the community; because of its remoteness, many parents prefer that their children not spend time there, unmonitored. Many vacant lots are filled with debris and overgrown with weeds with no one maintaining them or encouraging a positive use. The Baptist Church and Miss B's Playland require parking lots, which remain empty during off-hours.

Alleyways and Pathways

There are alleyways and worn pathways that run through the neighborhood blocks linking the entire community together. Most residents travel by foot from their homes to Young Street, the basketball courts, or others' homes using these unofficial ways. (See Page 26 for designations)

Trees

A variety of tall trees exists in the neighborhood. These trees are an important resource for their attractive qualities and the shade that they offer. Most striking are the trees along Walker Street, which should be preserved and maintained, to serve as a model for other





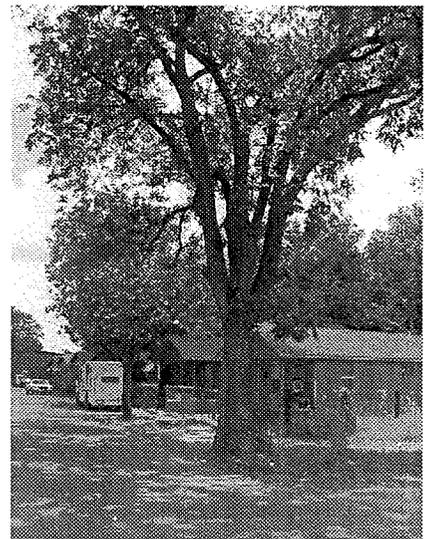
streets. The trees in the northwest lot of Baptist Town should also be preserved and maintained.

Cars

Most residents park their cars on the streets or in their front yards. Very little traffic travels through Baptist Town as roads generally terminate within it. Therefore, the cars in evidence are primarily the residents' cars. Often cars are parked over the curb and partially in a yard or an alleyway, making walking around them difficult.

Gardens

Traditionally, gardens served the community making it self-sustaining with land, maintenance, and harvesting of vegetables, fruits, and chickens shared. At one time, residents would share the





resources from the gardens with each other, strengthening the community bonds. A few families still grow small gardens of vegetables and flowers.

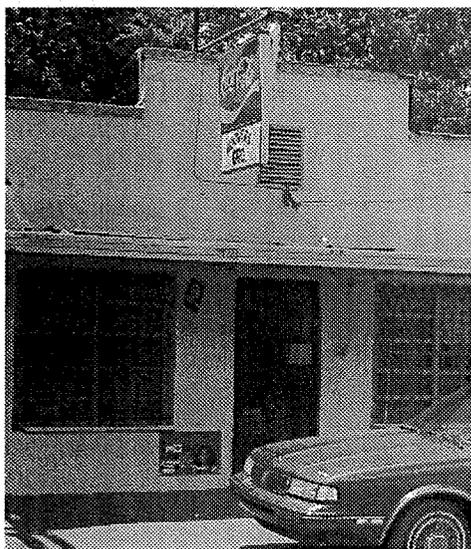
General Aspects of Individual Properties

Porches

The simple shotgun house becomes distinctive in several ways, one of the most important being the type of front porch it has. There are four types in the neighborhood: the screened-in porch, an open porch supported by columns, a small uncovered porch, and a small landing. These porches provide places for families to interact with passersby on the street, an important opportunity for social exchange in the neighborhood. Also, the ways in which people place furniture and plantings on or next to the porch individualize and add an interesting vital aspect to the block.

Canopies and Overhangs

Providing places for people to mingle outside is important to the life of the neighborhood. Often close to the street and overhanging the sidewalks, canopies provide shelter for the public way. On public commercial buildings, canopies over the doorways protect people from the rain, and they offer some shade during the hottest part of the day. Such canopies exist at Hoover's Washeteria, Hoover's Grocery, the Baptist Church, and Miss B's Playland. Similar to the front porches of the houses, the canopies provide a popular gathering spot.



Layers

As each house fits within its block, there is a typical pattern of spatial layering that occurs. The space in front of a house, where a porch meets a sidewalk or a street, is an important spot in Baptist Town. These spaces provide the family with a sense of privacy and



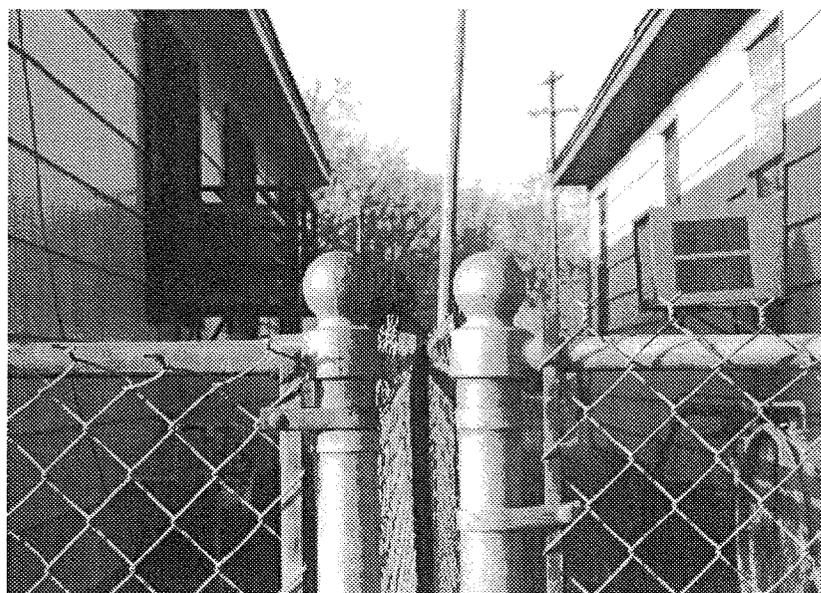
protection from those who walk on the street. The best examples are in front yards having either a fence or plantings and porch and steps layering the entry sequence into a house.

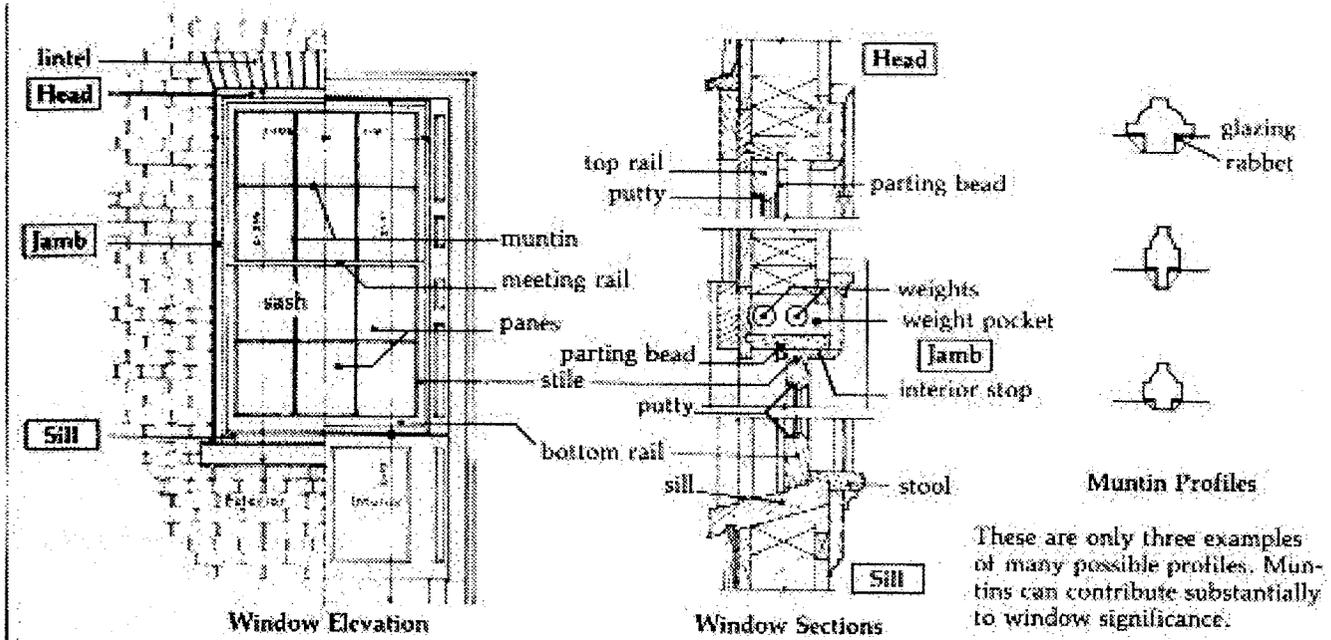
The close proximity of the houses creates undefined spaces between them. These spaces are often unkempt frequently serve as storage for unwanted objects and debris, and make the landscape appear cluttered and disorderly. It would be best if the side yards were cleaned up and protected with fences and/or plantings. Protection of each of the houses would begin to form a bond between them, that would keep others from walking between the houses, intruding upon the privacy of an individual house.

The yards behind the houses are often ill-defined and unkempt. Many of the houses have scattered pieces of furniture where people gather. These spaces are ill-maintained and contribute to a cluttered appearance. The best back yards are those restricted by a fence or plantings and furniture. While some yards are beautifully maintained with grass, flowers, and plantings, many remain underdeveloped. Often the ownership of the property is not clearly defined. Better definition of individual properties with fences and plantings would begin to improve the appearance of the landscape and assign maintenance responsibility.

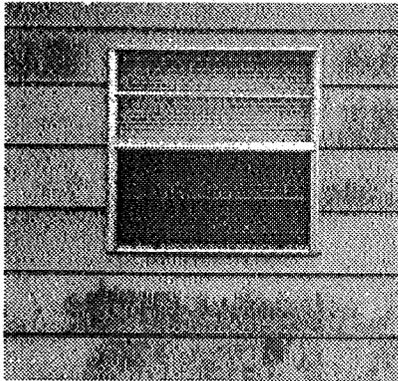
Materials, Color and Textures

Most houses in Baptist Town are sided with horizontal wood clapboards. The consistent use of this material from house to house brings unity to the neighborhood. Houses have subtly different widths of clap boards, adding diversity from house to house. Typically, concrete piers are used as the foundation support for each house, with open ground underneath for ventilation. Most of the houses have either corrugated metal or asphalt shingled roofs. The fencing throughout the neighborhood is varied and adds additional





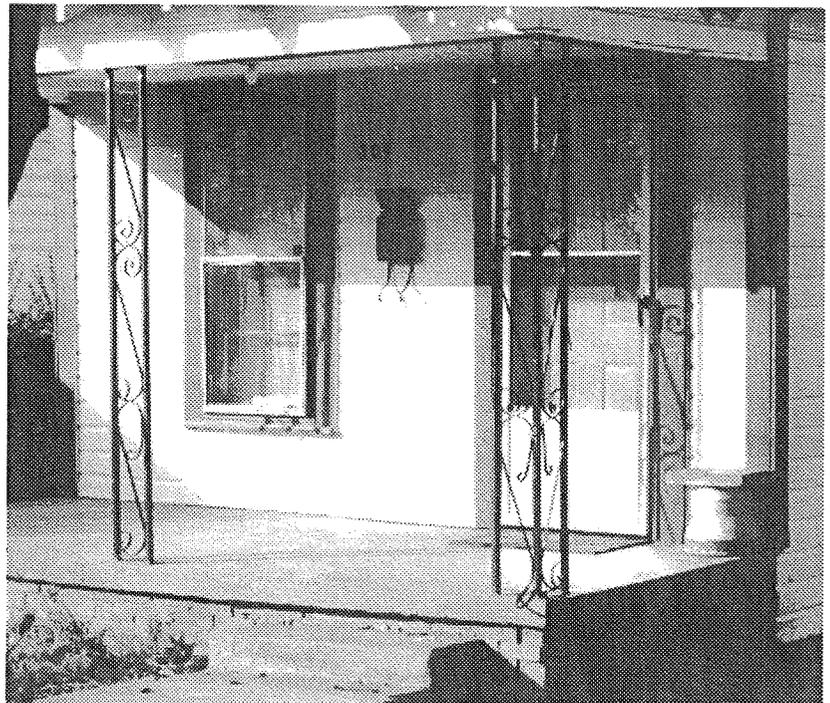
These are only three examples of many possible profiles. Muntins can contribute substantially to window significance.



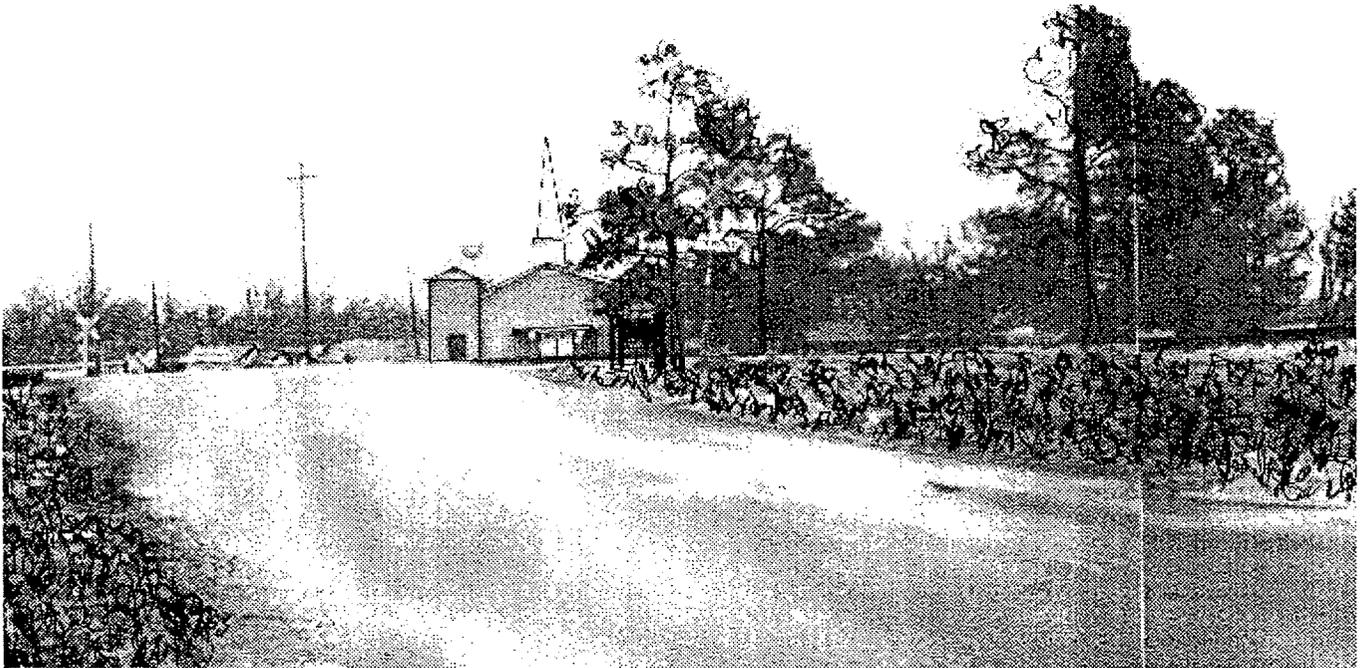
textures of wood and chain-link fencing. Many houses use color in subtle ways to accent trim, columns, doors, windows, and fences; the colors are often bright and add individual expression and personality to the properties.

Window Openings

Most windows in the homes are similar in size, proportion, and location. This pattern is another factor that contributes to the neighborhood's distinct character.



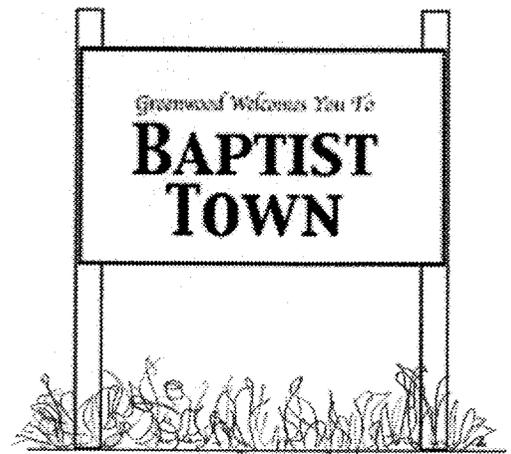
Neighborhood Entrances



Currently, the area around the railroad tracks is overgrown with weeds and littered with trash and abandoned equipment. Unfortunately this leaves visitors with a poor impression of the neighborhood. Also, Baptist Town residents' neighborhood pride is weakened when they are confronted with this each day. The overall appearance of the neighborhood would improve substantially with carefully considered community entrances and landscaping of the railroad right-of-way.

Baptist Town would be better served with a well-made sign placed at the intersection of Short and Young Streets identifying the neighborhood as a distinct, recognizable community with its own history. Cutting back the overgrown weeds and re-evaluating the railroad's current practice of spraying poison and leaving dead weeds, could identify another entrance, specifically around Short Street, McCain Street, and Avenue A. The planting of wildflowers, clover, or some other low-maintenance ground cover could offer color and a more attractive landscape. Developing this landscape would require coordination with the railroad and some regular maintenance, but it would improve the quality of arrival into the community.

By planting flowers along the railroad tracks, the entrances into the community would add life and color rather than the current brown empty landscape with dead weeds.

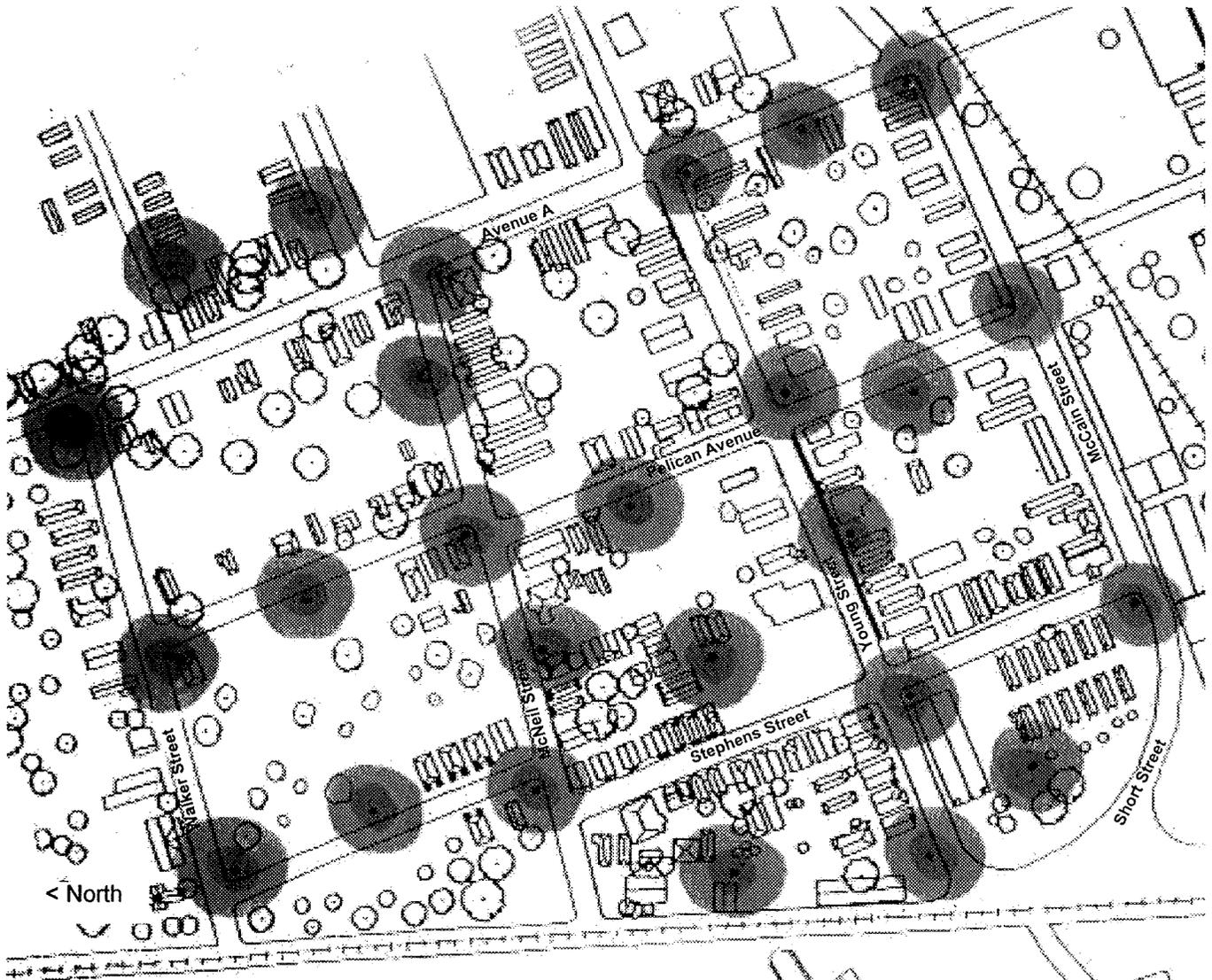


A simple sign constructed at the primary entrances of the neighborhood would help to identify and celebrate the community.

General Lighting

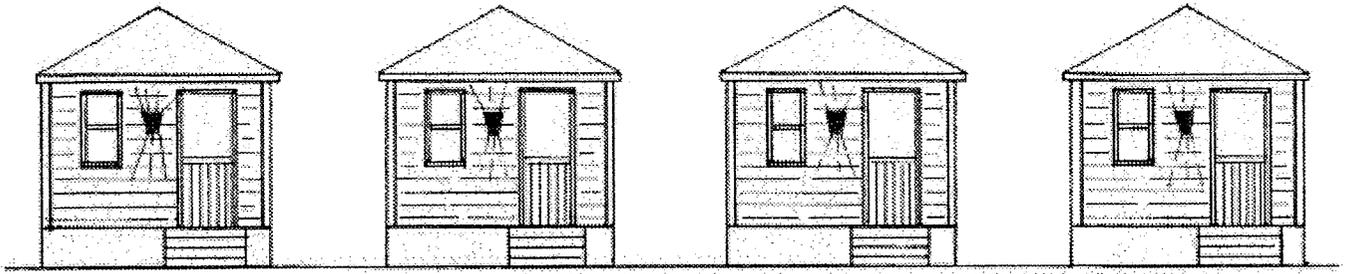
Street lighting

Currently, there are streetlights at each of the street intersections in Baptist Town. Many people walk within the community from house to house or to Young Street and Hoover's stores. At night the lighting is inadequate according to many residents. An increased amount of street lighting would help the residents feel safer because they would be able to see the activities in the street. We recommend adding this additional lighting. Also, we recommend that the City of Greenwood routinely replace broken light bulbs.

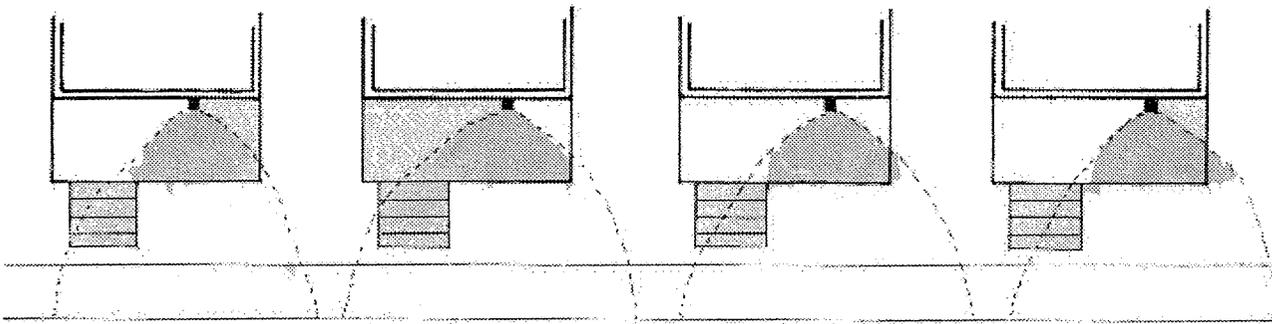


Existing Street Lights

By adding an additional lighting fixture in the middle of each block, the overall neighborhood lighting would improve, pedestrian circulation would become safer, and crime would probably be reduced.



The addition of a small light fixture on each house by the front door would greatly improve the lighting conditions in the neighborhood.



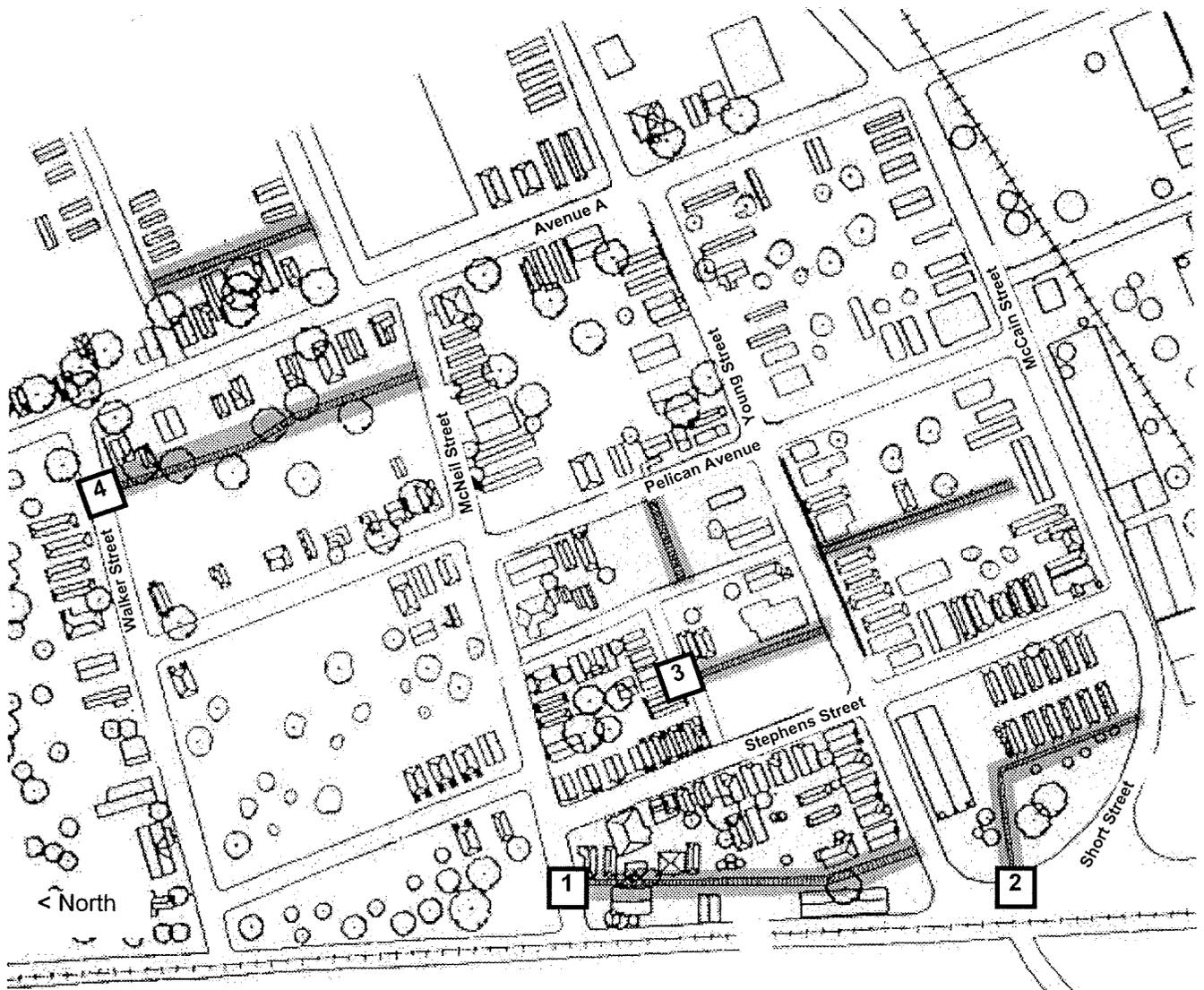
The light cast from a fixture on each home would help light the streets and paths adjacent to the homes.

House lighting

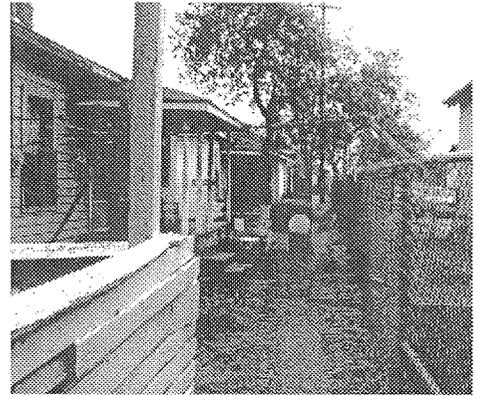
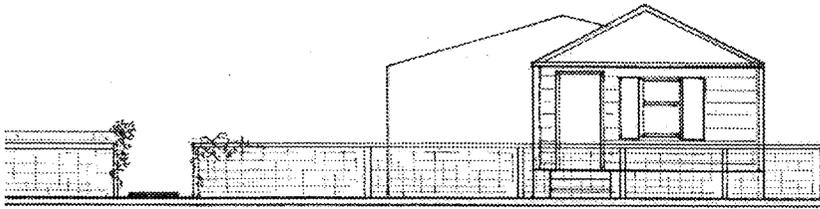
If each home added a front-porch light which remained on during the night, the streets, sidewalks, and pathways would be better lit, increasing the safety of persons and private property. A small fixture attached to the front of each house would increase the amount of light illuminating the neighborhood. Also, adding light fixtures to the back or side porches would help illuminate the open inner-block areas and pathways that run through the community.

Pathways

The pathways in Baptist Town link the homes and streets throughout the neighborhood. The extent to which people walk in the community is recognized as one of its defining characteristics. The pathways encourage the residents to walk and interact with each other. Each pathway can be identified as having different characteristics and qualities as defined by the residences and landscape lining them.



Proposed pathways.



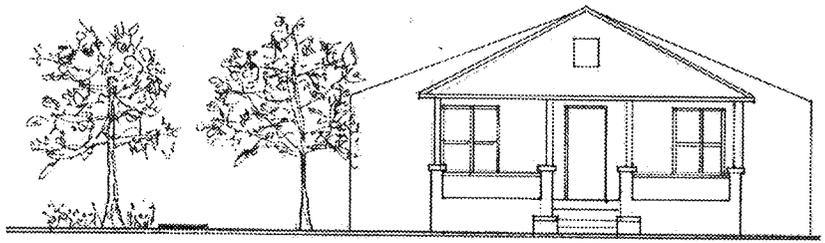
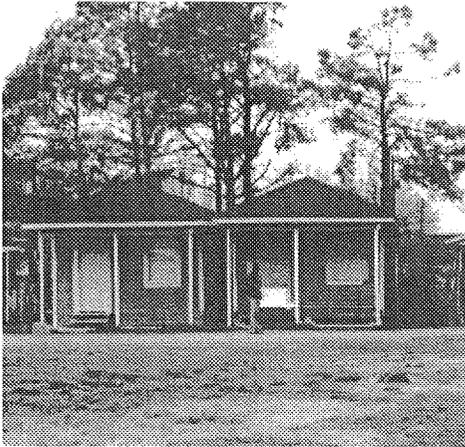
Pathway #1

This pathway runs along the edge of the community joining Young and McNeill Streets. One side is aligned with houses, while a fence separating the community from a local business runs along the other. Chain-link fencing runs the entire length of the path on one side or on both sides in certain areas. The path is very narrow and tight and does not feel like a public way, but it does serve as a primary link for the houses facing the circulation path and the nearby streets.

Pathway #2

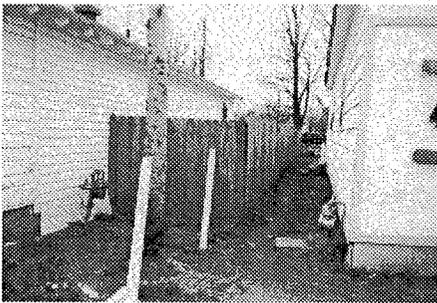
This pathway can be seen as one enters the community. Parallel to Short Street, the path runs in front of the homes which are set back from the street. The path serves as a circulation-way between the homes for those who walk through the interior of the block. Houses and tall pine trees border each side of the path. Because the path is on the edge of a small grassy field, it has an open feeling, not a tight and restricted one.





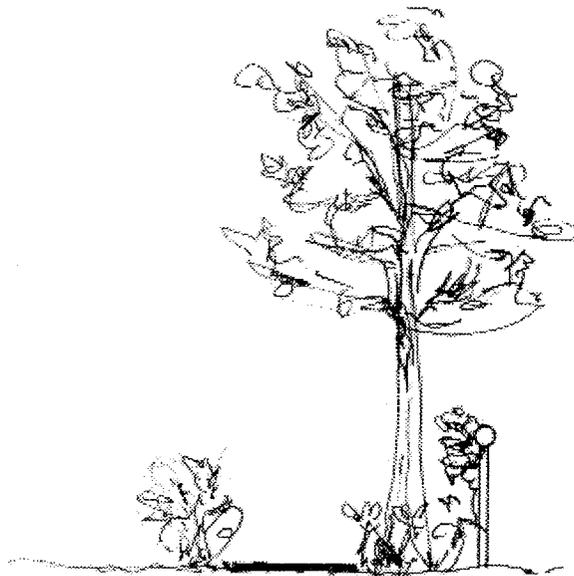
Pathway #3

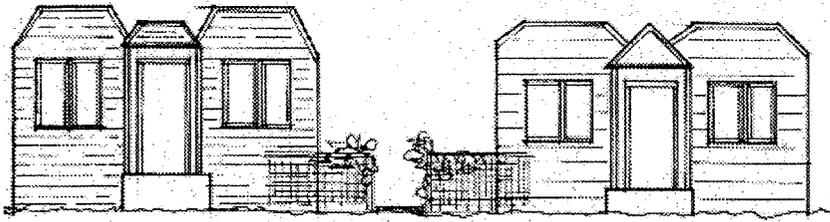
While the other pathways in the community serve primarily as links among houses, this path is a circulation lane between blocks. Across from Hoover's Grocery, the path becomes a short cut between the blocks in Baptist Town. A large open field of grass borders one side of the pathway, while small trees and the yards of homes align the other side of the path. Because of a lack of defining borders, the path has a very open feeling and lacks the intimate nature characteristic of the other pathways in the neighborhood.



Pathway #4

This pathway links Walker and McNeill Streets. Running the entire length of the block, it serves as a major circulation link between many of the homes. Along one side of the path are tall trees that provide a sense of enclosure and shade; fences and backyards define the other side. Because every home does not have a fence aligning their lots, the pathway has perceived





variations in width. It changes from very tight spaces creating a feeling of intimacy to open areas creating a sense of vastness. Where the path is narrow, one feels more enclosed; conversely, there are areas where one can see farther, and the space is expanded.

Pathway #5

This path joins Walker's Alley and McConnell Street.

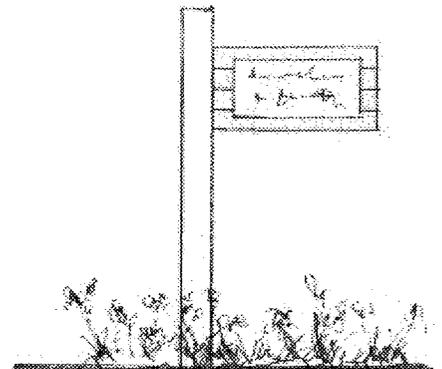
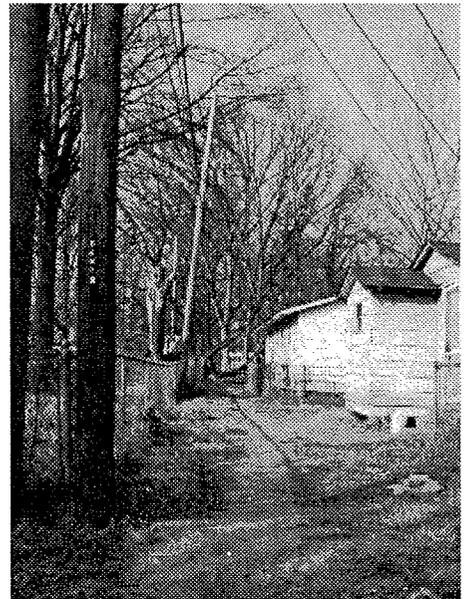
Bounded on both sides by homes, the path feels as if it is a private way for the immediate residents only. This tight and narrow path connects the homes that face the center of the block and serves as a link between the houses.

Recommendations

By developing and maintaining these paths, the community can promote a unique aspect of Baptist Town and extend an important public aspect of the community.

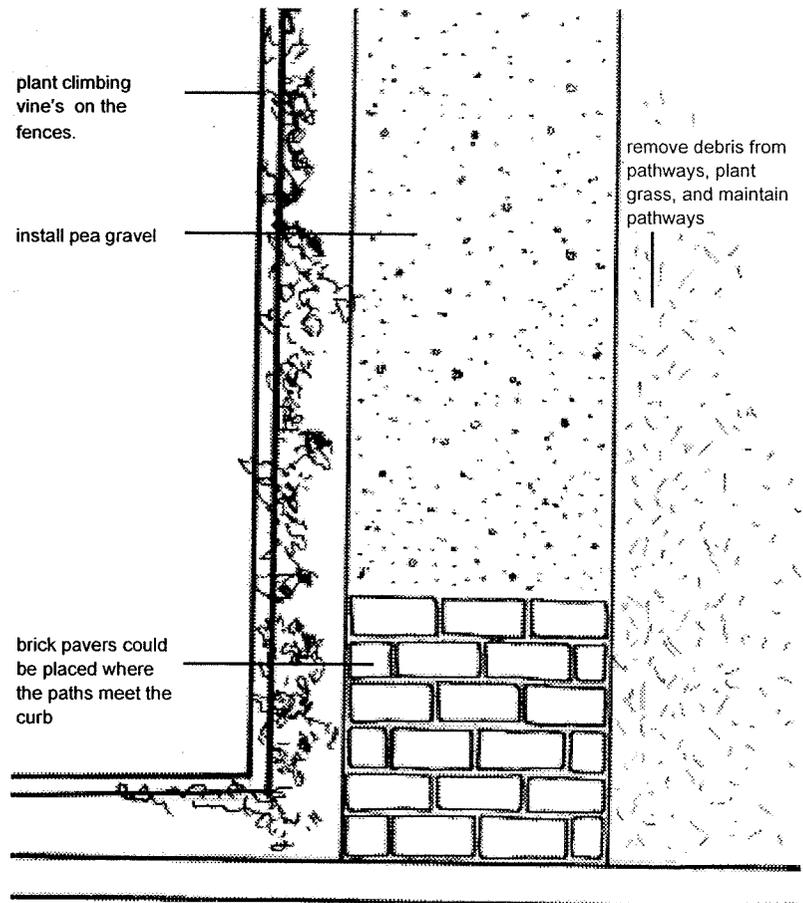
The addition of landscaping, lighting, and signage will elevate the pathways' quality and encourage the overall beautification of the neighborhood.

First, a community-wide clean-up of the pathways would improve their use and image. Removing debris and pruning the overgrown landscape would help. Putting pea gravel along the paths at arrival points would make walking along them easier and drainage from rain storms possible. A possibility may be the development of an arts program along the pathways with art displays and sculptures, bringing local investment and interest into the place. Improving the landscaping would also be another important element: planting and maintaining grass, flowering vines and flower bulbs, shrubs, and trees. Improving the lighting will make the paths safer during evening hours.



Also, by naming the pathways and creating signage to announce them, the Baptist Town community could create meaningful places and memories. The addition of a simple sign announcing each pathway celebrates the pedestrian circulation that unifies the neighborhood.

The primary way to celebrate the path is to add a new ground surface such as brick or gravel. By providing a surface that will withstand weather and ease walking, it will also announce the important lanes or links of circulation. By upgrading and maintaining the landscaping, the overall ambiance of the paths would improve through the addition of flowers, vines, small trees, and shrubs. Lighting the pathways will increase the safety during night hours and enable the residents to claim ownership of the paths, no longer feeling threatened at night. Finally, the addition of signage will give each pathway a name and identity. One suggestion is naming each path for a historically predominant family or families in the community. By naming the pathways after these individuals, the lanes will further celebrate the history that defines the Baptist Town community. See Appendix A-E, excerpts taken from Greenwood City Ordinances, for more detail on the community's possible options.



Pathway Plan

Addition of a Community Center



During the spring semester of 2000, Third-Year students at Mississippi State University's School of Architecture began working with residents from Baptist Town to identify and document the community's needs and to propose possible solutions to meet these needs. Community citizens were interviewed; existing conditions were sketched, photographed, and documented; possible solutions were explored; and the class developed a program for a community facility. In response to the needs identified, the program of approximately 20,000 square feet includes spaces for childcare, after-school programs, vocational training facilities, computer training, recreational activities, and a community gathering space.

The students examined the neighborhood, and each student selected a specific site for a facility from among the four proposed sites in the neighborhood. The community-center design-proposals offered different approaches to the ways in which the facility could relate to the neighborhood and involve community members in the use of it. Architecturally, the student proposals had different ways of fitting the building into its context through the use of different materials, colors, sizes and scales. The overall intent was to make a good fit between the facility, its users and the site.

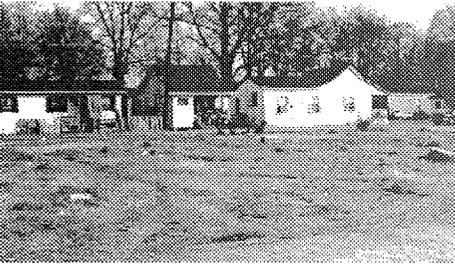
Proposed Community Center Sites

Site #1 A and B: Central Sites

Only one block away from McKinney Chapel on Young Street, these two sites are located in the heart of Baptist Town. Across the street from Hoover's Grocery and Washeteria, the large grassy fields offer a building site that could relate to the intimate quality of the community. Site 1A is located at the Intersection of Young St. and Stephens St., and Site 1B is located at the intersection of Young St. and Pelican St.



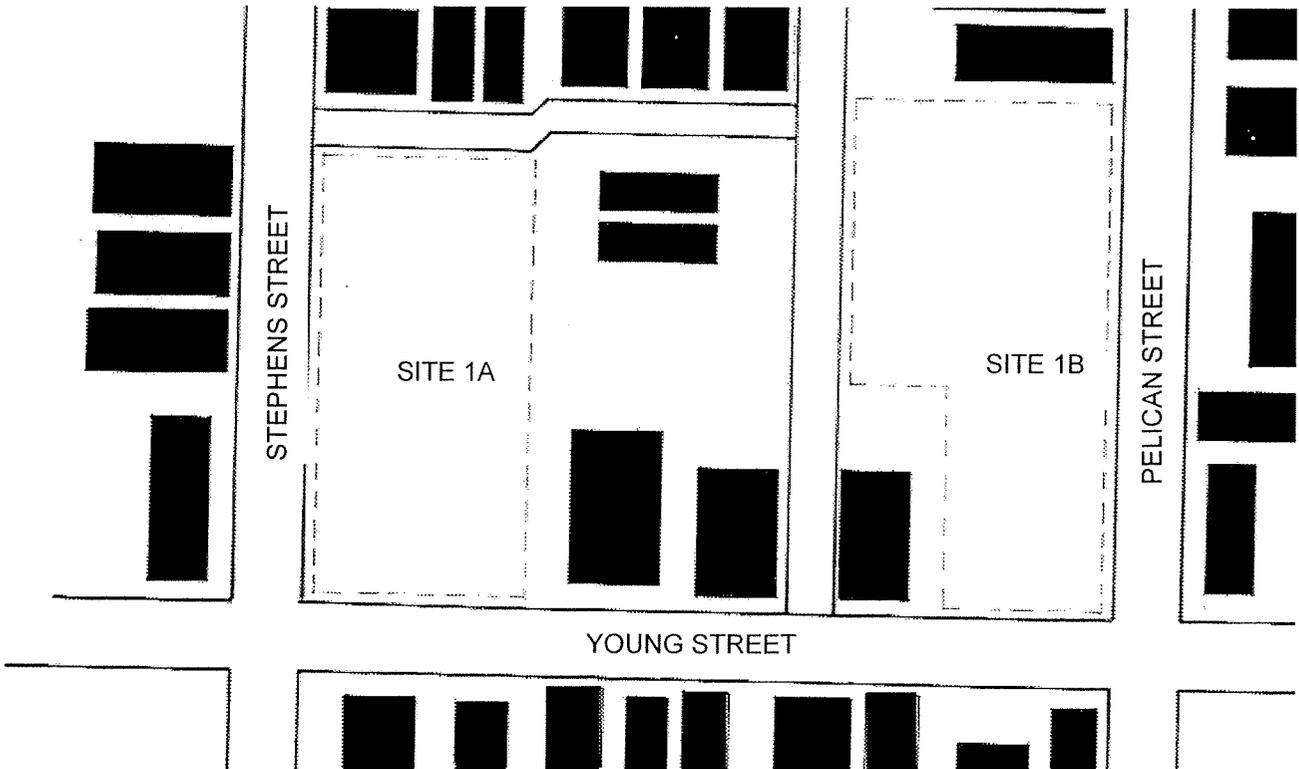
Site 1A: Located on the corner of Young and Stephens Streets, the site has a direct relationship with McKinney Chapel.



Site 1 B: Across the street from Hoover's Grocery, this site is adjacent to an established popular gathering place.

Strengths:

These sites are located centrally within the neighborhood on prominent corners, near the community's most public facilities: McKinney Chapel, Hoover's Washeteria and Hoover's Grocery. Placing a community center on either of these open lots offers the neighborhood an important facility within the heart of its most public, active street. Due to the small size of these sites, this 20,000 square foot facility will snugly fit the site with the building pushing up against the sidewalks and close to surrounding buildings. This spacing will be in keeping with what already exists on this street, i.e. buildings maximizing the use of their sites, pressing up against the sidewalk. A building placed on either site has the opportunity to close the gap that currently exists, making the street more complete. If placed on one of these sites, the building has the opportunity to relate to the colors and materials of other surrounding buildings,



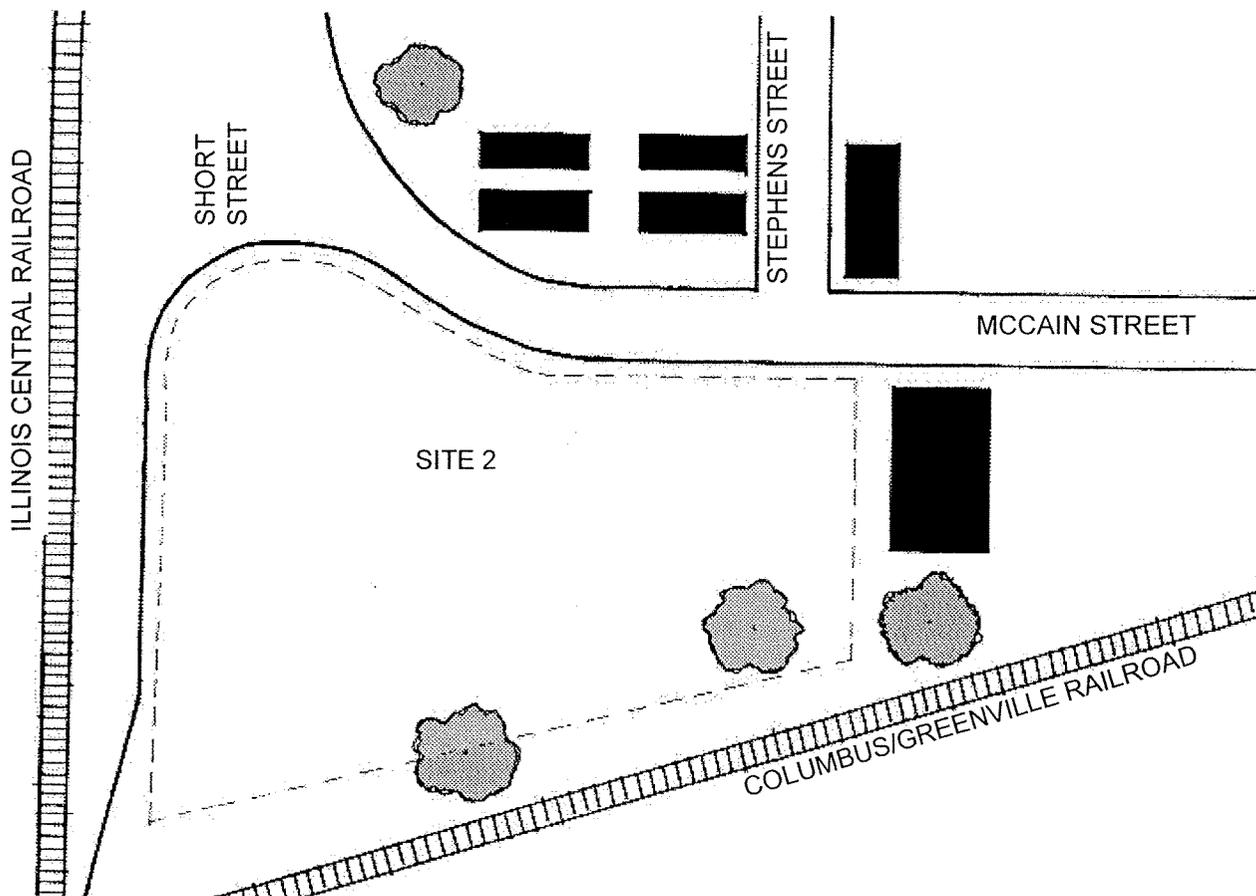
tie into the existing pathways that are next to it, and relate to Young Street as the neighboring buildings do with their overhangs and porch spaces.

Challenges:

Because these sites are in the center of the community, there is not a direct connection with Greenwood's downtown business district. The small size of these lots may offer a great challenge to the design of a 20,000 sq. ft. building. A building of this size will have an effect upon its neighboring buildings, making the spaces between the center and the houses tight and, in some cases, invasive on individual outdoor spaces. Careful planning of outdoor space for children's play is required as the placement of the building on these sites may eliminate current play yards.

Site #2: Corner Site

The next site is located at the junction of the Illinois Central and the Columbus & Greenville Railroad. Situated on a corner of the Baptist Town neighborhood, the site is visually and physically (by road) connected to the downtown business district. This location can have a prominent position by relating to the commerce across the tracks. McCain and Short streets also border this site.





Site #2: This site has a visual connection with the Greenwood business district and the Baptist Town community.

Strengths:

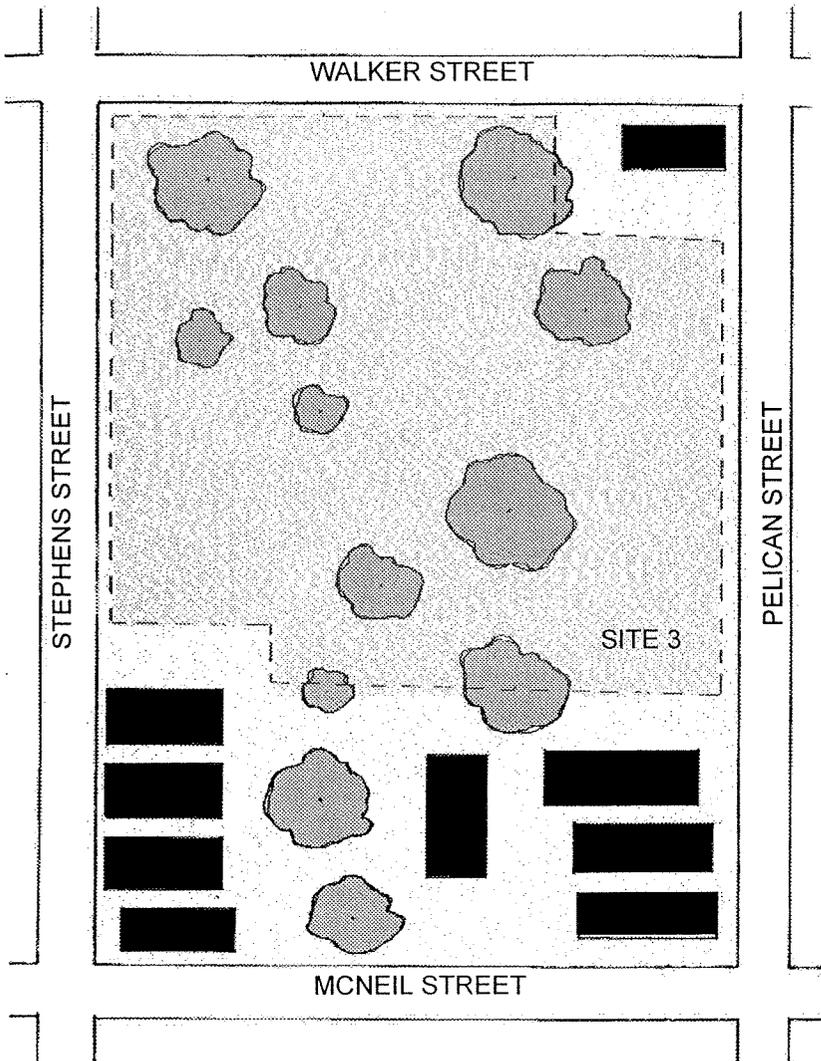
Based on the close proximity that Site #2 has with both the Baptist Town community and Greenwood's downtown business district, this site could serve as the link between the two communities. Activities occurring on this site would potentially draw people into the neighborhood, ultimately serving others in Greenwood. Serving a larger collection of people, beyond those in Baptist Town may be a critical aspect in obtaining funding. This site would serve as a prominent location for a building and allow it to serve as a "landmark" building for the neighborhood, being visible to those entering the neighborhood.

Challenges:

The site is very large and is on the edge of Baptist Town. It is separated from the Greenwood community by the railroad tracks. Currently, the site is devoid of trees, landscaping, or any other public value. Basically, it is an abandoned industrial area next to the railroad tracks. These factors may contribute to it's not being perceived as being integral to the community it serves. If this were the chosen site, the entire site would need to be addressed with appropriate landscaping and lighting to better connect it to the intimate nature of Baptist Town.

Site #3: Back "Park" Site

The third potential site is located toward the back of the community in the large grassy field that extends through an entire block between McNeill and Walker streets. Because of the few large trees that are scattered throughout the site, a shade and openness are the primary characteristics that define. This block is also bordered by Avenue E and Stephens Street.



Strengths:

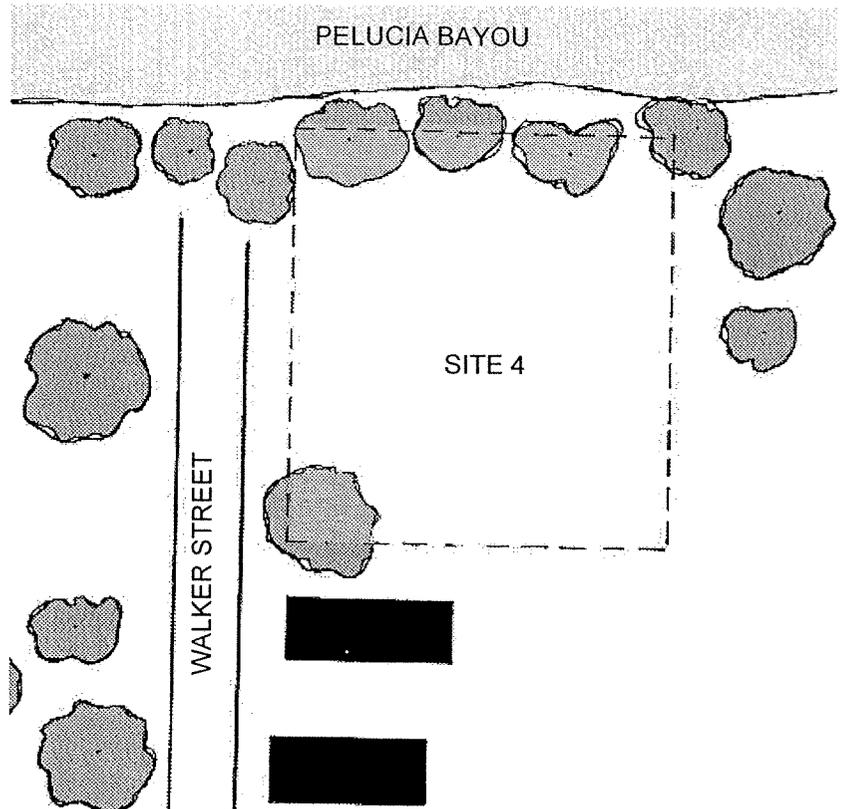
The trees offer a shaded canopy that keeps the property cooler during the hot summer months. The wooded lot is an attractive site within the community that offers a large open area for constructing a building and trees and open fields to become part of the public space. The 20,000 square-foot community-center program easily fits within the large field without crowding the surrounding homes.

Challenges:

Because of Site #3's location, the community center would be rather distant from both the heart of Baptist Town and the Greenwood community, making a visual connection between the community center, Baptist Town, and Greenwood difficult to establish. Removed from any main road, it would be difficult to physically connect the building to the larger community.



Site 3A



Site #4: Bayou Site

This potential site is where the current basketball court is located, bordered by both the Pelucia Bayou and Walker St. Being towards the back of the community, the site relates strongly to the bayou, and there is a view provided across the bayou to Grenada St.

Because of the close proximity to the Pelucia Bayou, this site offers a visual connection to Greenwood.

Strengths:

The greatest potential of this site is its location with respect to the bayou. It is the only site that can capitalize on the natural boundary that separates Baptist Town from the rest of Greenwood. A building located on this site could serve as a “beacon” for the community as it would be visible from Grenada Street across the bayou. Residents in Greenwood could see the building from the other side of the waterway and associate it with Baptist Town. This more remote site would encourage public activity within the neighborhood. Through daily use, those employed at the center would provide a watchful eye over this local area, making it safer for young children.

Challenges:

Due to the remoteness of the location, the site will not serve to physically connect the public uses of the community center to the rest of Greenwood. Currently, this site has been identified as an unsafe area because of drug and gang activity. If a community center is built on this site, it will be important to address these issues.

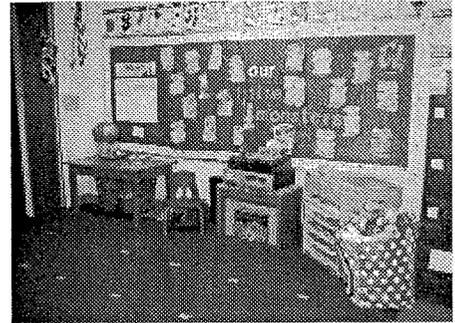


Site 4

General Description of the Community Center Program

Meeting with the Baptist Town residents in the Spring of 2000, the students identified programs that would enhance the community. Although this Community Center is currently only imagined, we believe that the programming and design ideas of the Mississippi State University School of Architecture Third-Year students provide exciting and important possibilities.

The Baptist Town Community Center will provide the neighborhood with a community landmark for the residents and the community-at-large. In establishing the goals of the Center, it is intended that this place would promote interaction among varying age groups and bring different generations together. The activities of the Center would focus on promoting and encouraging a sense of pride among the people of the neighborhood, as a sense of cooperation and investment in the community has eroded over the years. The Center, as the Baptist Church does now, would also serve as an important link between the Baptist Town neighborhood and the City of Greenwood.



Childcare

The childcare facility would provide supervision of infant, toddler, and pre-school children on a regular basis. The childcare facilities would also provide services for the children of adults attending periodic Center activities, such as vocational classes, computer classes, training seminars, community events, or those seeking employment. The facility will provide indoor and outdoor play and learning areas and designated sleeping areas with cribs, restrooms, changing areas, cubbies, and general storage. With these day-care facilities, parents would be better able to participate in activities and classes that the Community Center offered or to pursue employment elsewhere.

Computer Room

The facility would provide computer training for residents, including a set of computers for use and a video-and audio-editing room. The main computer room, used by all ages, would provide several computer stations and a large conference table. The Center would also offer programs for children, introducing them to basic computer skills, internet access, and games, and assisting them with their homework. Adults would also be offered classes on basic computer skills to assist in job training and provided with internet access. Internet access will also be available for community residents. By providing video and audio production and editing equipment, youth would be offered engaging activities that would encourage talents, promote public awareness, and effectively advance young lives.

Business Incubator

The business incubator would offer equipment, space, and support functions to individuals to help them start their own businesses. A new business would have the necessary tools to operate until it could become profitable enough to acquire its own facilities. The business incubators would provide office services such as a reception area, photocopier, fax, mailing area, storage, and a sink; and support clerical functions, such as filing, typing, etc. The incubator needs to have prominent street presence to enhance the possibility for successful commerce.

Meeting Room

The meeting room is a space sufficient for the Baptist Town community to congregate. A large, versatile, open space adequate for community meetings, banquets, musical performances, dances, aerobics, and half-court basketball would provide services to help meet many needs.

Kitchen

A kitchen in the Center would support the needs of the Center employees, class participants and functions supporting the community residents. The space would be suitable to accommodate large and small groups. A food-program pantry is proposed adjacent to the kitchen, with adequate space for storage of dry goods that would be available for families in time of need. The kitchen would be a place for community gatherings where residents could prepare food for meetings, picnics, or receptions. The day care would need access to the kitchen to prepare food for the children during meal times. The kitchen could also be used in conjunction with a community garden.

Administration Offices

The community center would have a Director who would oversee the various programs, facilities, functions, and scheduling. The Director would have a private office adjacent to an area for an Administrative Assistant. The office would include a large conference table for meetings and planning sessions, support services, a photocopier, sink, storage, and fax.

Vocational Technology

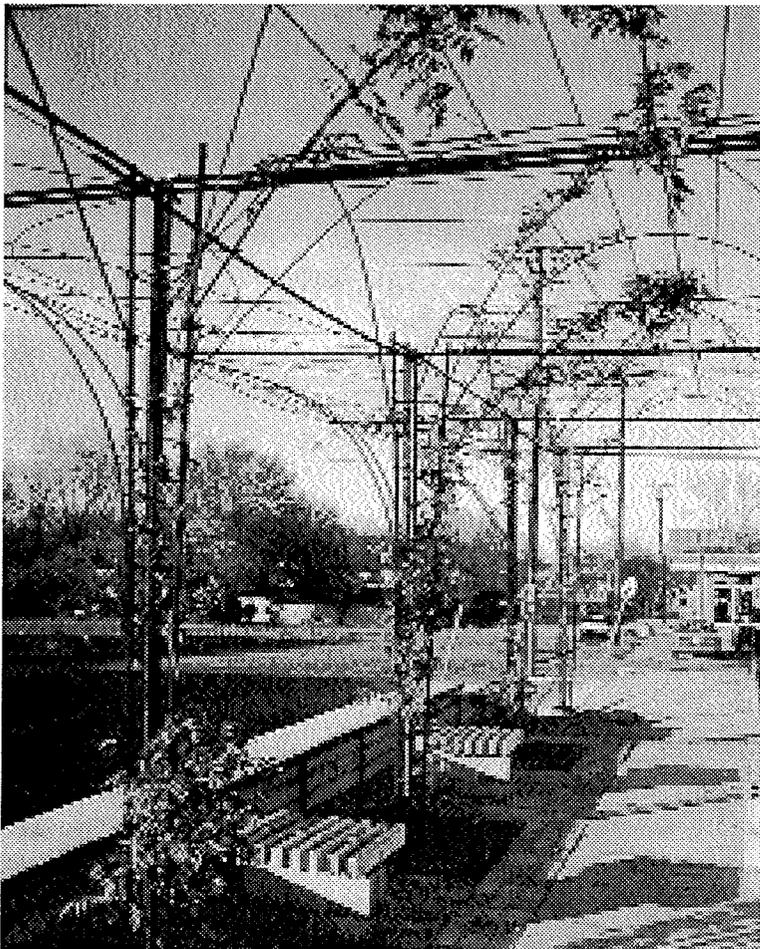
In the center, vocational technology would provide the Baptist Town residents and members of the Greenwood community with training in various areas that would help prepare them for employment in local industries and provide skills and equipment to improve local housing and buildings. Flexible training spaces would offer work areas for vocational training such as auto repair, carpentry, electronics, and metal-welding work. Large training bays with high ceilings and adjacent outdoor work yards would provide space for the training programs. The vocational center would also provide GED programs, adult literacy classes, and job training, interviewing skills, counseling, and mentoring programs.

Outdoor Pavilion

A pavilion would provide an outdoor gathering spot suitable for recreational activities, community meetings, and performances. This open, covered space would provide a structure appropriate for a diverse number of programs. Children would be able to play under the pavilion during the hot summer months or on rainy days. The Baptist Town community could gather at the structure for meetings, picnics, programs, performances, recreational activities, church revivals, and services. The pavilion would require artificial lighting so that it would be a safe place for children and adults to use at night.

Gymnasium

A full-size gymnasium would offer the children and youth in Baptist Town a protected and managed environment through recreation activities such as basketball, volleyball, aerobics, and dance. A basketball court with folding bleachers would encourage team activities, bringing in other groups from throughout the Greenwood area. The multi-purpose space could also be used for meetings and seminars held in the Center. A moveable stage at one end would offer the possibility of performances such as plays, music, or dance. The space should be versatile and able to accommodate many activities, used by many different groups.



Program Outline

The following outline gives a brief description of the major areas included in the proposed program for a Community Center in Baptist Town. Possible uses for each area are listed below, along with the approximate square-footage requirements (excluding mechanical equipment and storage). This program and the included square-footage are an approximation and should be used only as a guide until a more definite program is established.

Childcare / daycare: infant/toddler and Pre-K, with access to outdoor play areas

Requirements: The daycare must be physically separated from the other occupants of the Center. Access cannot be gained to another part of the Center through the day care. The play area must have 4' high fencing and be separated from bodies of water.

Infant/Toddler - 450 s.f.,

Pre-Kindergarten - 520 s.f.,

Playground - 600 s.f.

Computer Room: computer stations and conference table, video and audio editing

-job training, internet access, adult and youth education, homework/tutoring (music recording, etc.)

-Classrooms: tutoring, GED testing, after-school help with homework, job interviewing, meetings, conferences, arts and crafts, adult literacy, mentor programs, counseling, with eraser boards, tables and chairs

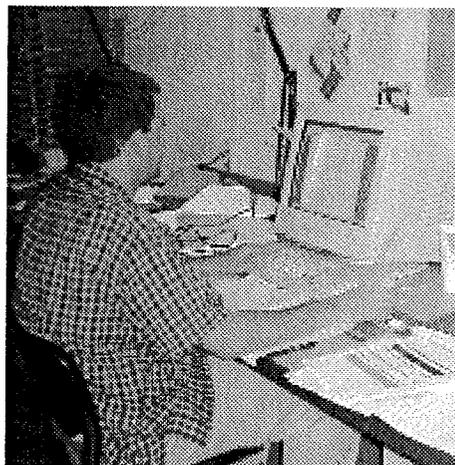
-wardrobe for job interviews (with adjoining showers/lockers)

-Library (satellite branch or book mobile)

Requirements: The computer room must be easily secured from the rest of the building.

Computer Room – 500 s.f.,

Video/Audio Editing - 150 s.f.



Vocational Technology: flexible, open bays, storage, access to outdoor yard with covered workspace

-easy transfer of machines and programs, includes wood/carpentry, welding/metal work, auto/mechanic, mechanical/electrical repair, gardening/farming, fine arts, and/or textiles/tailoring

Requirements: high bay areas (15-18 foot clear heights); floor should support heavy machinery.

2 Training Bays – 2500 s.f.,

Work Yard – 1000 s.f.

Outdoor Pavilion: recreational/meeting/performance, play area: sports, playground

-picnic/cookout, stage, gathering space, seating, outdoor church services, play and concerts, park. covered space, basketball court, garden, paths, community linkage systems, or community garden/green space (landmark/beacon)

Gymnasium/Recreation: basketball court and bleachers, multi-purpose space, moveable stage, aerobics, dance, volleyball, performance such as music, dance, and drama, art, large meetings/gatherings, community programs, exhibitions

-locker room/showers

Requirements: Gymnasium – 6600 s.f.

Business Incubator: open office area, reception/administration, separate identity for each user, common office services and shared support, workroom, space for small businesses to get their start in the neighborhood

-street presence

Requirements: Open Office Area (3 offices @ 250 s.f. each) - 750 s.f.,

Common Reception/Support – 250 s.f.

Community/Meeting Room: community meeting, banquets, music, dance, aerobics, half-court basketball, large, open space

parties, gatherings, celebrations, festivities, eating, arts and crafts, sports, recreation, performances, workshops, community programs

-art/multi-purpose room: smaller room with tables and chairs

-gallery/exhibition space: display of community information, artwork, historical/cultural exhibits, visiting presenters

-clinic/first aid: small room to allow for storage of first-aid supplies and perhaps a space for a visiting nurse or doctor to come to the community for immunizations and special health programs

Requirements: Meeting Room – 1400 s.f.

Kitchen: stovetops, double oven, sinks, dishwasher, refrigerator and freezer units, access for delivery, place for eating and storage used by community for events, cookouts, meetings, dinners, used by day care

Pantry: community food program, dry and canned goods Requirements: should have easy access for deliveries and trash/garbage removal as well as a place for a small number of people to sit and eat.

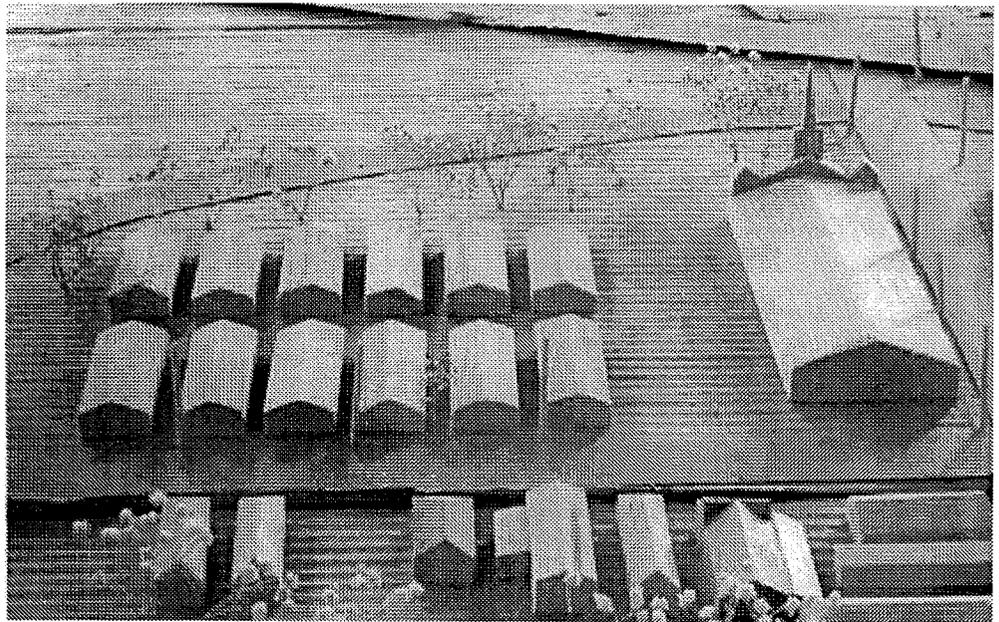
Requirements: Kitchen - 500 s.f.,

Pantry - 100 s.f.

Support: offices / storage / mechanical

-private office for director, administration, reception, lobby, parking, restrooms

-showers/lockers



Model of Existing Site

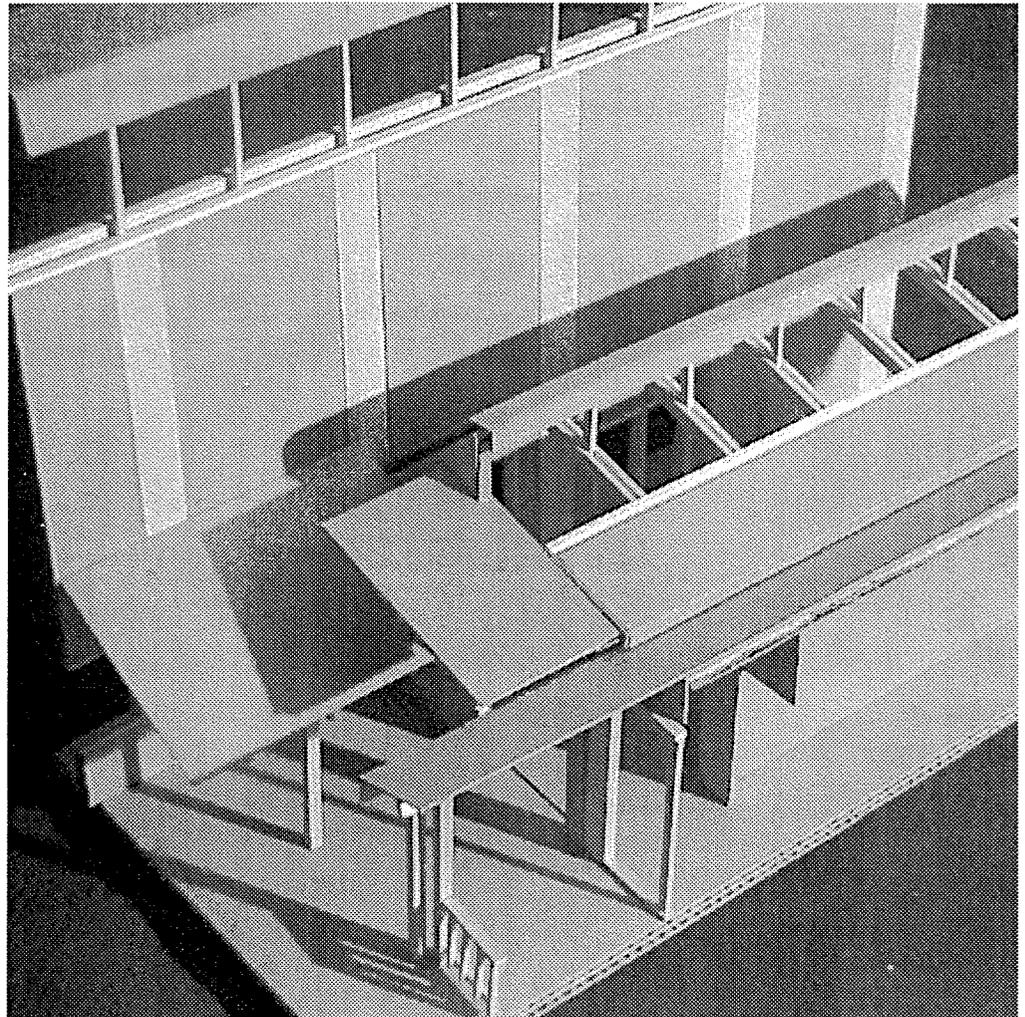
New Community Center

Key Design Ideas

Each student's proposal develops ways that the existing site can be improved or enhanced. These key ideas are indicated through the ways that the building form is made or the ways that the building responds to the larger community.

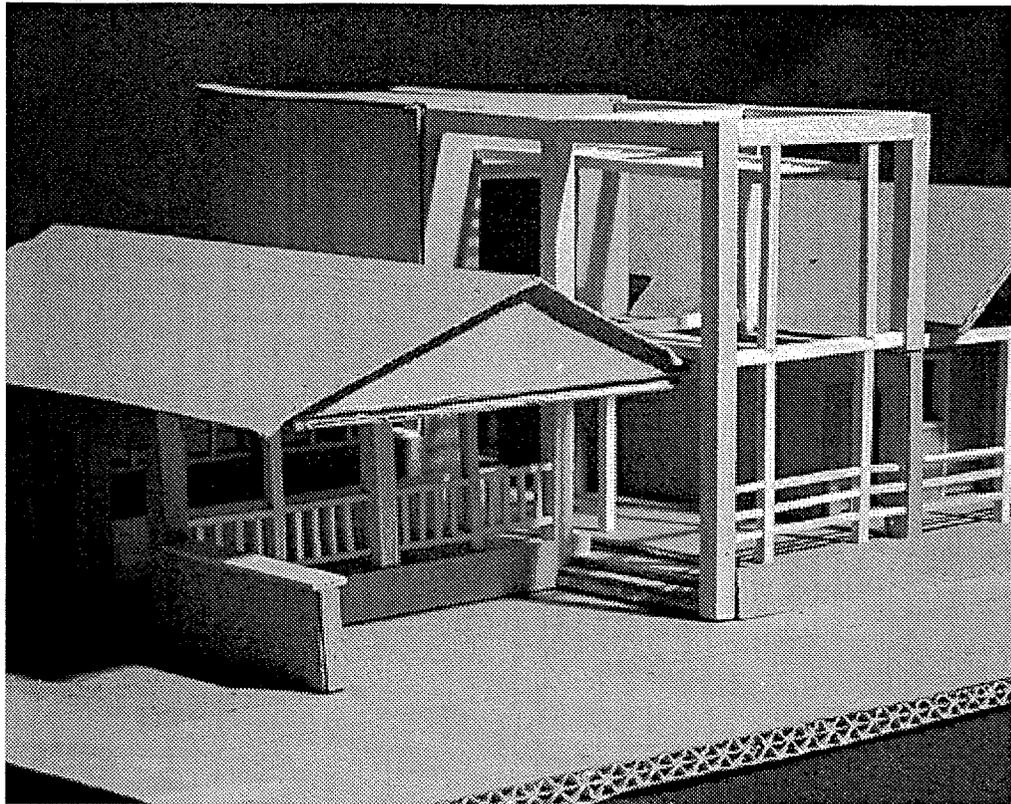
Building Form Can Contribute to Civic Pride

A new building in the neighborhood can bring new focus to the community and ultimately be an element of which the community can be proud. Not only would the activity of the Community Center help bring the neighborhood together, but also the building form itself, and how it is situated in the community and on its site, would symbolically speak of unity and pride.

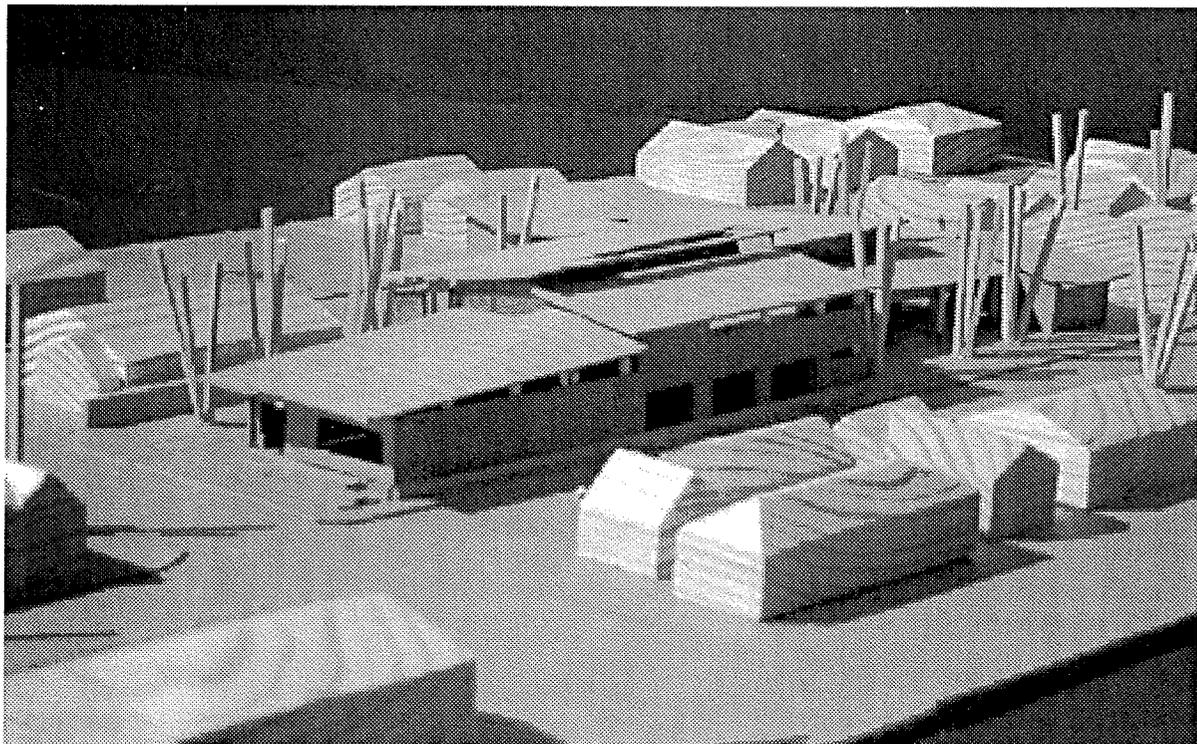


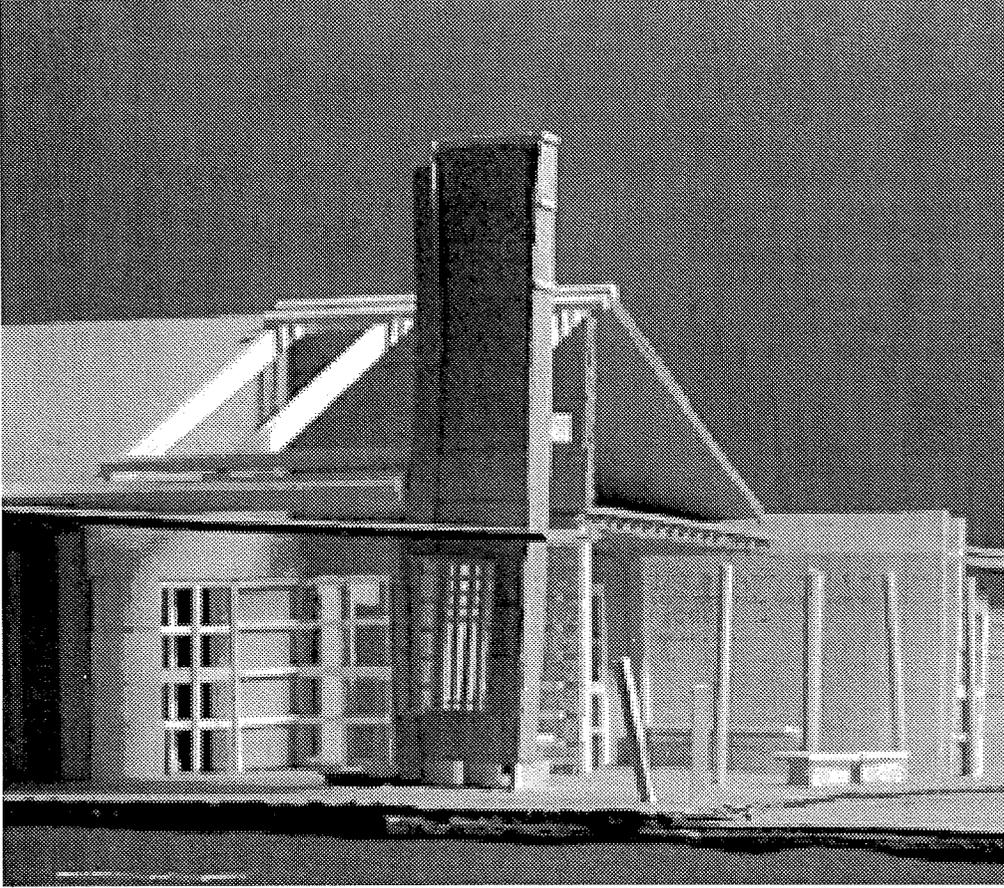
Kyle Archer uses a large two-story roof above his gymnasium to make a statement with his Community Center. The large gabled roof emulates the many gabled and hip roofs of the neighborhood, but its scale makes a distinction from the other residential buildings. The height of the structure rises above its surroundings to create a landmark on Site #4.

Brian Findley's proposal included an expanded space serving as a landmark that celebrated the community center's entrance. On the corner of Young and Stephens Streets, the tall entrance directly relates to McKinney Chapel, and can be seen from the primary entrance of the community. The structure creates deep porches, which can be used as community gathering and meeting spaces on Site #1-A.

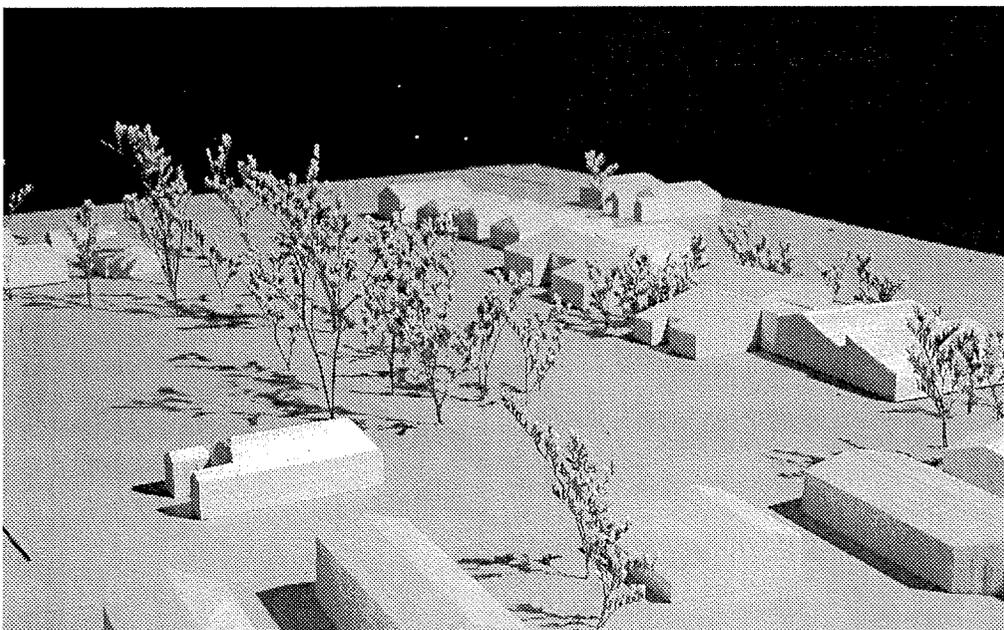


Ryan Hansen's proposal uses the large scale of his building to create civic pride. Through the use of various roof forms, openings, and proportions the community center creates a sense of rhythm and scale that compliments the neighborhood. The various roof pitches articulate the various functions within the building by announcing its public presence on Site #1-B.





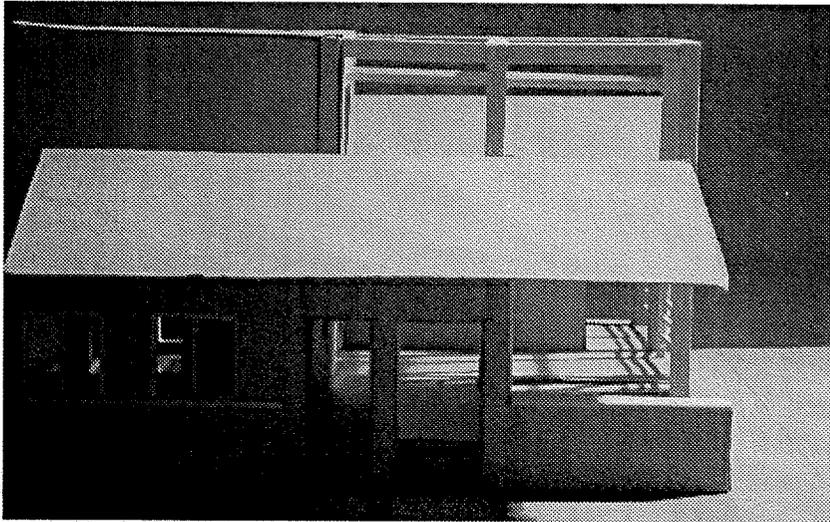
Jennifer Wegmann's proposal features a tall tower-like structure at its entrance, which relates to the spire of the McKinley Chapel. This tower would not only mark the main entrance of the building, it would also act as a beacon, signaling the location of the community center from anywhere in the neighborhood and surrounding Greenwood. Along the street, the tower acts as the generating point for public gathering, featuring a trellis, seating, and a space on which to post community news Site #1-A.



Chad Spurlin uses the height of the trees on the wooded lot to compliment his building. The use of interior courts, textured materials, and shaded land emulates the intimate nature already existing in the Baptist Town neighborhood.

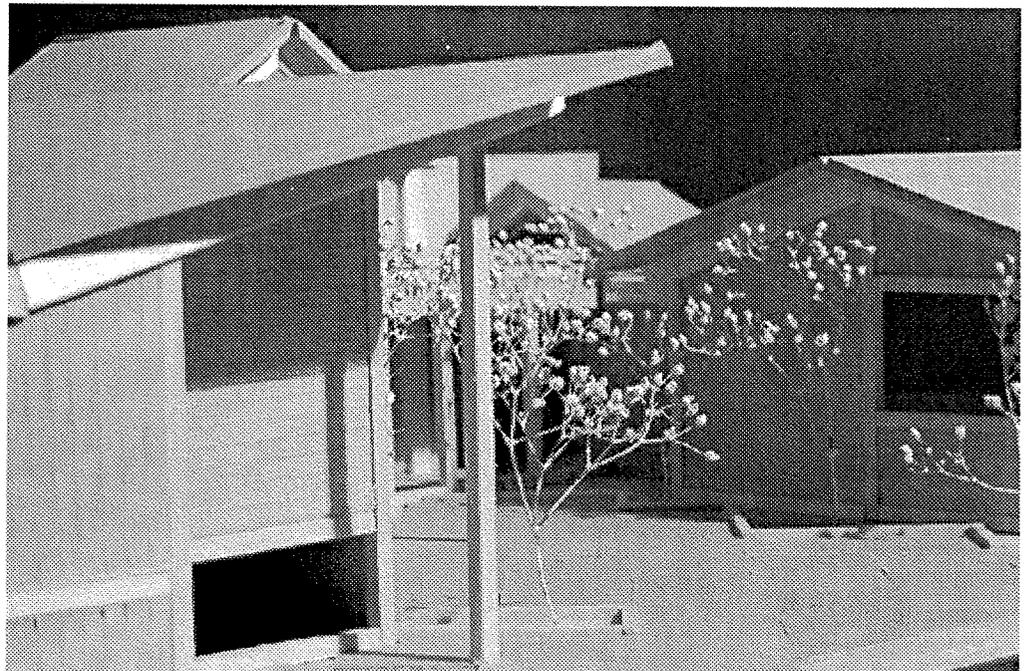
The Building Form Can Be Sympathetic to the Existing Neighborhood

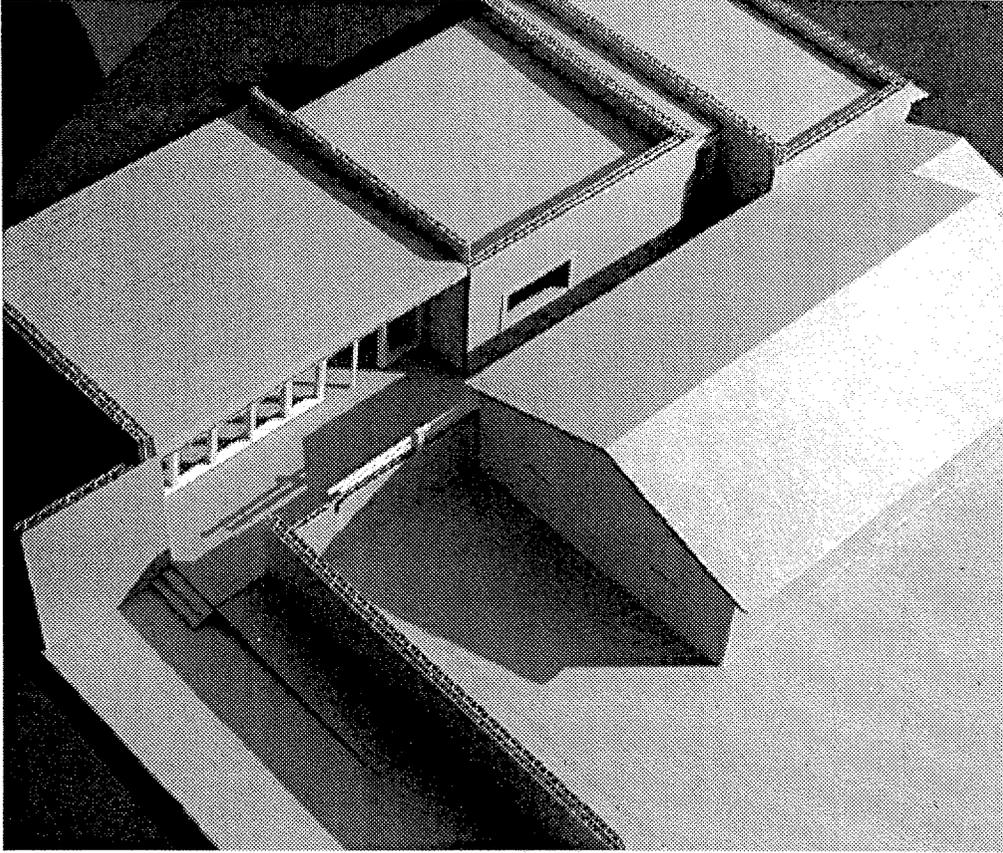
A new building can be built in a way that is sympathetic or relates to its neighbors. So many of the houses in Baptist Town are similar in their size, appearance, relationship to one another, materials, and ways in which they are made. By considering these basic characteristics that define how we think of Baptist Town, the new building form can bring out the best in them and also help to fill in gaps, where houses are missing, and unite the building forms. Being sensitive to the existing building forms and constructing a new building in relation to the existing community fabric can help to unite and improve the entire block of buildings.



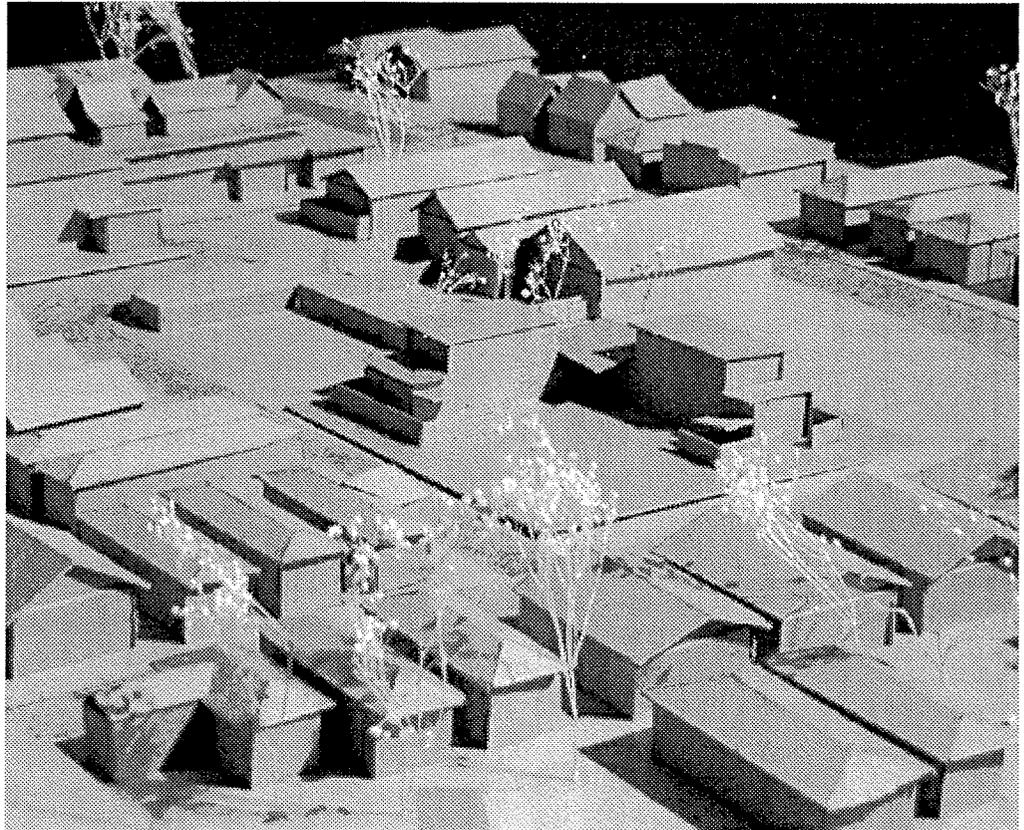
Brian Findley's proposed community center has been greatly influenced by the roof forms and massing of the buildings in Baptist Town. He has incorporated elements of both the hip-roof forms and porches of the houses, as well as the flat roofs and overhangs of the commercial buildings. He has also used the rhythm of the building placement to determine the structural bays of his building, and he used this system to separate the different uses of the Community Center on Site #1A.

For Jack Allin, the roof forms and massing of the homes on Stephens Street influenced his design. He has also been influenced by the materials, massing, and the spaces created by these houses. In particular, Jack has learned from the spaces created by the porches, and he has used this influence in the design of his own outdoor gathering spaces. By using horizontal wood siding as the primary building material, the community center gains a direct relationship with the existing houses in the neighborhood on Site #1A.





The scale, rhythm, and proportion of Holly Douglas's proposed Community Center relate to the houses and other structures in the neighborhood. The building directly corresponds to the surrounding houses, their forms, and proportions, which encourages the intimate nature of the site and neighborhood Site #1-B.

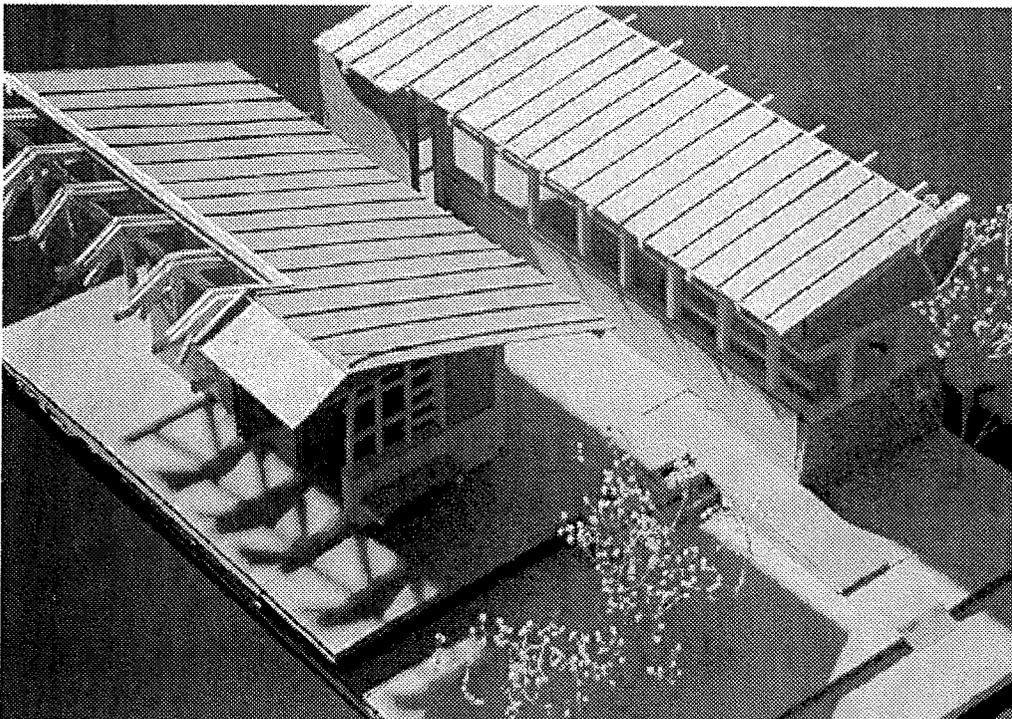
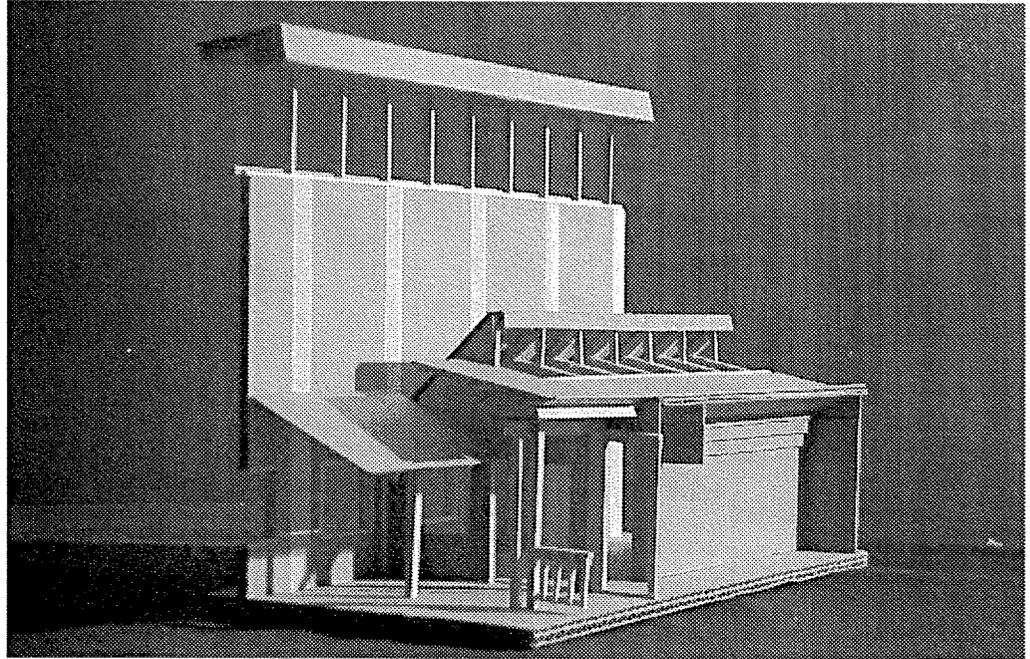


On Sites #1A and 1B, William Baker examined the existing conditions and applied these elements to the design of his Community Center. Window and door openings, overall building height, proportion, and massing of the existing buildings in the neighborhood were all used as a guide. The overall rhythm and spacing of the existing houses and the commercial buildings, in particular, influenced the design.

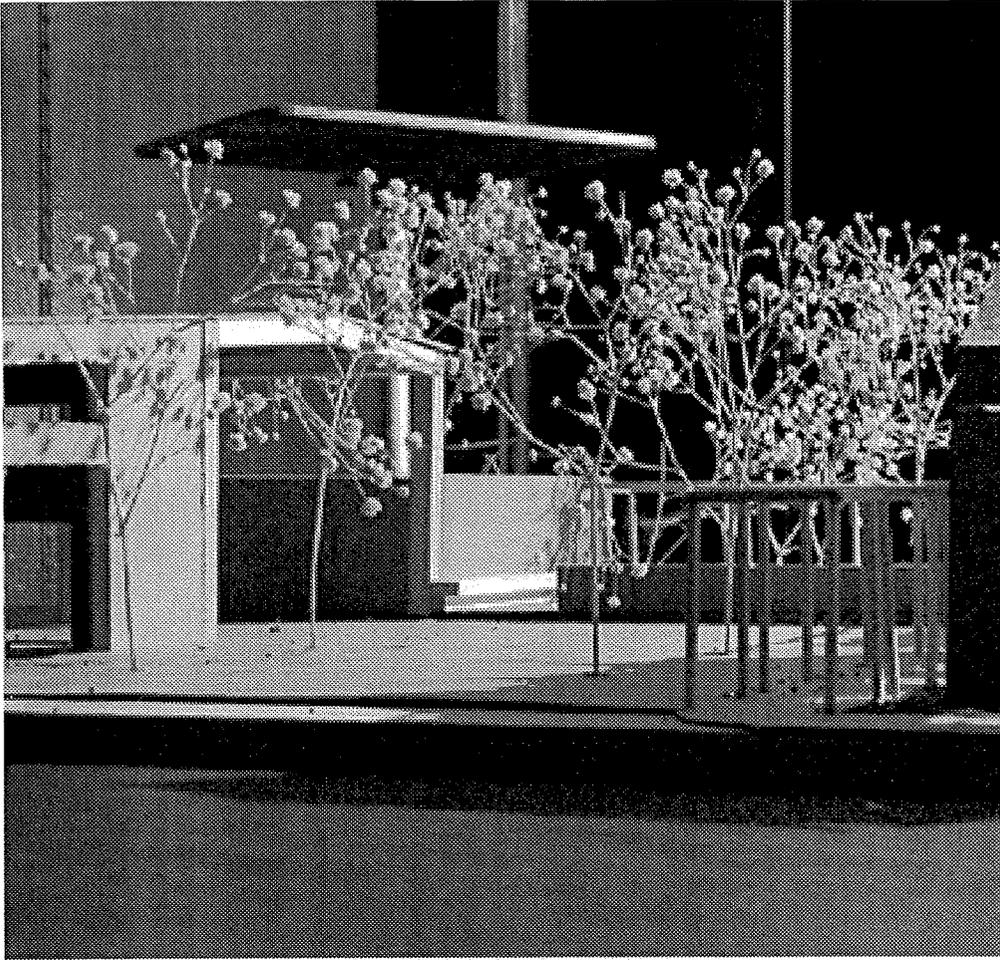
The Site Strategy Can Contribute to Civic Pride

The placement of a new building in Baptist Town can contribute to improving the neighborhood and contribute new positive qualities. The ways in which others in Greenwood arrive at and perceive Baptist Town are determined by the ways the physical landscape and the buildings greet one. By placing the building appropriately and attending to the landscape details, a new facility can contribute to the community's sense of civic pride.

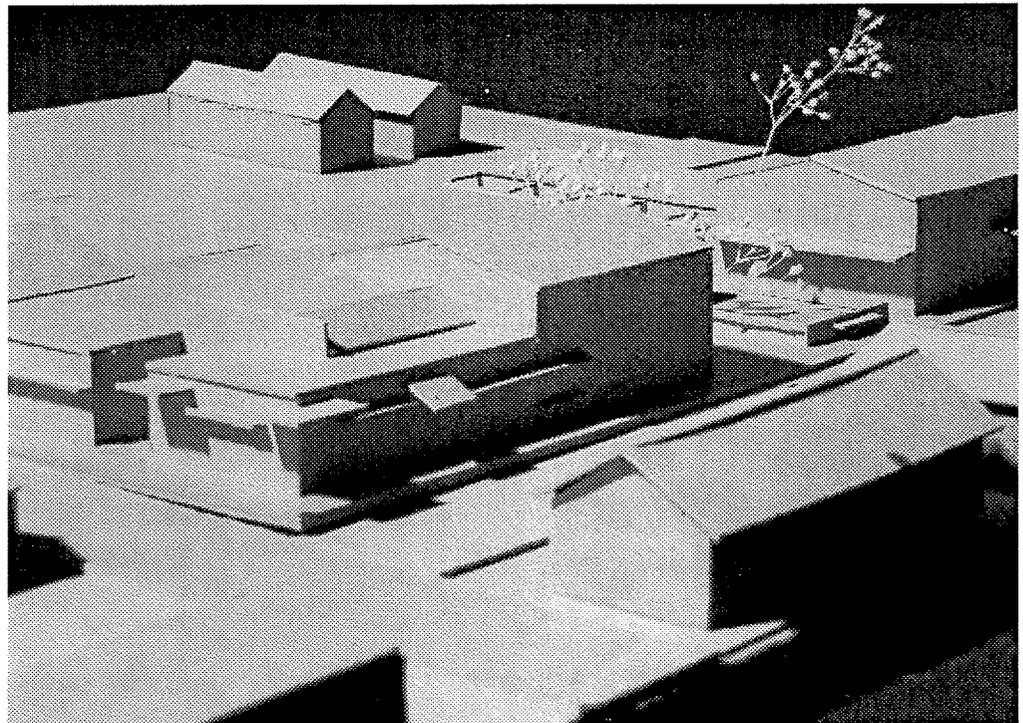
On Site #4, Kyle Archer's community building, located at the intersection of Walker Street and Avenue A, capitalizes on the proximity of the Pelucia Bayou. The proposal establishes a building that would serve as a community landmark seen from Grenada Boulevard across the bayou. By creating a visual connection with Greenwood, the community center would serve as a beacon for the community. (Site 4)



Heather Keith proposed a community center located at the entrance of the community on Site #2. Serving as a transition between Greenwood's business district and Baptist Town, the building creates a landmark and visual symbol when entering the neighborhood, while also making a connection with the rest of the neighborhood. The proposal also includes a landscaped park and pavilion that would promote interaction between the Community Center and McKinley Chapel.



Danny Kelley also used Site #2 at the entrance of Baptist Town. By incorporating trees and other landscaping into the overall design, the Community Center begins to relate to the surrounding environment. The height and canopy added with the addition of the trees brings a direct relationship to McKinney Chapel.

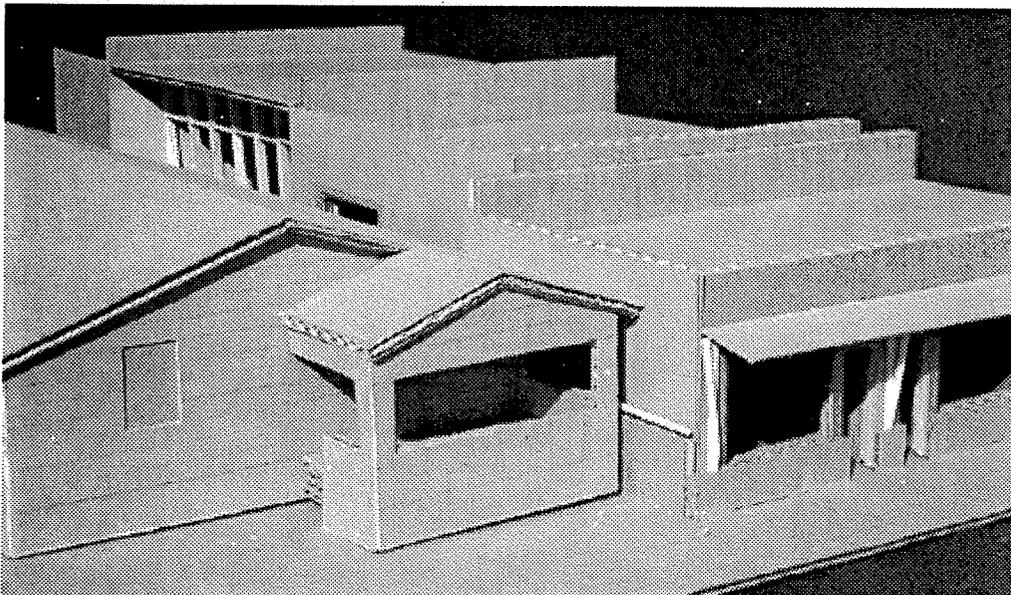
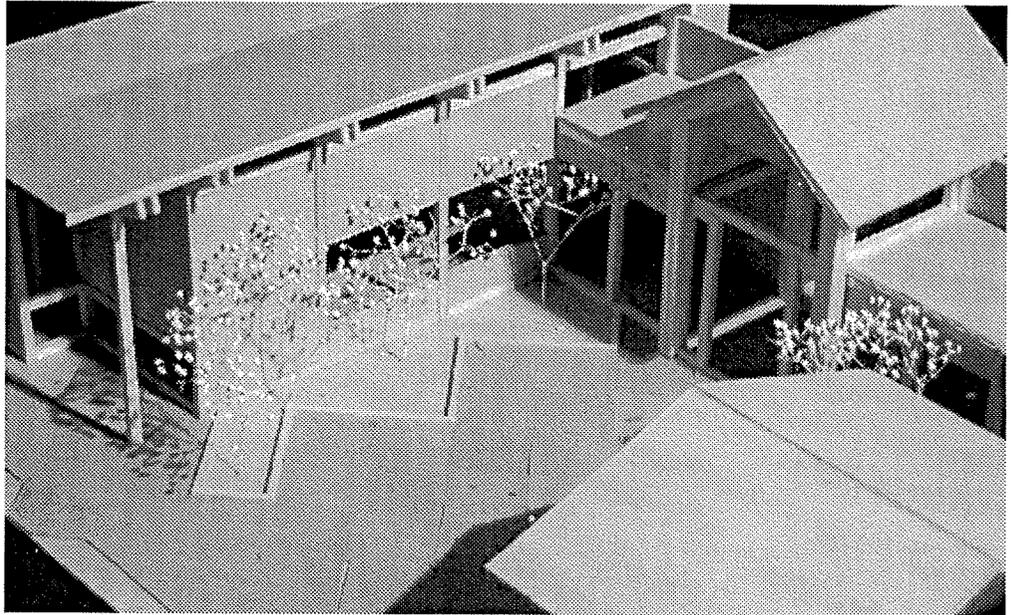


Jennifer Clynych's Community Center focuses on building forms that encourage and promote civic pride in the community. The public functions in the building are clearly defined by the use of concrete, and canopies distinguishing the building as public.

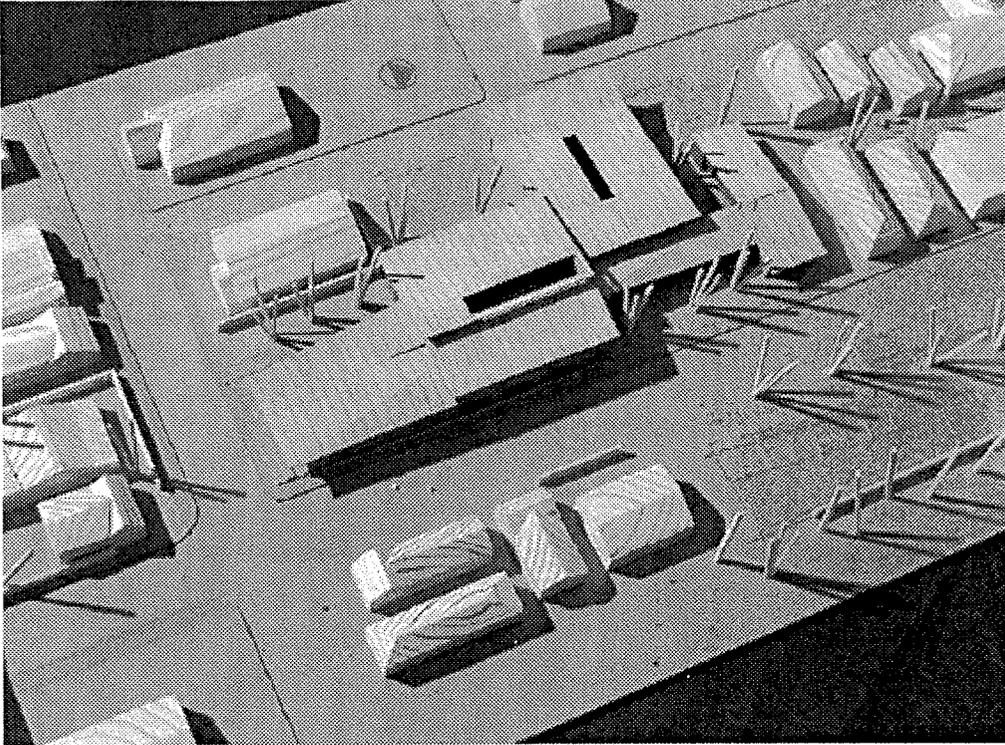
The Building Use and Its Layout Can Relate to Street Life

The types of programs that are placed in the building and how they are placed can relate to the activities of the street. The ways in which people on the street see into the Community Center and enter and become engaged with the programs is critical to the success of the Community Center. Also, if the building is planned correctly, those that participate and work in the street-related rooms of the Center can observe the activities on the street. This relationship might help to promote the community's participation in programs, and it can also help users of the streets surrounding the Center feel more protected and secure.

On Site #1A3 Jack Allin proposed a Community Center directly involving the surrounding street life by incorporating outdoor gathering spaces that respond to the street life. Strong visual connections through windows and openings also enable residents to interact with the street.

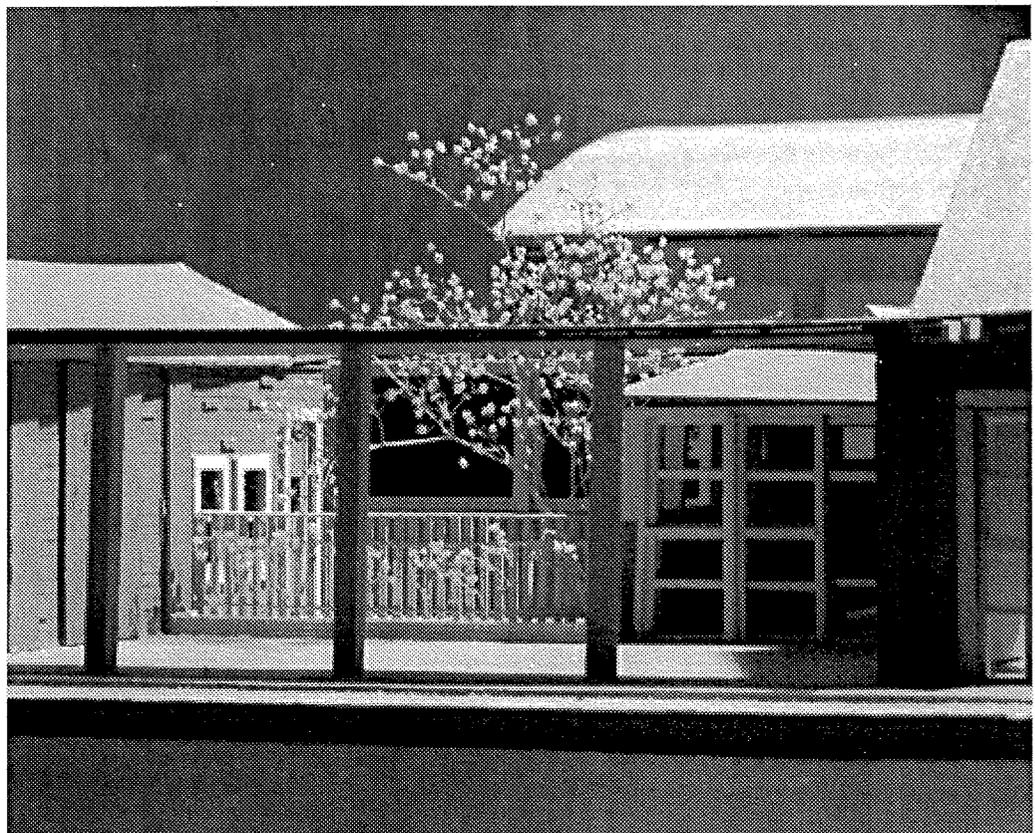


Holly Douglas's proposed building sits on a very tight site (Site #1B) which pushes the building close to the street edge. Reinforcing the street life through the use of canopies and visual connections established through openings, the building gains a direct relationship with the street and its surrounding buildings.



Ryan Hansen's building uses the length of Site #1B for circulation, relating to the circulation along the street. Situated on the corner of Young and Pelican streets, the Community Center encourages the use of sidewalks through the addition of roof overhangs. Announcing the public nature of the building, the building's orientation and placement encourage the active involvement of life on the streets.

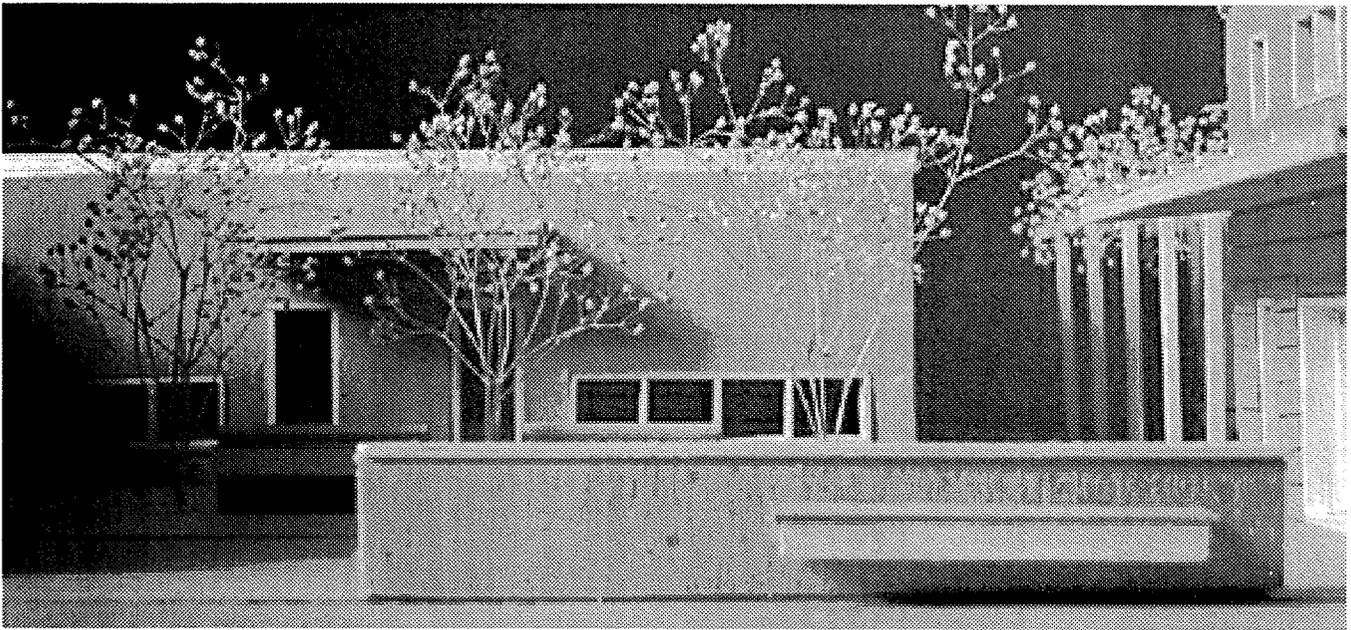
Jennifer Wegmann's proposal uses covered walkways, porches, seating, interior and exterior courtyards, and views into and through the Community Center to relate the building to the street on Site #1A. The indoor and outdoor spaces, and the spaces which connect the two, encourage interaction among residents within the center and those along the street. This interaction allows the use of the building to spread out on to the street, encouraging people to become involved. At the same time, views through the building and into the various courtyards make these spaces safer.



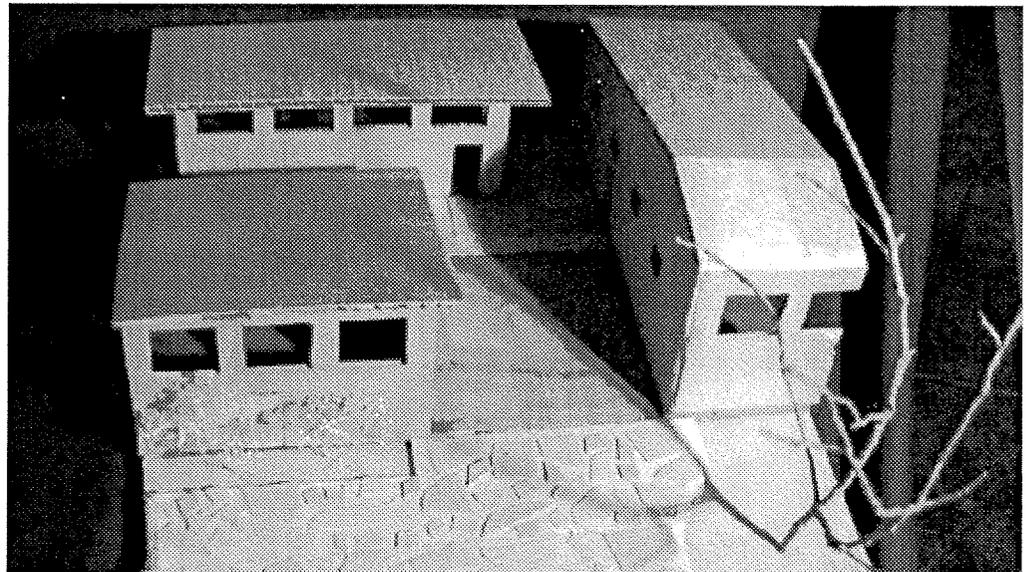
The Building Can Bring an Active Life to the Interior Areas of a Block

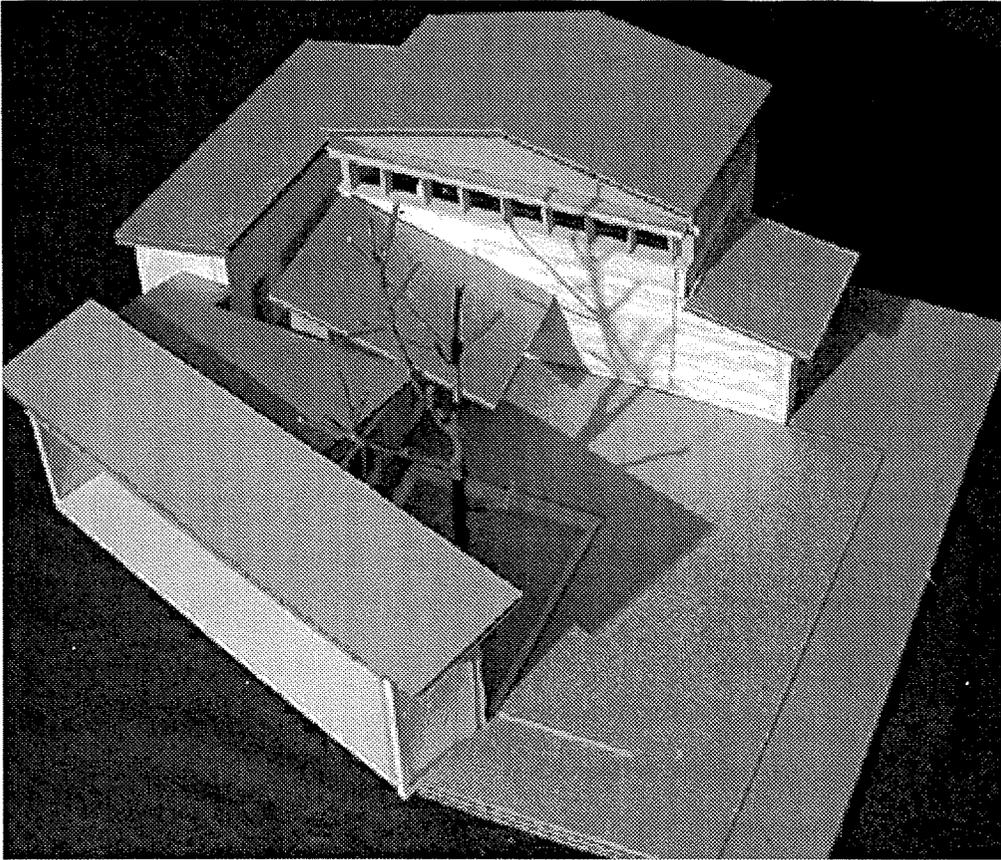
Jennifer Clynych's Community Center focuses on circulation through Site #1B, and encourages pedestrian travel into the block's interior. Located on the corner of Young and Pelican streets, the building incorporates landscaping and an arbor filled with greenery guiding residents through the site. The overall design of adjacent outdoor spaces will activate the life of the block's interior.

The interior of the blocks behind the houses is often open, with shared spaces used for gardening, gathering, parking cars, and children's play. There are often large shade trees and the potential for a pleasant "back yard." If a Community Center were to be next to these spaces, capitalizing on their potential and developing linking activities, it could support the larger community needs. This would be a positive improvement to Baptist Town. Also, by having day and night activities within the Community Center, the interior-block spaces could be more protected and become safer places.

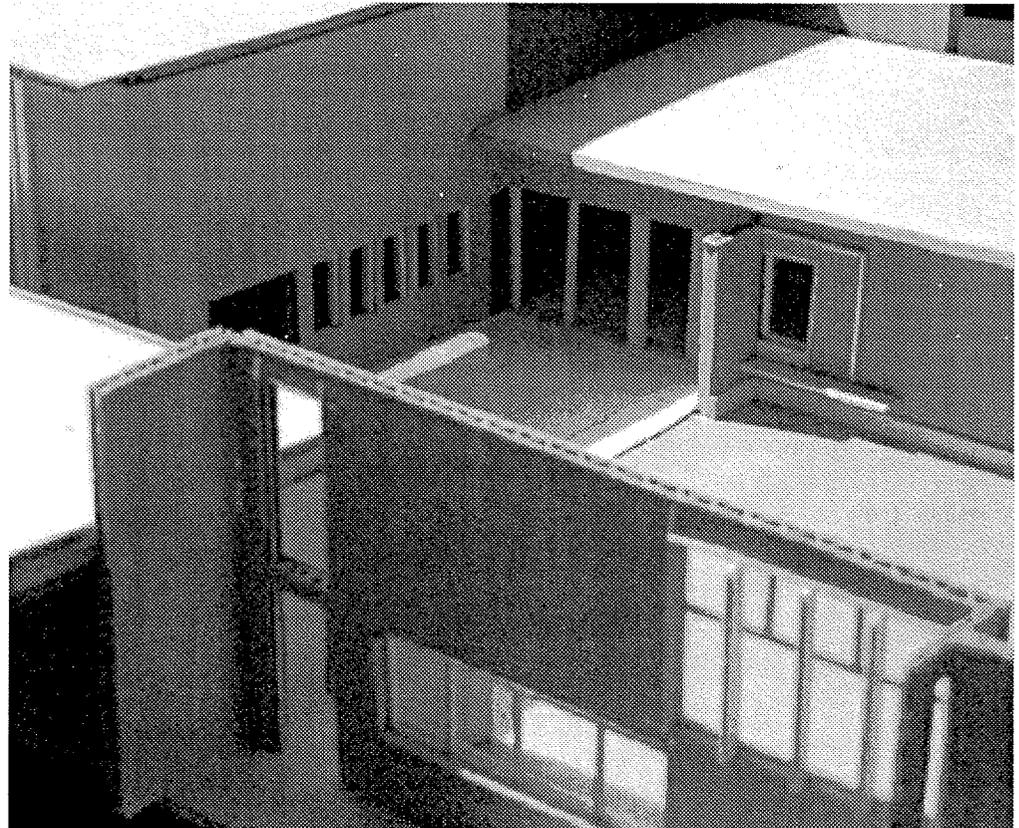


Paul Kirkpatrick's proposal uses courtyards and landscaping to activate the interior block of Site #3 connecting the buildings of his proposal. The paving patterns and landscaping of these courtyards serve to inform us of their use and to identify paths of circulation. The main courtyard in his proposal opens into the wooded lot of the site, allowing the tree canopy and pathways to create space. Paul has proposed that movable tables, benches, and other seating be used to allow the residents to shape this space to their purposes.





Chad Spurlin's project uses the mass of the building to create spaces within the interior of the block. Situated on the back of the site, the Community Center focuses on the existing trees in the center of the block. Through the use of exterior gathering places and courtyards, the building proposal encourages and supports activity and life in the block's interior. With the courtyard, the inner blocks of the neighborhood become energized, and, consequently, safer.

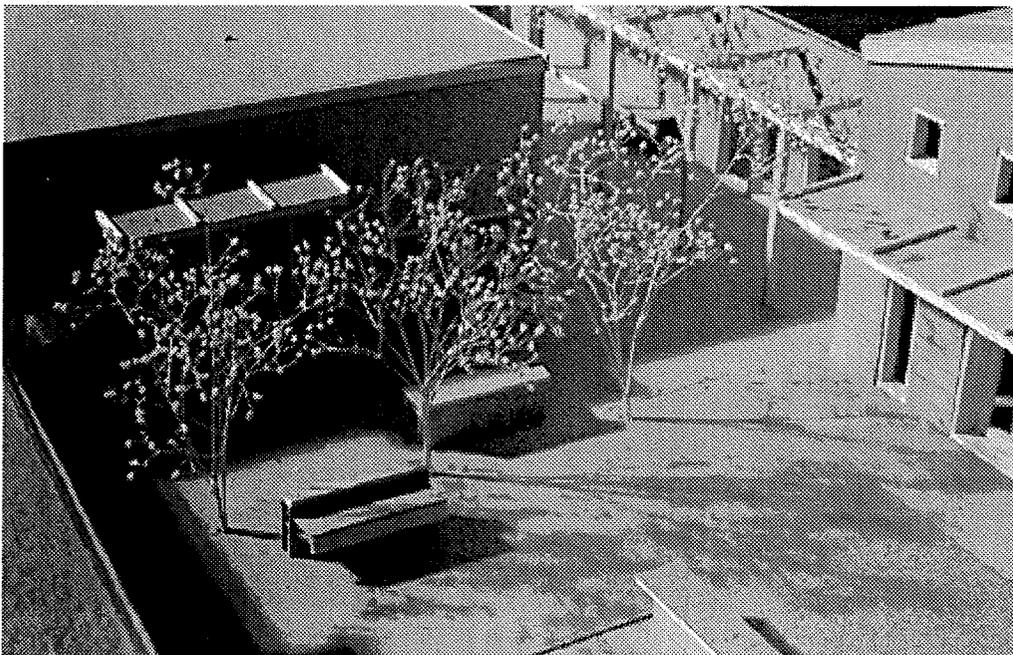
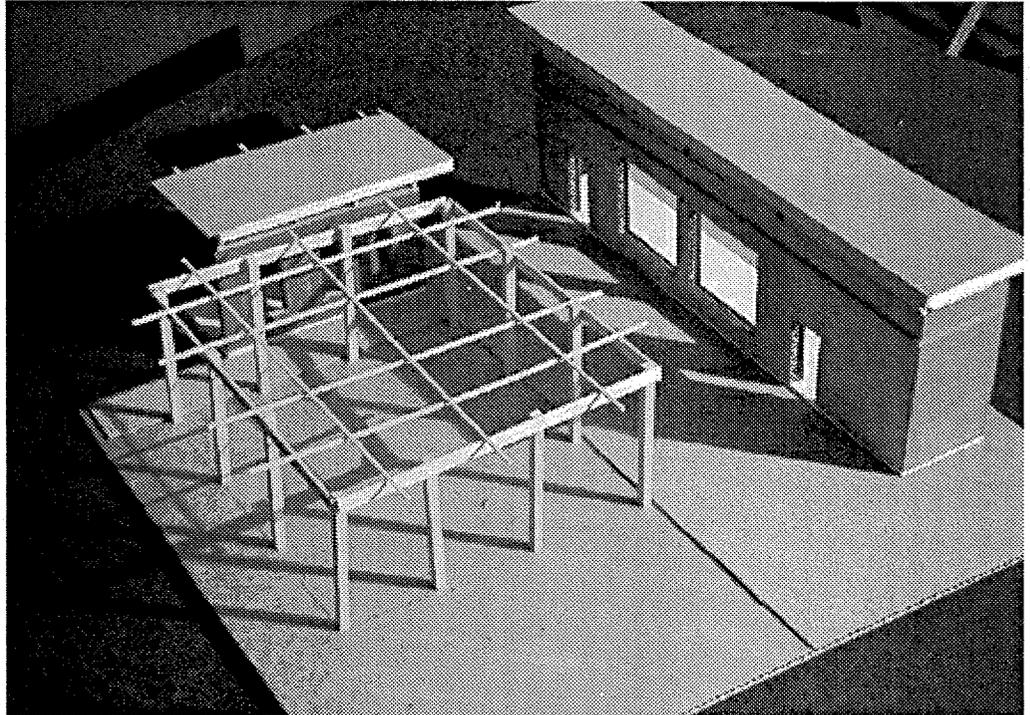


Sabrina Turnbow's design focuses on the development of outdoor spaces and courtyards between the several small buildings which make up her Community Center. Attention to paving patterns, color, proportion, landscaping, and window placement unify the structures and the spaces they create. By focusing the circulation and activity of the Center inward, the block interior is activated.

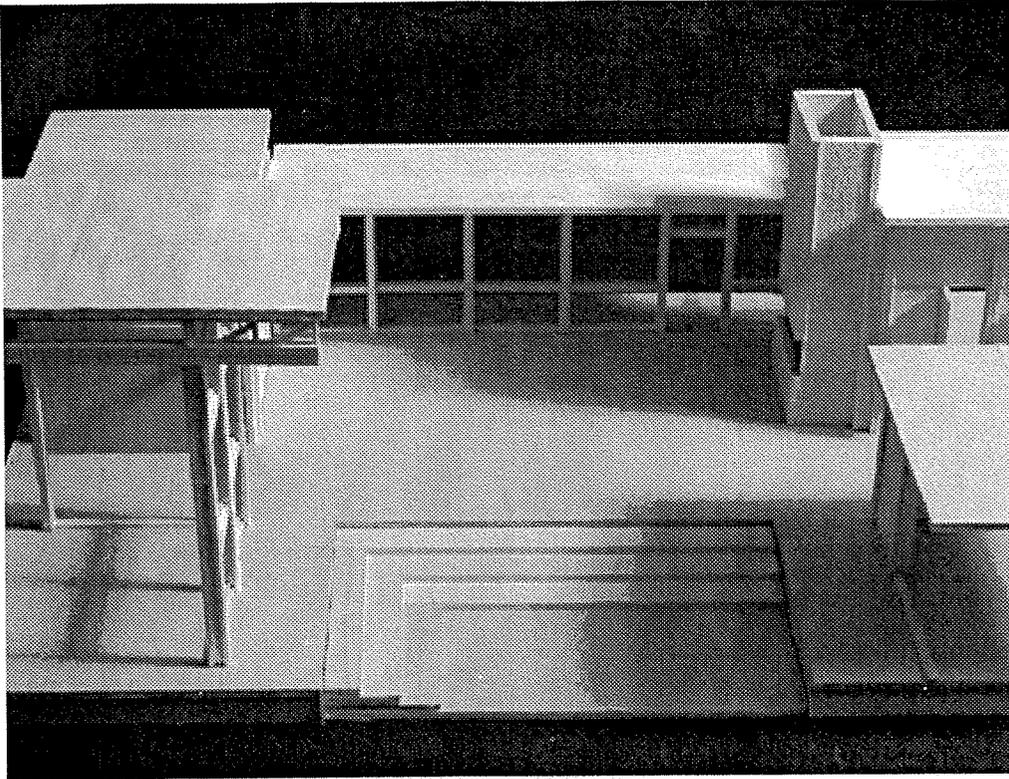
Establishing Interior Courtyards

Outdoor spaces that can be managed and programmed to hold meaningful public events are needed in Baptist Town. By developing and carefully considering the size, character, configuration, and use of the courtyard space, these spaces can be highly desirable places throughout the year, even in the coldest and hottest weather. Courtyards can serve as circulation or gathering spaces for the building, as well as places for the entire community.

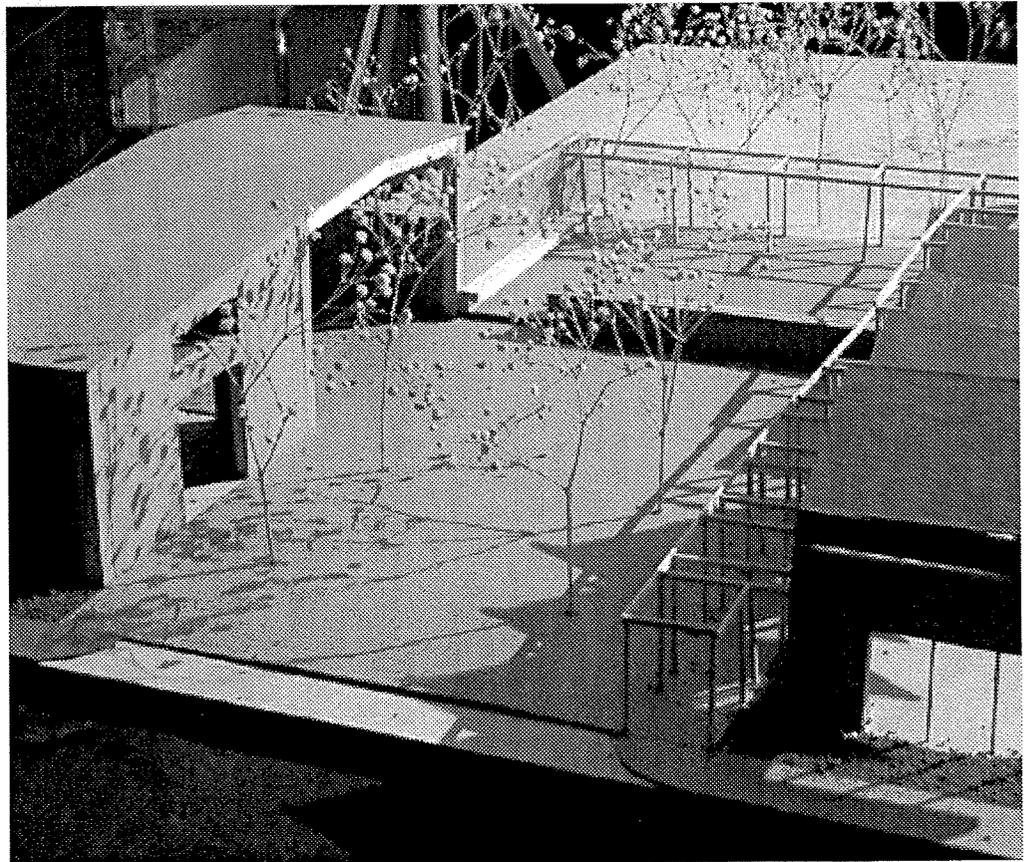
William Baker's proposal establishes a covered outdoor pavilion and outdoor courtyard in the heart of the neighborhood. Located at the intersection of Young and Pelican streets on Site #1B, the outdoor gathering space creates a location for recreational activities, community gatherings, meeting, and picnics. Landscaping is incorporated into the design and unifies the courtyard areas with the remaining portion of the Community Center.



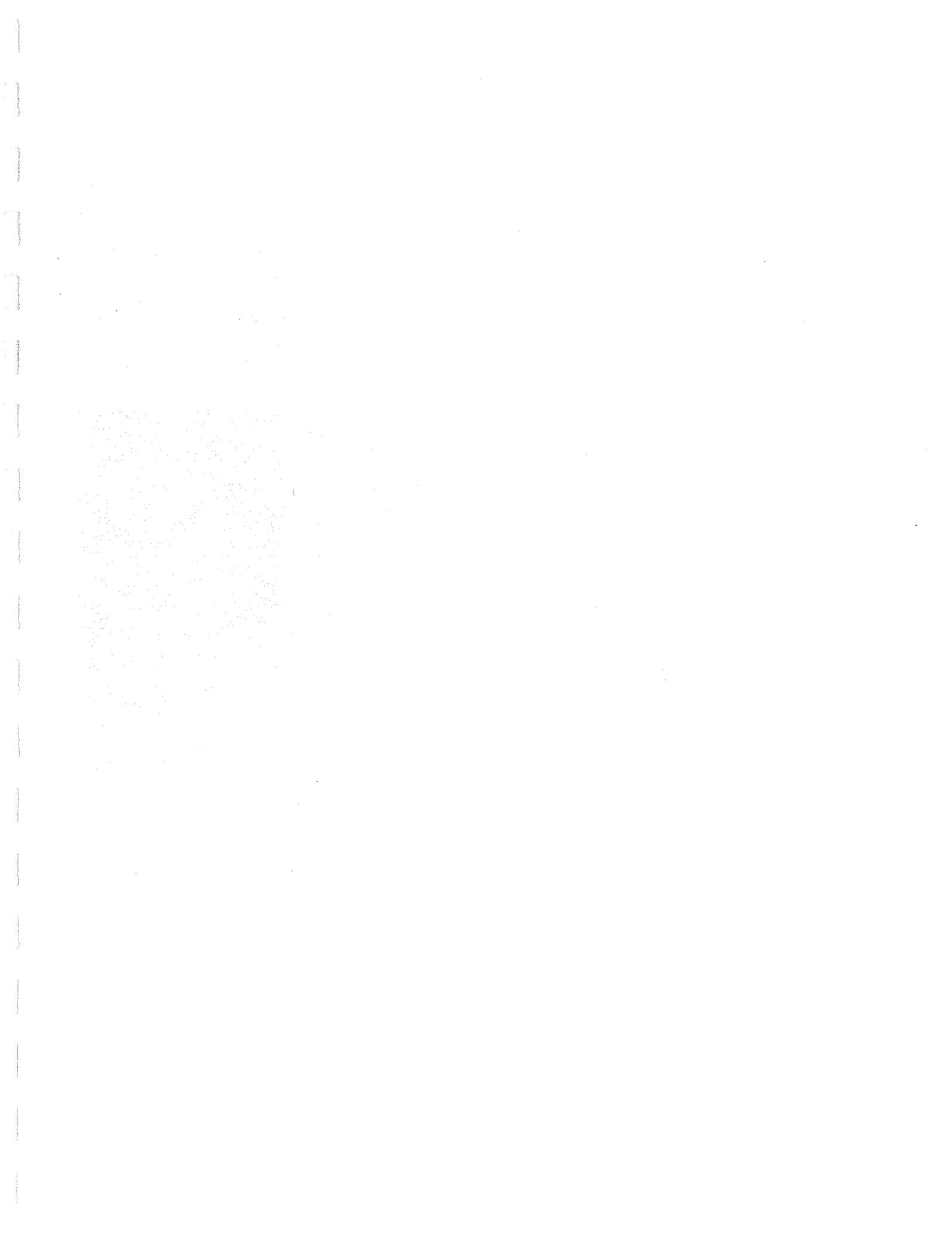
Jennifer Clynch proposed a courtyard that activates the entire building. The primary spaces within the Community Center all focus on the outdoor gathering space created for pedestrian circulation through Site #1B. Community gatherings, recreational activities, and general building circulation all occur in the courtyard. The design of the courtyard consider proportion, landscaping, and shade to create a meaningful outdoor space that Baptist Town residents can use.



Matthew Compton proposes a courtyard that serves to unify the different areas of his Community Center. Situated at the intersection of Young and Pelican streets, an open auditorium/recreation area encourages and supports interaction among residents, within the block. An open auditorium, pavilion structure, outdoor recreation space, and picnic area are all incorporated into the design.



On Site #2, Danny Kelley's building proposal uses a courtyard to focus circulation between the different areas of his building. The courtyard also serves as a gathering space, allowing residents and participants at the Center to interact. An arbor, along with developed landscaping, guides pedestrians into the courtyard and creates a sense of enclosure.

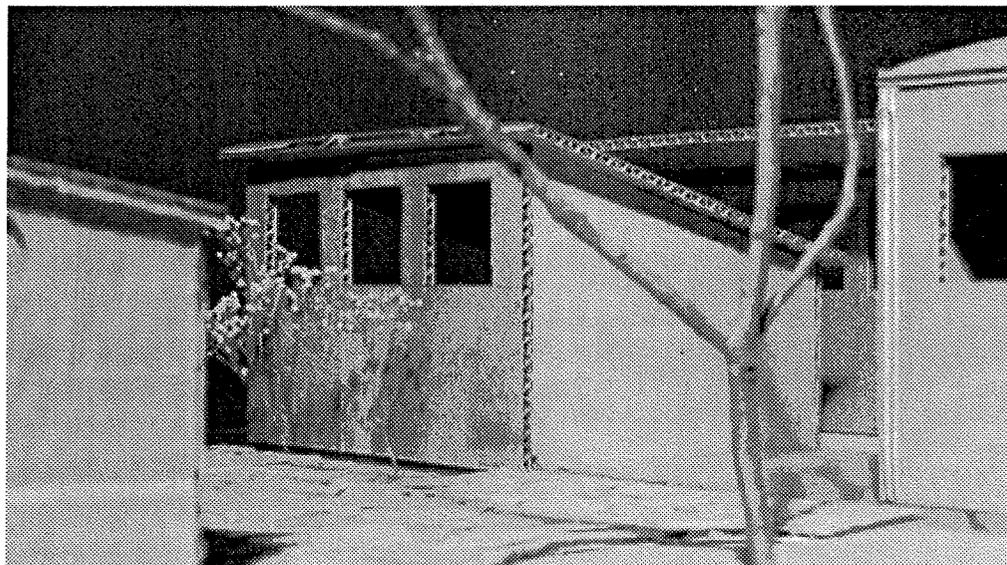


Involving the Community in the Making of the Center

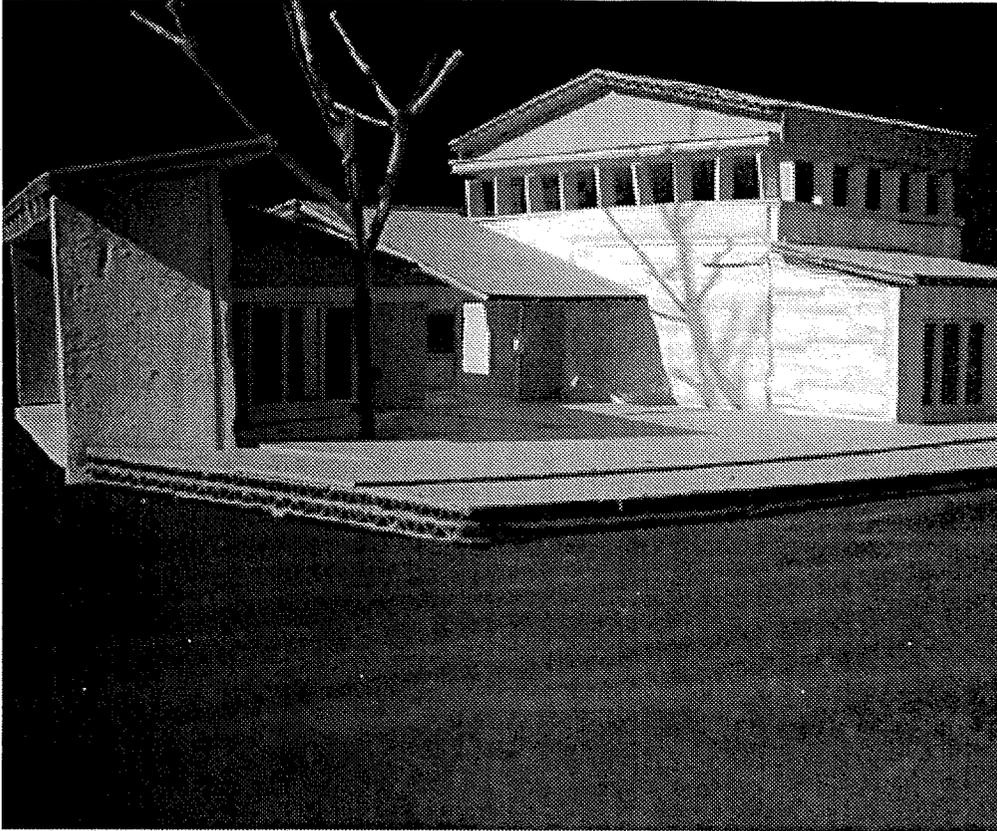
As ideas are developed and needs of the community identified through community discussions, it is critical that the making of a Community Center also involve community members. In addition, identifying funding resources to make such a project buildable will require the talents of a team of individuals both from within Baptist Town and from experienced outside consultants. As a project like this is developed, it will also be critical that individuals be involved in the making of the building and its landscape. Being all-inclusive and engaging the talents of individuals is the only way that a project such as this can be conceived, built, and sustained successfully. Careful consideration would create a building designed so that non-skilled labor can participate in its making, much like the Habitat for Humanity construction model.

Matthew Compton's design is created using a grid of pre-fabricated metal columns, beams, and trusses. The simplicity of his design would make construction easier, and the building could be used to teach community members techniques of steel construction, such as welding.

Sited on Site #1B.

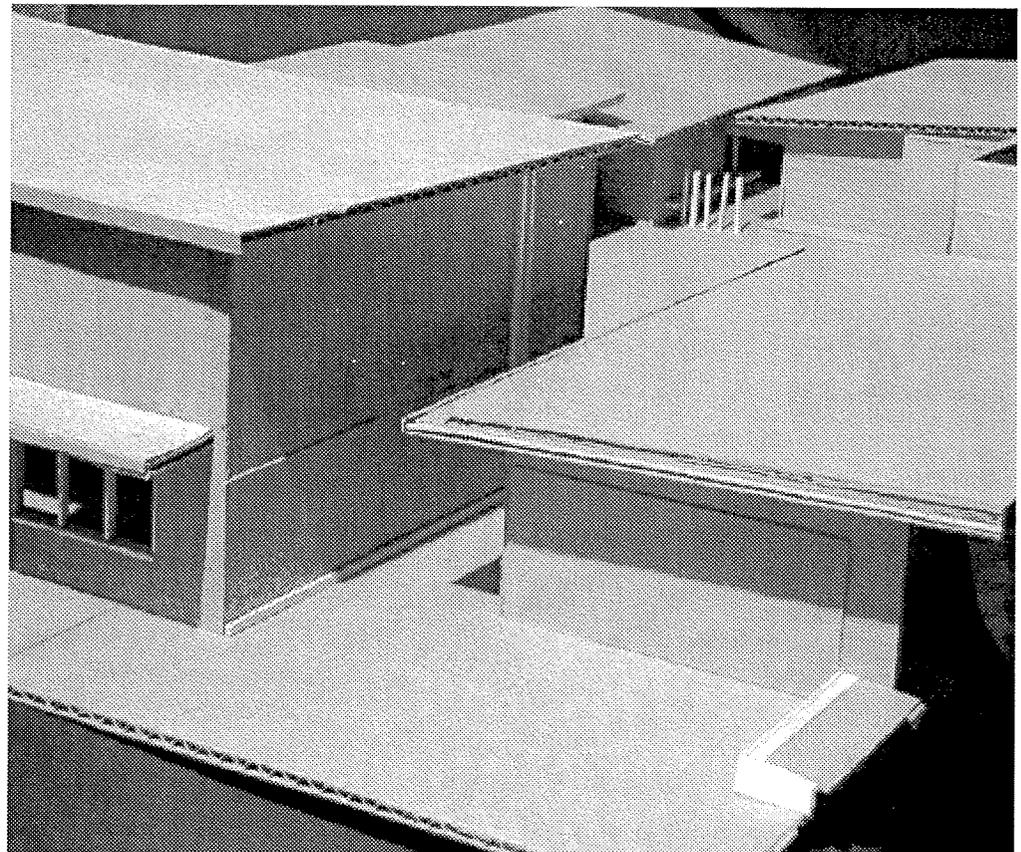


Paul Kirkpatrick's proposal on Site #3 focused around community involvement in the construction of the Center. He used materials and construction techniques, such as wood framing and pre-fabricated trusses, that would allow residents to easily build the Center. He also programmed different aspects of the Center into separate, smaller buildings, so that each structure could be built as needed, or as funds and donated materials became available.



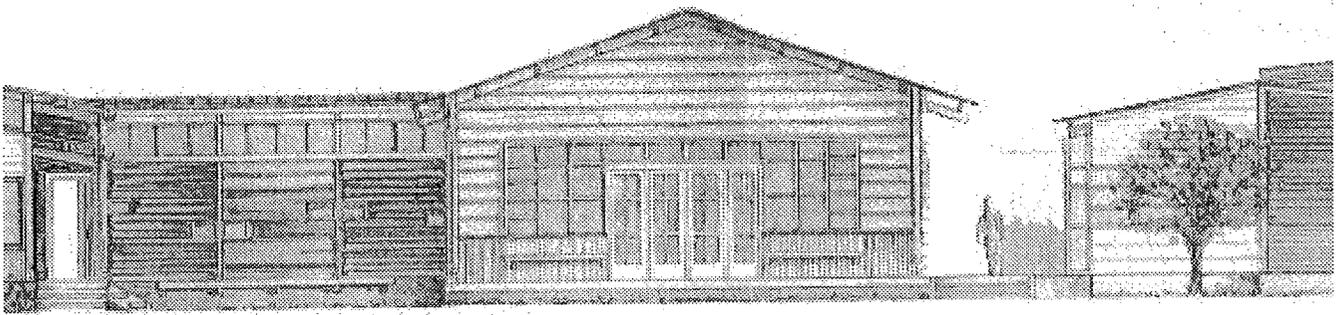
Chad Spurlin proposed the use of poured-in-place concrete for his Community Center on Site #3. His unique design, which was influenced by the use of concrete in the neighborhood, utilizes custom-made formwork, which would give the walls a variety of textures. Residents could participate in the individualized construction of these forms and could also be taught how to pour concrete in the construction of the Center.

On Site #1A, Sabrina Turnbow's Community Center consists of a series of smaller buildings rather than one large Center. The buildings relate to the size and spacing of the neighboring houses. Due to the materials she proposes, wood and sheet metal, and the size of the several small structures, it would be easy for members of the community to build the Community Center in several different phases. Sabrina has also proposed getting the children of the neighborhood involved, by having them each paint a plank of the fence of the day-care playground.



Developing the Center with Color

Throughout Baptist Town many people choose to paint railings, doors, windows, walls, fences, etc. with bright colors. It is an aspect that adds to the distinct qualities of Baptist Town. As a new building is imagined, color should be an element that is considered to allow the building and surrounding landscape to complement the existing neighborhood. Examples that make relationships with the rest of the community include white buildings with multi-colored trim, brightly colored buildings using color to indicate different uses, solid white buildings with colored paving, and buildings that pick up colors from neighboring structures.

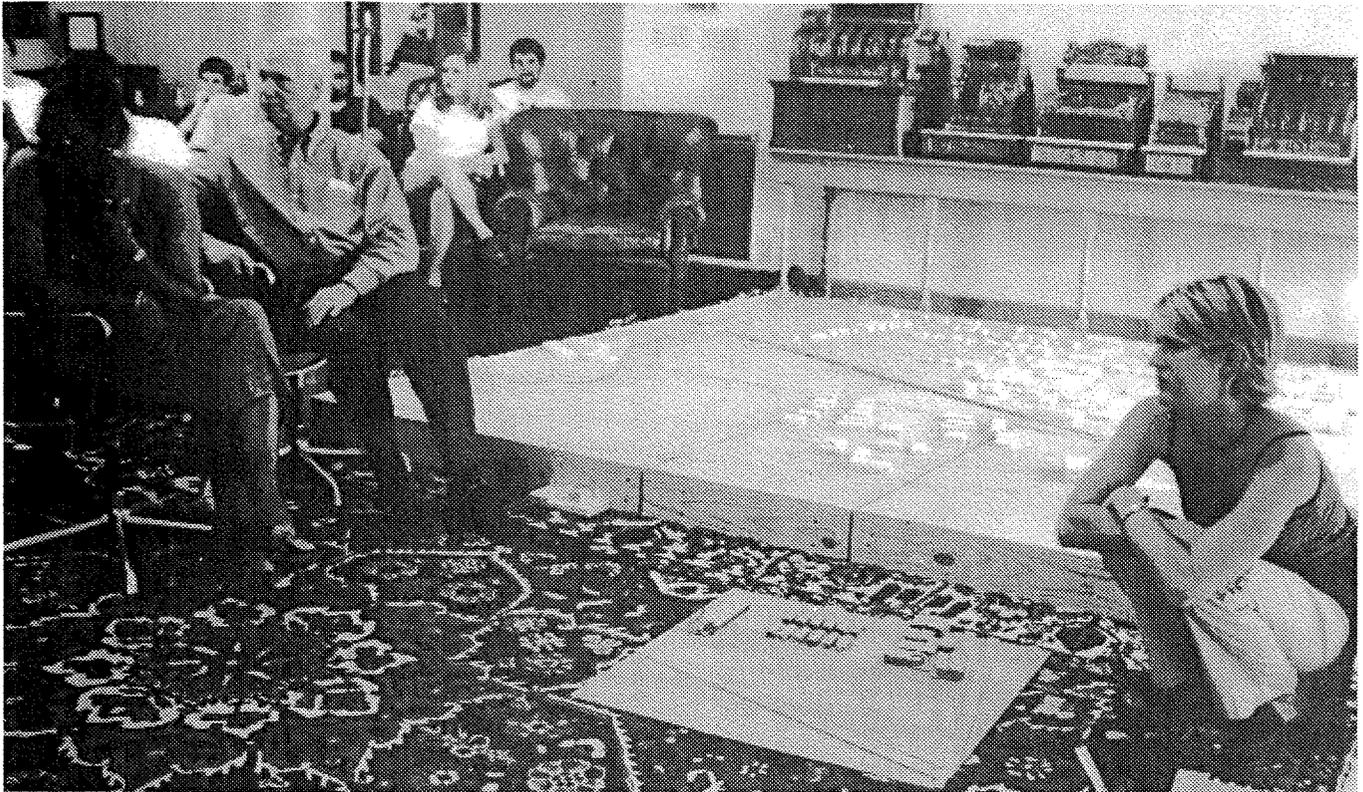


Heather Keith studied the color conditions in Baptist Town, specifically on Short and McCain streets. By incorporating these various colors into the Community Center, a common unity is established with the surrounding houses, businesses, and landscape. This unity makes a connection between the different uses of the Community Center and the residential and commercial buildings of the neighborhood on Site #2.

Considering Landscaping at the Community Scale

As one walks through Baptist Town, the houses and patterns of the blocks make it distinct. The pathways and the ways in which people travel by foot have developed over time and tie the blocks together. Developing landscaped treatments throughout the neighborhood could have a large positive impact. Removing the trash and maintaining the neighborhood, in general, would greatly improve its appearance. Planting trees, shrubs, vines, and grass in areas would contribute toward improving the quality of the landscape. Other possible contributions could include formalizing the paths by naming them, adding street and local porch lights, creating new paths, and providing seating along the paths. A protected child's playground, an open-field park, a picnic area, and an outdoor pavilion would be appropriate additions, as well.

Community Response



Residents of Baptist Town, students of Mississippi State University's School of Architecture, as well as other guests with an interest in the community, met on May 11, 2000 at the headquarters of the Viking Range Corporation to review proposals made by students for a Community Center. This presentation culminated a semester-long study of the neighborhood. Throughout the course of the project, the students met several times with the members of the community in the neighborhood Baptist Church, and they also made several trips to the area for site analysis. At the 5/11/00 meeting, students presented several projects based on a proposed program for a building centered on the community, including a space for meeting, job training, recreation, childcare, and facilities for small business start-ups, among other uses. The program grew out of the ideas and issues discussed at various community meetings and from interviews with residents.

The community members at the meeting shared several insights on the projects presented. There were four main issues discussed: community image, safety, housing, and community involvement. There was positive response, in particular, to several key ideas presented in the various projects. For example, the residents showed interest in proposals that oriented the

the building toward Greenwood's downtown business district, improved the appearance of the entrance to Baptist Town, and used an element or form of the building to serve as a beacon in the community.

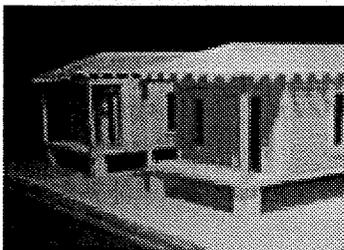
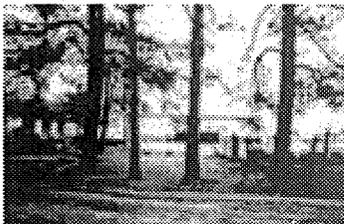
A significant concern of the residents present was safety. One resident mentioned a desire to have a police annex placed within Baptist Town. In particular, there was concern voiced by the group on how to keep spaces created, or already present, safe. Existing alleyways seem to foster crime in the area. A police presence could serve to control drug-trade activities, curb child abuse, and enforce ordinances, such as controlling litter and roaming animals. Several of the community members present called for new programs in the community, such as education, drug and crime prevention, and after-school programs. Some stressed the need to provide a place for children to hang-out off the streets, as well as receive tutoring and assistance with homework. There was favorable response to projects that opened up the interior block of the site, providing a space for gathering.

Several members of the community were also concerned about the need to improve housing in Baptist Town. The lack of housing choices other than one-bedroom houses in Baptist Town was of particular concern. A suggestion was made to combine two of the shotgun-style houses into one, creating houses with two or three bedrooms. Also mentioned was the lack of pride and investment by those that rent property versus those who own. The number of rental properties (about 1/2 to 2/3 of houses are rented) results in a feeling of frustration by residents because of the lack of pride taken in these properties. Members of the group mentioned the possibility of involving programs, such as Habitat for Humanity, in developing new housing and repairing existing housing. Such an initiative would not only help residents to build new homes, but also teach residents how to maintain or improve their homes. Those present took particular interest in projects that involve community members in the building process. It is possible to imagine Baptist Town's residents learning construction skills through an apprentice-type program, enabling them to be employable with local construction companies.

An overriding feeling of those present was the need to have the community involved and for residents to take ownership in the project in order for it to be successful. While vision from outside the community is an important catalyst, it is vital that the Board of Supervisors and the City Council share in that vision. First steps include making people feel secure, and then implementing programs to weed out the "bad elements" in the neighborhood. In addition, it is important to create housing which supports basic family needs and instills in them a sense of pride. There is a feeling among this group that 'empty promises' have been presented to the community in the past. It is crucial that the proposals being made offer tangible ways in which the Baptist Town residents can make them happen.

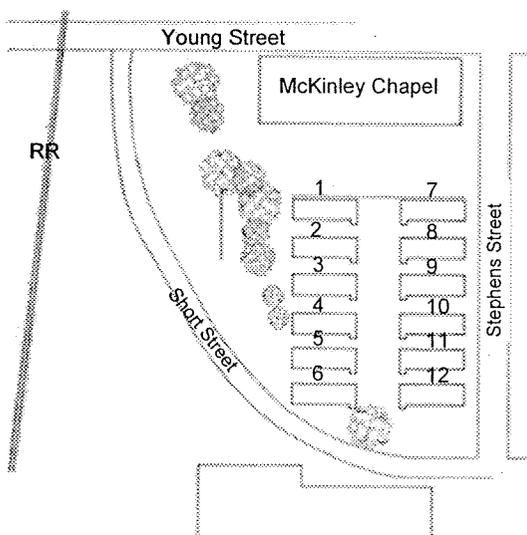
Demonstration Housing

Providing places for families to grow through the redevelopment of the community's housing stock.

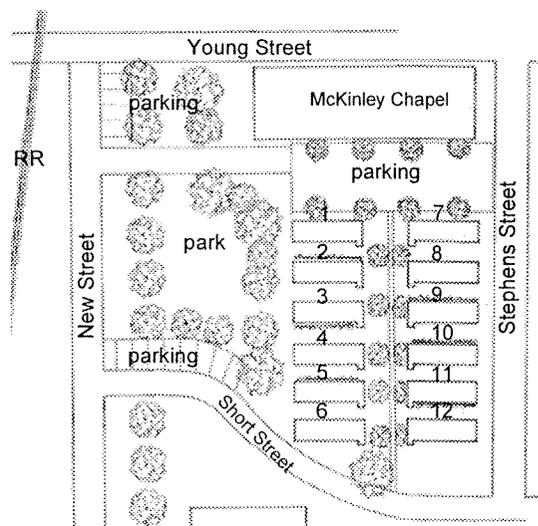


Baptist Town was once a thriving community with housing that met the needs of the families. Today, Baptist Town remains culturally rich, but its dilapidated housing stock of shotgun houses, does not meet the needs of the community or of the families that live in them. The community's aspiration is to redevelop, renovate, and enhance its housing. The following Demonstration Housing study proposes to improve the built environment, positively affecting the daily lives of those living there. It becomes a tangible investment in the community. Additionally, this study offers a model for future improvements throughout the neighborhood by exploring the application of redevelopment strategy in other communities.

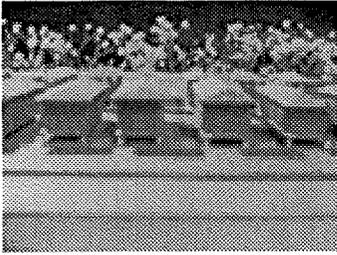
Shotgun housing, in its original configuration, provides basic shelter to its occupants: three rooms lined up, one in front of the other. As families grow, it often becomes necessary to accommodate up to three or four generations. These houses can no longer effectively serve the families and their diverse needs. The housing is not conducive to family-oriented living because of the linear arrangement and unaccommodating nature of the rooms. In addition, the surrounding neighborhood has not developed to accommodate childrens' play, the sanctity of each home, and the creation of well-defined public areas respecting the privacy of each family.



Existing Site Plan



Proposed Site Plan

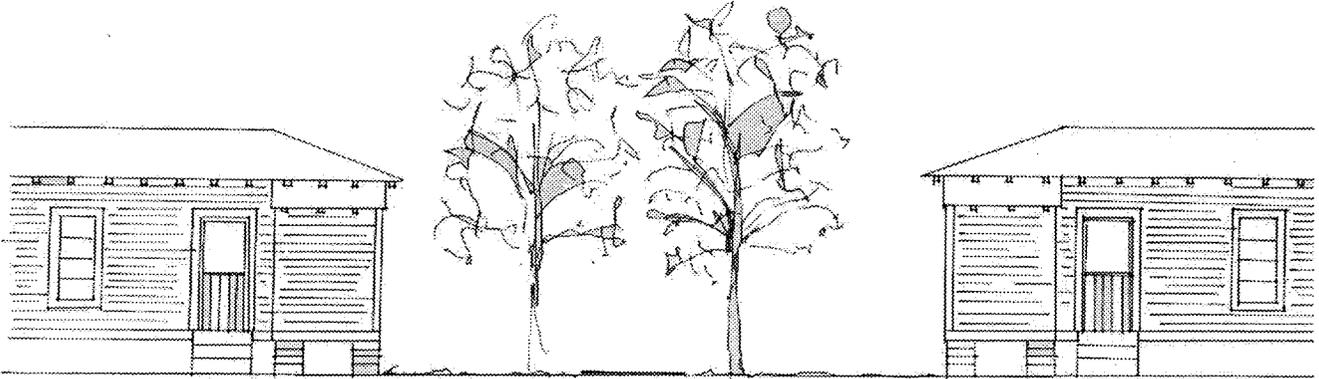


Site model

Understanding the Existing Context and Housing Conditions

Baptist Town is comprised of twelve shotgun houses located between Short and Stephens Streets adjacent to McKinley Chapel. Short Street creates a dangerous traffic flow directly adjacent to the houses as it invades the "lot boundaries" of the homes and opens the front yards to become parking areas for the homes.

The Demonstration Housing examines the potential of a new site plan, including the realignment of Short Street, and proposes solutions for improving traffic flow, parking, pedestrian pathways and landscaping

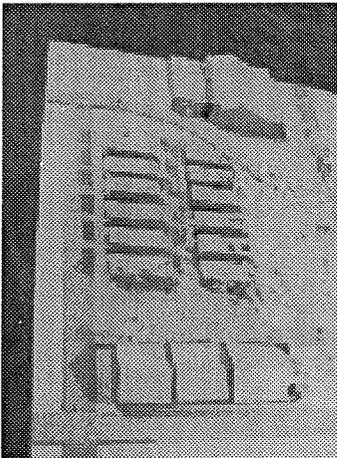


Side section

throughout the neighborhood. Beyond this, and as importantly, the Demonstration Housing considers housing within the community context and new configurations of each house plan to better accommodate new family needs.

One's immediate neighborhood should augment and facilitate prosperous community interaction and growth. One concern is the traffic flow around the houses and parking. Short Street sharply curves, passing the houses and creating unsafe conditions. Additionally, because the ownership of the front yards is ambiguous and undefined, they have become neglected. The path running between the backyards of the homes is undefined, ambiguous, barren, and unmanaged because no one has taken responsibility. Additionally the community has no safe, well-defined play areas for the children. The Demonstration Housing study addresses these issues.

Historically the typical room arrangement of the shotgun house has provided only basic shelter for families. Over time as families grow and mature, the room arrangements no longer meet the needs of contemporary life and family structure. The three rooms are arranged one in front of the other, leading from the front door on the porch, to the bedroom in the middle and the kitchen and bath at the rear of the house. With this room arrangements, the houses lack privacy, requiring one to pass through the bedroom to reach the kitchen or the bath, eliminating the bedroom's privacy. This creates a house that is inefficient.



Site model

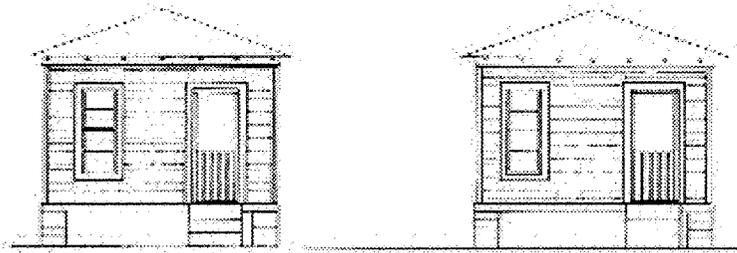


Existing Homes

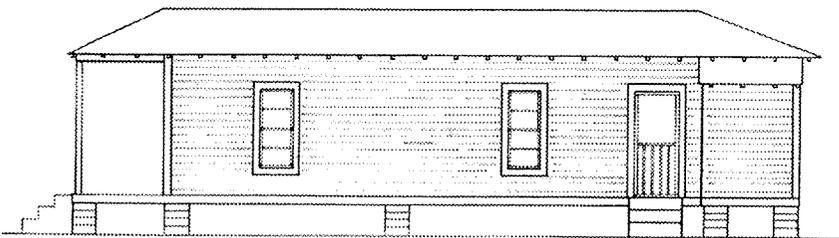
Each house is conventionally framed (14' - 6" wide by 47' - 0" long) and raised above the ground approximately 18" on concrete pillars. The facades are constructed of wood clapboard siding on wooden posts supporting the front porch and roof. The double-hung windows are arranged to allow cross ventilation of the house.



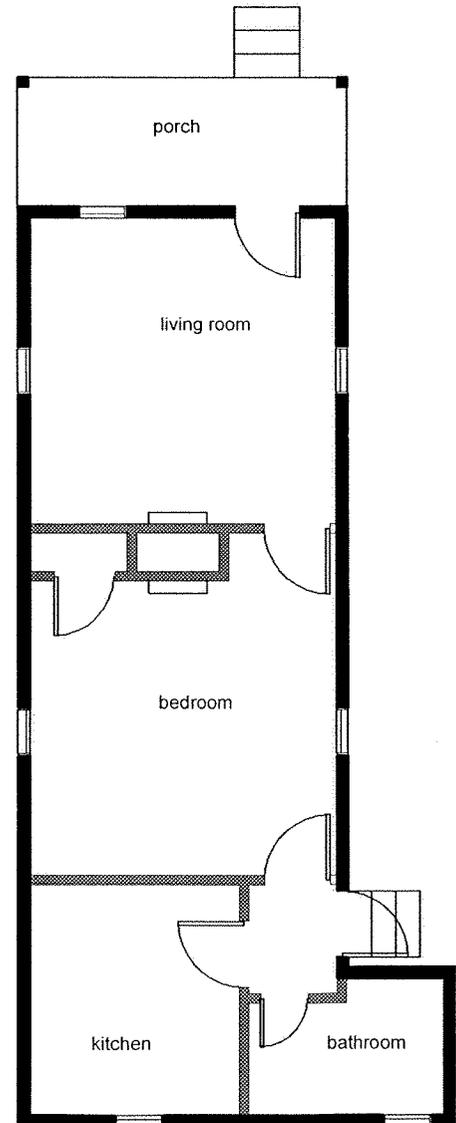
Existing Homes



Existing Front Elevations



Existing Side Elevations



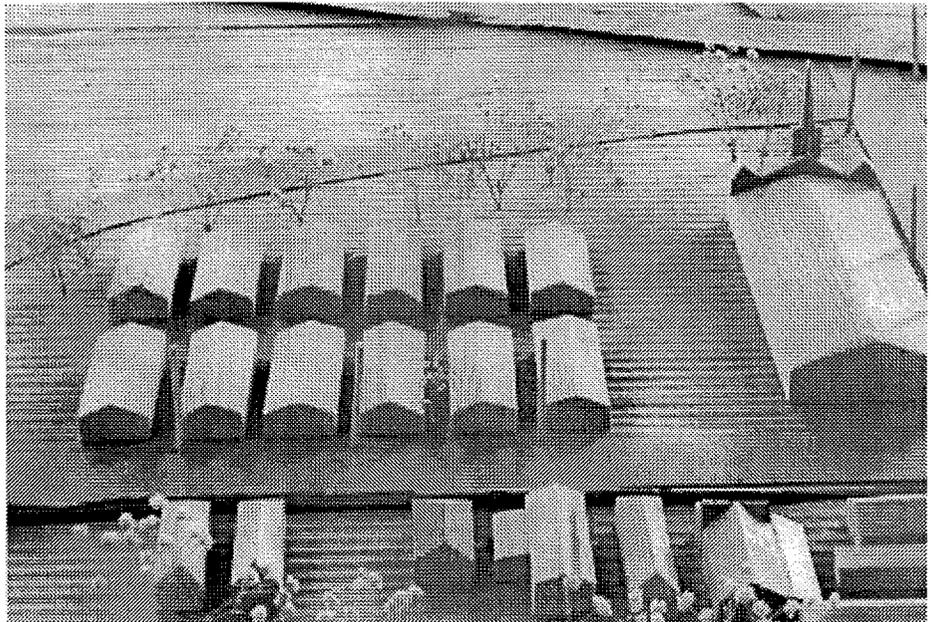
Existing Plan

Neighborhood Improvements

The Demonstration Housing study investigates the development of a more conducive neighborhood fabric and the renovation and conversion of existing housing into a configuration more compatible with contemporary life. The housing must accommodate many different family arrangements, giving the families an opportunity to grow and shrink.

Short Street should be re-routed, directing traffic away from the houses and creating a much safer environment around the houses. Designated parking areas should be set aside for residents in defined areas away from the homes' front yards. With these changes, distinct front yards can be defined for each resident who can then take responsibility and possibly add landscaping. With the realignment of Short Street, a new north-south road could be added to create a much more formal entrance to the McKinley Chapel. With the addition of trees along the edge of the chapel's parking lot, shaded parking can be provided and a visual buffer created between the houses and the parking lot, diminishing the scale and visual impact of the lot on the housing community.

The informal, undefined path between the rows of houses can become much more defined with paving, enhanced lighting, and the planting of shade trees along its length from the Chapel's parking lot to Short Street. An area can be designated for children's play to be placed along this more defined path. These proposed improvements can create a more unified, useable, and manageable public environment for the neighborhood.

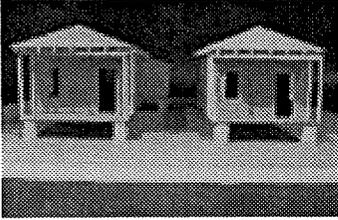


Model of Existing Site

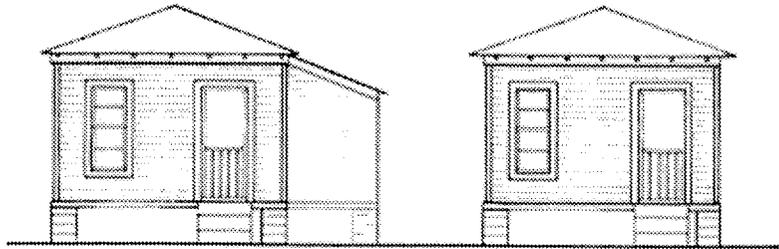
Housing Improvements

As currently constructed, the shotgun house can only accommodate small families such as single parents with one or more children. However, the houses cannot accommodate these families' need to grow nor do they meet the long-term needs of a family as it matures. A slight modification of the plan and a small addition to the rear or the side of the home greatly improves the usefulness of the house. Likewise, without modifications and additions, these structures cannot accommodate larger or multi-generational families which may include one or more grandparents living with their children and grandchildren. The Demonstration Housing study addresses these needs and proposes that two shotgun houses be joined together by a small addition, creating a larger house that can better support and respond to a family's needs.

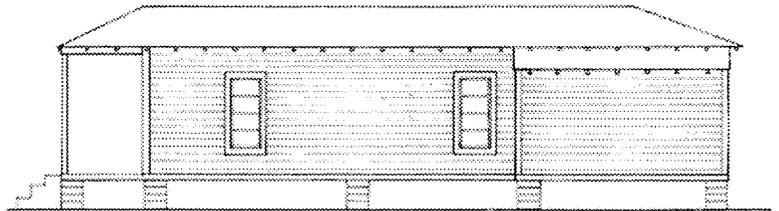
To better accommodate "family-centered living," houses need sufficient living, dining, and cooking spaces and multiple bedrooms and bathing facilities. These spaces must range in degrees from "public" to "private." The linking of two shotgun houses into one home (through a modest addition) will encourage a family to take root in the home and the community. Each modest addition concentrates all of the major plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems for the home into one area, reducing the cost of renovation. All new windows and doors added to the house should be modeled on those already existing to preserve a uniform, historic character to the neighborhood.



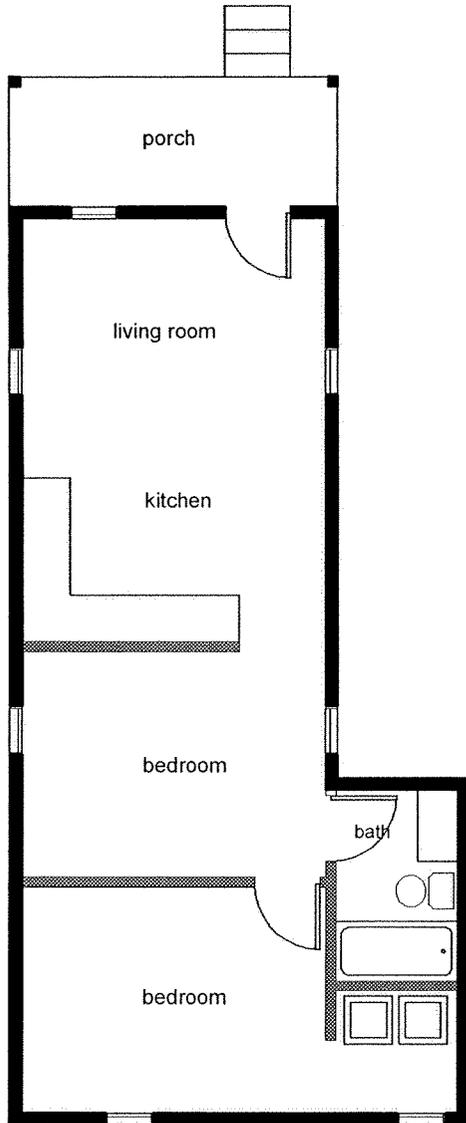
Side Addition Model



Side Addition Front Elevation



Side Addition Side Elevation



Plan

Single-Family and Small-Family Renovation Strategies

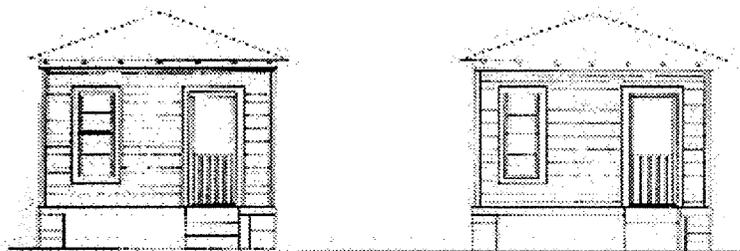
These strategies are best suited to keep the historic look of the neighborhood while meeting the needs of the family.

1. Side Additions – In the side-addition proposal, the kitchen and living areas are incorporated into one larger room in the front of the house. This proposal creates two bedrooms (one in the middle of the house and one in the rear of the home) with a side addition providing a bath, a closet, and a laundry facility. This proposal is the most economical solution due to the size and efficiency of the addition. For example, the addition extends only 6' off the main structure and incorporates much of the new plumbing/mechanical/electrical systems. Additionally, the perimeter walls and windows remain intact, reducing the total cost of the renovation.

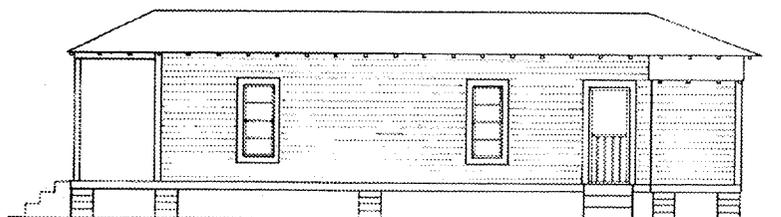


Rear Addition Model

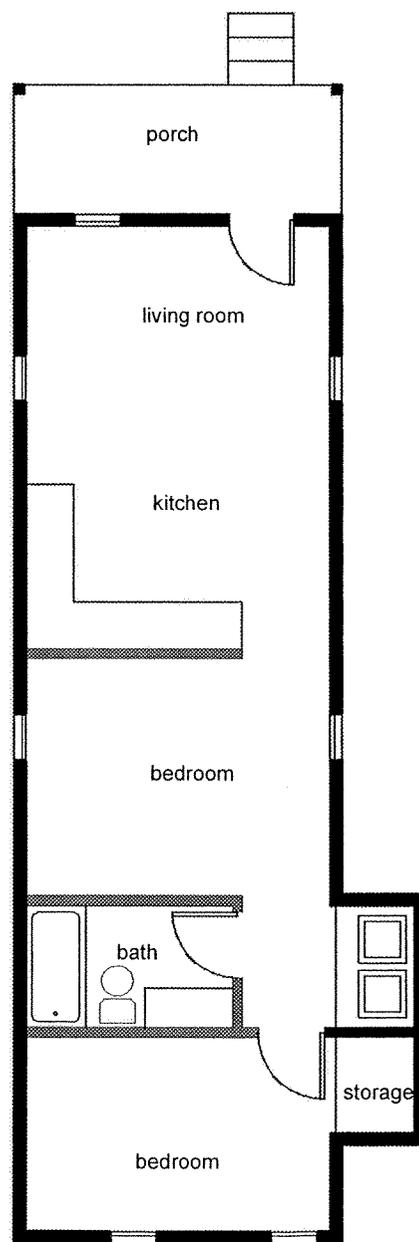
2. Rear Additions – The rear addition repositions the kitchen in the front of the house, merging all of the family's public functions. This proposal provides one large room, creating a seamless living room, den, kitchen, and dining area. A small bedroom (suitable for children) is located in the middle of the home, with a larger bedroom (suitable for parents) in the rear addition. A bathroom, small closet, and washer/dryer facility separate the bedrooms. All windows and outside walls remain intact, reducing the cost of construction. This proposal is feasible because the addition is positioned on the back of the house where there is adequate room to build.



Rear Addition Front Elevation



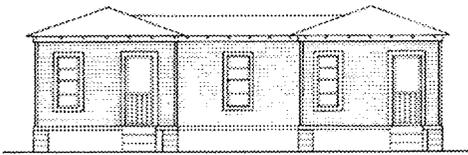
Rear Addition Side Elevation



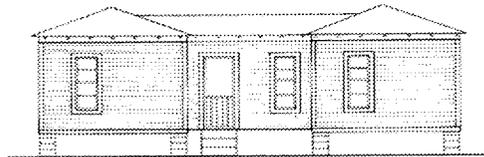
Plan

Larger-Family Renovation Strategies

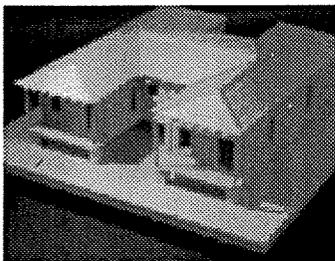
1. Divided Living and Dining Rooms (originally Double House #1) – This proposal maintains both houses which are linked by the new addition. The front rooms are designated as a living room and a dining area while both maintain access to the front porch. This proposal has four small bedrooms in the rear, each with its own closet. The new addition includes the kitchen, a full bath, a half bath, a pantry, and a laundry facility (locating all the plumbing/electrical/mechanical systems into the new construction). A small back porch completes the addition, transforming an otherwise unusable area into a private outdoor room.



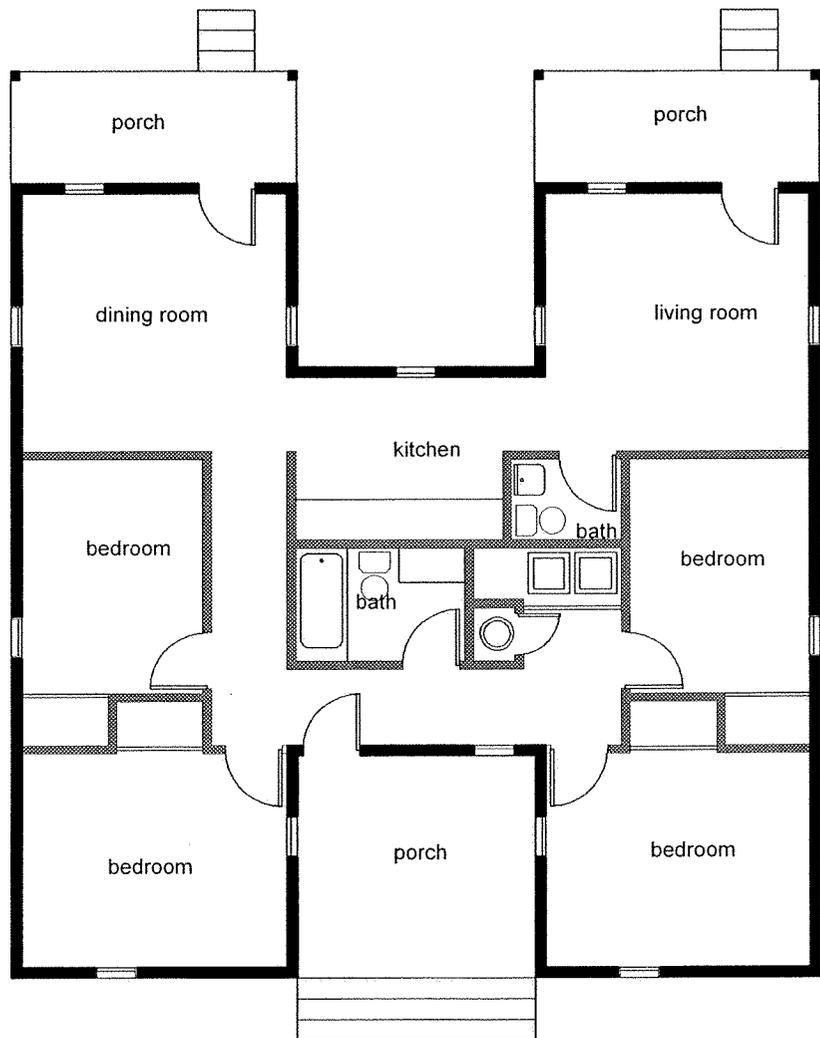
Double House #1 Front Elevation



Double House #1 Back Elevation

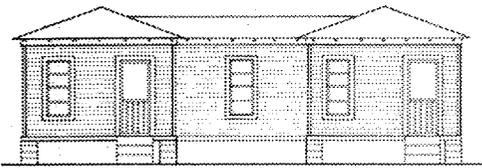


Double House #1 Model

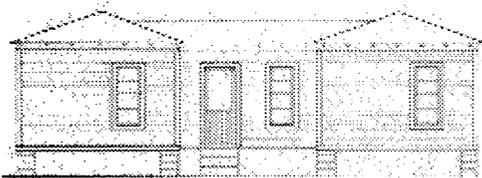


Plan

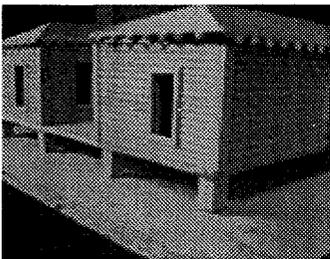
2. Combined Living and Dining Rooms (originally Double House #2) – This proposal outlines a great room combining the living and dining functions of the house, and it positions the kitchen adjacent to the great room. This proposal has three small bedrooms and one large bedroom wrapping around the house. One small bedroom is located off the great room of one original house, while two other small bedrooms are located in the second structure. A large bedroom (the master bedroom) is located in the front of the house, giving it direct access to its own front porch. The new addition links the houses together by including a kitchen, a full bath, a half bath, and a laundry facility concentrating all the new mechanical/electrical/plumbing into one area. A small back porch finishes the link between the structures and creates a private outside room.



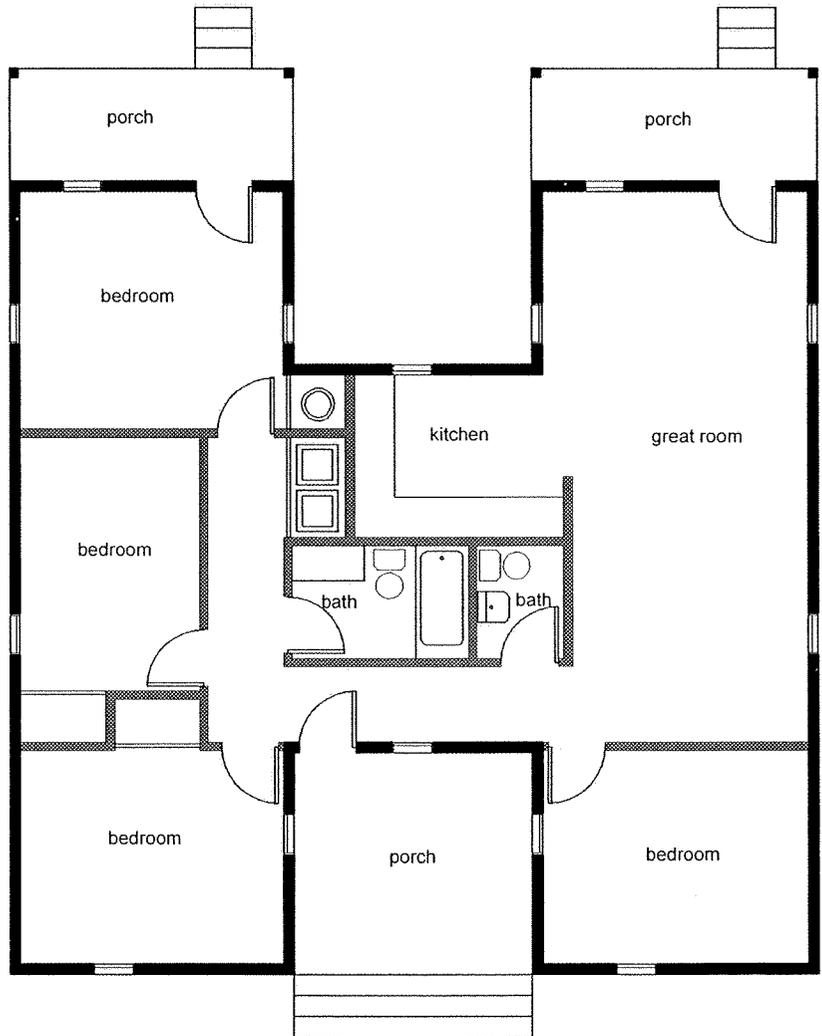
Double House #2 Front Elevation



Double House #2 Back Elevation



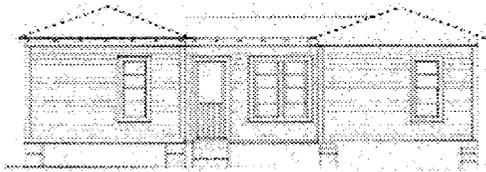
Double House #2 Model



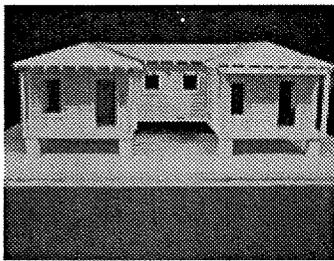
3. Divided Living and Combined Dining Rooms (originally Double House #3) – This proposal provides three larger bedrooms, concentrating on more generous living and sleeping areas. The combined living, kitchen, and dining fill the first original house. The three large bedrooms fill the second house. The new addition links the houses together and includes a large bathroom, a storage closet, and a laundry facility. A small back porch completes the new addition between the homes and creates a private outside room.



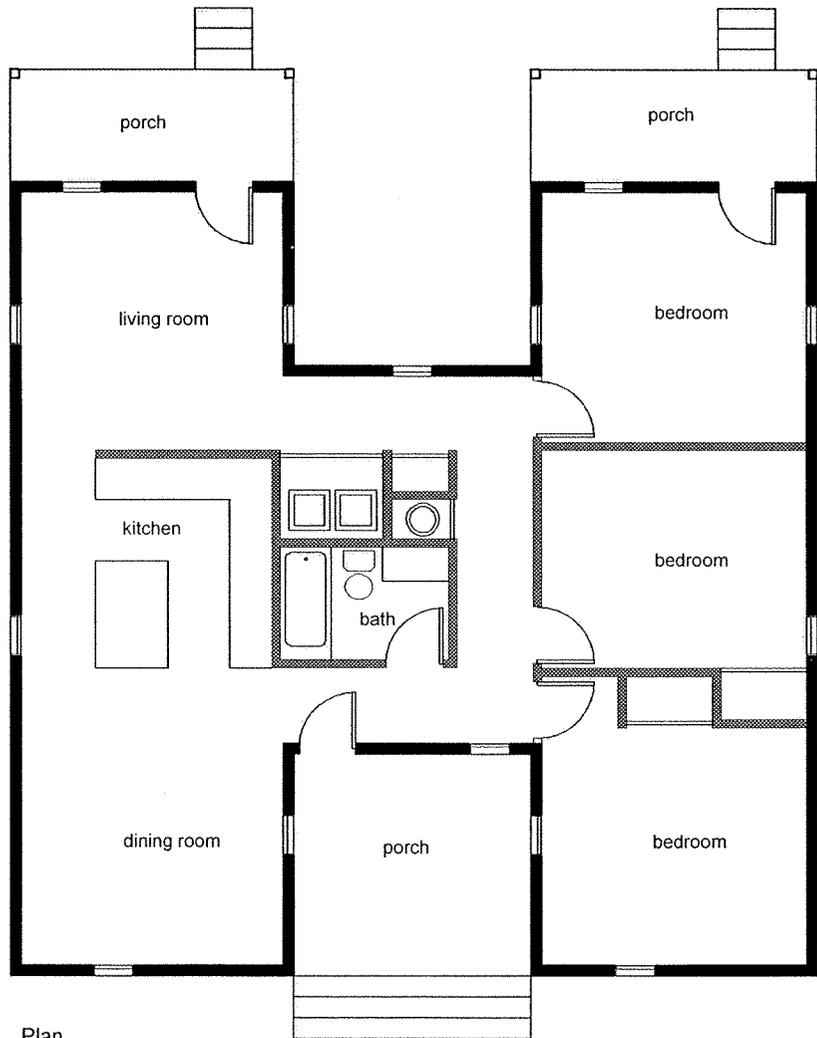
Double House #3 Front Elevation



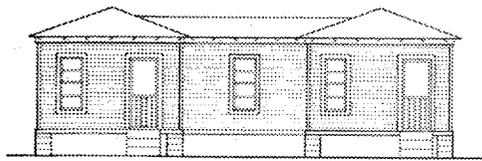
Double House #3 Back Elevation



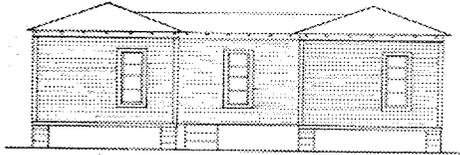
Double House #3 Model



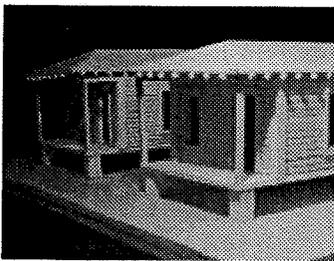
4. Multi-generational Housing (originally Double House #4) – This proposal is for a three bedroom house with an apartment style arrangement incorporated into it. It provides for the possibility of an elderly person/relative living with the family in their own separate apartment unit. This smaller unit includes a living/dining space, a small kitchenette, a full bath, and a small bedroom. The apartment maintains its own entrance and front porch separating it from the house. The main house has a living room, a large kitchen (with room for a dining table), three bedrooms (with their own closets), and a small back porch. The center addition links the two houses and includes the two bathrooms, the two kitchens, and all of the plumbing/electrical/mechanical systems.



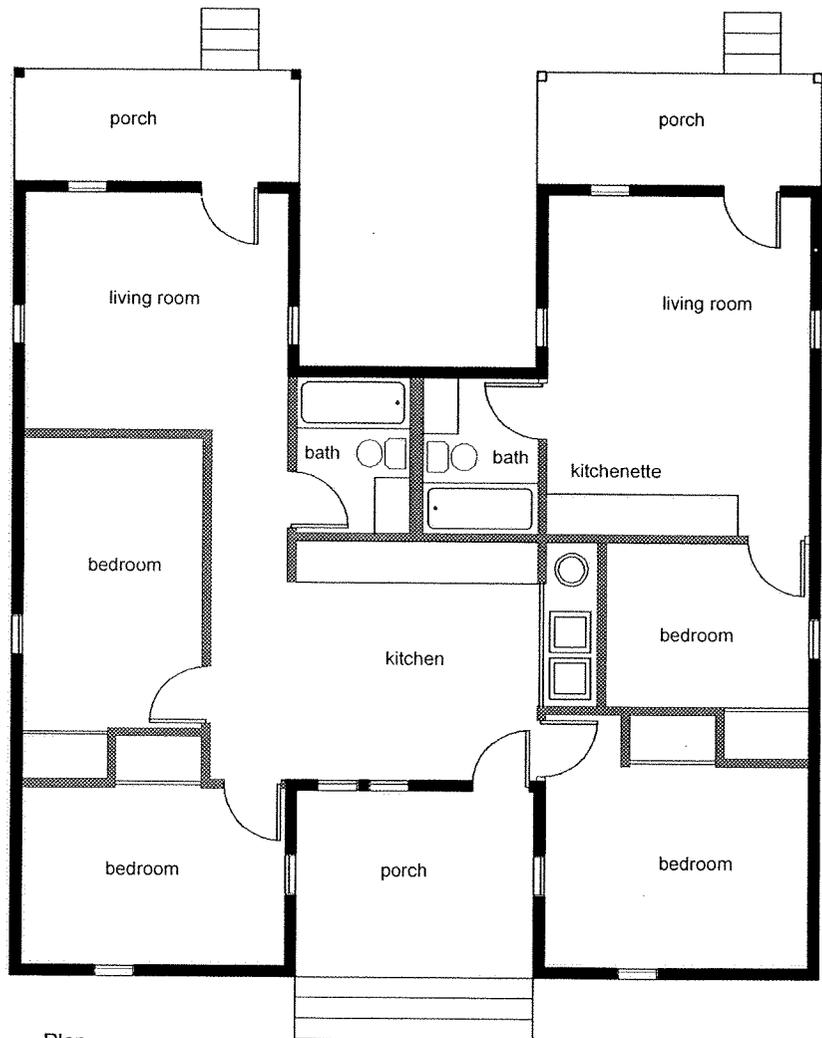
Double House #4 Front Elevation



Double House #4 Back Elevation



Double House #4 Model



Appendices



No dog shall be permitted to run at large in the city.

Appendix A

Excerpts taken from Greenwood City Ordinances

Sec. 4-10.1: Dogs running at large (12-20-79)

No dog or dogs shall be permitted to run at large in the city.

Sec. 4-15: Sanitary condition of dog pens and premises; dogs creating nuisance. (12-20-79)

The owners or harborers of all dogs within the City of Greenwood are hereby required to keep the same within suitable and adequate enclosures as protection from the elements, and are further required to keep said enclosures sanitary and clean so as to prevent disagreeable odors arising therefrom, or the presence of breeding of flies, mosquitoes, and other pests. It shall be unlawful for the owner or harbinger of any dog or dogs to permit the same to create a disturbance in the neighborhood or annoy any person or family or become a nuisance in any manner, particularly by reason of noises, odors, filthy conditions to the breeding of flies, mosquitoes and other pests.

Sec. 5-8: Housing code violations to be remedied within thirty days. (12-15-87)

(Based upon the Standard Housing Code, 1985 Edition)

Sec. 5-12: Authority of building official to determine stability of structures; requirements not covered by Code. (3-20-90)

Any requirement necessary for the strength or stability of an existing or proposed building or structure, or for the safety or health of the occupants thereof, not specifically covered by this building official subject to appeal to the board of adjustments and appeals.

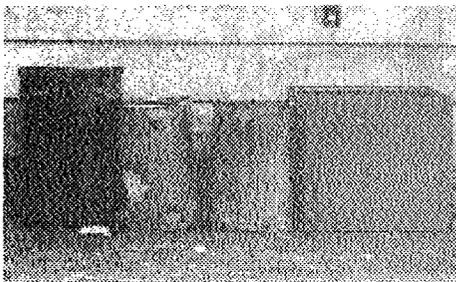
Sec. 10-6: Solid waste storage containers (10-20-92)

Residential: All residents shall use metal or plastic cans of at least ten gallons, but not more than a thirty-two gallon capacity. Lids must be securely placed upon containers so as to exclude flies and water.

Sec. 10-7: Location of storage containers (9-15-87)

Front of residences: Where collection of solid waste is made from the front of residences or places of business, solid waste storage containers shall be placed within five feet of the curb line in front of the residence or place of business, but not in the street or gutter.

Alley: Where collection is made from alleys, solid waste containers shall be placed within five feet of, but not within, the traveled portion of the alley, unless otherwise directed by the director of Public Works Department. Solid waste containers placed along or adjacent to an alley shall be located so as not to interfere with maintenance to alley, roadway, or drainage.



All trash should be stored in a metal or plastic can with a lid securely placed.

Sec. 10-9: Yard Rubbish (9-15-87)

Grass cuttings, hedge cuttings, leaves, and other yard rubbish shall, whenever practicable, be placed within refuse storage bags or other containers and securely tied or fastened to prevent spillage or other entrance of water into the containers. Heavy or bulky items such as discarded furniture or appliances, tree trimmings, large accumulations of hedge cuttings, or other yard debris shall be cut, where appropriate, into lengths not to exceed four feet and placed within five feet of the traveled portion of a street or alley in a uniform and even manner in a single pile so that the same may be conveniently collected with a boom-mounted mechanical grapple.

Sec. 10-16: Building debris, industrial solid waste; responsibility for removal. (9-15-87)

Building debris includes scrap lumber, plaster, roofing concrete, brickbats, sand, and spoil, resulting from site preparation construction, repair remodeling or demolition of any building or appurtenances on private property and all solid waste resulting from manufacturing and other industrial operations will not be removed by the Public Works Department, and the owner must cause such materials and waste to be privately removed. In the event the Public Works Department is required to remove such building debris or industrial solid waste, the cost of such removal will be charged back to the individual property owner.

Sec. 10-21: Place or disposal of waste materials. (9-15-87)

It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of or cause to be disposed of any garbage, rubbish or other waste materials upon any property other than a sanitary landfill or other disposal site so designated by the city, except that special permits may be issued by the Public Works Department for the depositing of waste materials at other approved locations.

Sec. 10-22: Littering prohibited. (9-15-87)

It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to place any garbage, straw, dirt, chips, shells, nails, iron, glass, vegetable materials, paper, or other rubbish or noxious substance on any street, sidewalk, alley, public park, or other public place in the city or on the property of another person, or to violate any of the requirements of this chapter which relates to littering.

Sec. 10-25: Occupant's responsibility for cleanliness, sanitation and fire prevention (9-15-87)

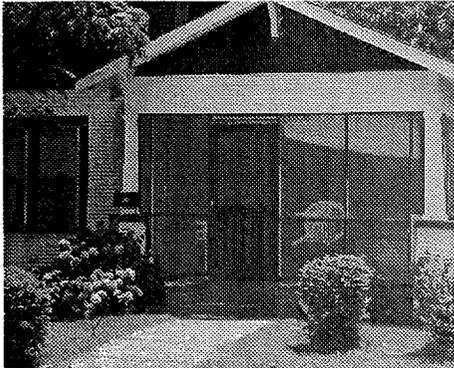
All occupants of residences and business places shall be held responsible for the cleanliness of their premises and of sidewalks and alleys immediately adjacent to the premises. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to burn any solid waste matter within the corporate limits of the City of Greenwood, except in incinerators that have been first approved for the City of Greenwood and after a permit for use of same.



All building debris should be removed from all properties.



Because of the litter discarded throughout the community, many of the pathways, alleys, and yards look poorly maintained.



When lawns are nicely maintained, the overall appearance of the community improves.

It shall be unlawful for any person to throw, drop, sweep or place, or cause to be thrown, dropped, swept or placed in any public street, public or private alley, gutter, sidewalk or other public place in the city, dirt, brick, glass, gravel, coal, leaves, brush, trash, rubbish, paper, cotton samples, boxes or waste material of any kind or description without forthwith removing the same.

Sec. 11-21: Sweeping sidewalks adjacent to business establishments in the city to clean daily by sweeping or otherwise between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. the sidewalks in front of or along the side of the buildings occupied or controlled by such person. (3-4-80)

Sec. 11-22: Cleanliness of private property (7-23-85)

It shall be the duty of all persons in both the business sections and residential districts of the city to keep and maintain their premises in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. Any person failing to comply with this section, after being notified by the health officer or any member of the police department to remedy such condition, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided in Section 1-4, for each twenty-four hours or fraction thereof of maintenance of such condition after being notified. Each twenty-four hours or fraction thereof shall constitute a separate offense.

If upon thirty days of written notice, the owner and/or occupant of the property fails to comply with this section, then the city, itself, may do all things necessary to bring the property into compliance and the owner and/or occupant shall be civilly liable for all costs and expenses incurred by the city in bringing the property into compliance.

Sec. 13-23: Abandoned, discarded or junked vehicles. (4-15-86)

Abandonment of vehicles: No person shall abandon any vehicle within the city, and no person shall leave any vehicle at any place within the city for such time and under such circumstances as to cause such vehicle reasonably to appear to have been abandoned.

Leaving of wrecked non-operating vehicle on street: No person shall leave any partially dismantled, non-operating, wrecked, or junked vehicle on any street or highway within the city.

Disposition of wrecked or discarded vehicles: No person in charge or control or any property within the city, whether as owner, tenant, occupant, lessee, or otherwise, shall allow any partially dismantled, non-operating, wrecked, junked, or discarded vehicle to remain on such property longer than seventy-two hours; and no person shall leave any such vehicle on any property within the city for a longer time than seventy-two hours; except that this section shall not apply with regard to a vehicle in an enclosed building, a vehicle on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner, when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise; or a vehicle in an appropriate storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner by the city.

Appendix B

Home Improvements

The following notes are taken from the Renovating Old Houses book written by George Nash, by The Taunton Press, Inc., Newton, CT, 1992.

Foundation Problems: In an old house with structural abnormalities, foundation settlement is typically the issue. When a section of a wall gives way or sinks, the frame has no choice but to follow. When uneven settlement occurs, the effect is amplified throughout the structure. The solution usually requires jacking up the house and modifying the pier or foundation wall. It is critical that the rain run-off from a roof is made to move away from the house at the ground to avoid water sitting at the foundation or under the house.

Termite and Insect Problems: Examine the sills carefully for evidence of termites. The actual infestation will be hidden within the walls, safe from casual detection. Making sure that no wooden part of the house is in direct contact with the soil is helpful, but by no means foolproof. Chemicals traditionally used to control termites pose severe environmental and health hazards for years after their application, buying a termite-infested house is a poor idea. Thorough inspections by professional firms is advised.

Structural Decay: Wood-digesting fungi are responsible for structural decay. Unfortunately, rotted beams or sills are not normally visible from outside the house. If there is enough sound wood left to support the framing above (when less than half the thickness of a sill has rotted), the damaged portions can be removed and replaced with new wood.

Roof Repairs: If there is only one layer of roofing, then it is possible to lay new roofing on top of the old roofing. Moreover, adding another layer of shingles to a roof already carrying two or three layers of asphalt could severely overload the rafters and cause the roof to sag. An asphalt roof has a typical life of 20 to 25 years. Signs of a roof that has outlived its useful life span, such as loss of mineral surface or tar paper showing between the cutouts, indicates that a new roofing surface is required.

Paint and Caulk: The condition of older paint can give some indication about the insulation, or lack of insulation in a wall. Water vapor migrating through an improperly insulated wall eventually loosens the bond between the paint film and the exterior siding, causing the paint to blister. Repainting will not solve the problem. Solving moisture problems along the surface of the wall or within the interior of the wall is essential. Once those problems are solved, priming, caulking, and keeping at least two coats of paint on the surface will help to protect the surface boards.

other noted articles...

Exterior

1. Wood Siding

"Siding with Clapboards: Up one side or down the other, apply them correctly." Fine Homebuilding. June/July 1988

"Installing Horizontal Wood Siding: A carpenter's tricks for accurately laying out, cutting, and fitting the classic wood siding." Felix Marti. Fine Homebuilding. July 1995

2. Foundations

"Fixing a House with a Bad Foundation: Helical piers go in like giant drywall screws to support a sinking house and a new addition." Fine Homebuilding. September 1996

"Cracked Foundations: Prevention is easier than repair." Kip Park. Fine Homebuilding. August/September 1988

3. Roofs

"The Classic 'Tin' Lid: Hand-forming a standing-seam metal roof." Matt Holmstrom. Fine Homebuilding. April/May 1987

"Roofing with Asphalt Shingles: There's more to laying three-tab shingles than just nailing them as fast as possible." Todd A. Smith. Fine Homebuilding. January 1990.

4. Gutters

"Running Gutters: How to get rid of water gracefully and save your house from moisture problems." Wendy Talarico. This Old House. April/May 1996

5. Porches

"Screen Play." Cynthia Sanz. This Old House. June 2000

"Decking and Sheathing: How one production carpenter puts the skin on wood-frame houses." Jud Peake. Fine Homebuilding. February/March 1987

6. General Upkeep

"Fall Fix-Up Checklist: Watch the Roof, Upgrade the gutters, Survey the siding, and Peruse the paint." This Old House. October 1999

Interior

1. Floors

"Framing Floors with I-Joists: Whether you're building a new house or remodeling an old one, engineered lumber can give you squeak-free floors with fewer callbacks." Fine Homebuilding. April/May 1997

"Replacing Rotted Sills: It's a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it." Fine Homebuilding. April/May 1989

2. Electricity

"Installing Electrical Boxes and Receptacles: Keep boxes straight and splices tight for safe, trouble-free circuits." Fine Homebuilding. July 1996

"Working with Old Wiring: Careful testing is your hedge against frayed insulation, faulty splices and missing ground wires." David E. Shapiro. Fine Homebuilding. January 1999

3. Walls

"A New Way to Repair Old Plaster: If cracks and crumbling plaster have you down, here's a remedy that uses basic methods and materials, and that requires no sanding." Fine Homebuilding. July 1996

"The Airtight Fine Homebuilding Drywall approach: A cost effective system for improving energy efficiency." Rich Slayton.. February/March 1987

"Repairing Drywall: Techniques for fixing everything from popped screws to big holes." Myron R. Ferguson. Fine Homebuilding. May 1999

4. Insulation

"Insulation Comes of Age: Thermal insulation is changing for the better, becoming more user-friendly and safer for the environment." Fine Homebuilding. March 1996

"Got Lead? Smart ways to Thermal Insulation: A look at what's available, some tips on how to install it and a peek into the future." Charles Miller. Fine Homebuilding. October/ November 1989

5. Interior Finishes

"Ten Rules for Finished Carpentry: A veteran builder and teacher shares the rules that shape his work." Will Beemer. Fine Homebuilding. January 1998

"Deal with layers of risk paint." Curtis Rist. This Old House. March 1999

6. Plumbing

"Installing a Toilet: It's mostly in the flange." George Skaates. Fine Homebuilding. April/May 1988

7. Windows/Doors

"High-Performance Glazing: Energy efficiency is the bottom line." Paul Fiset. Fine Homebuilding. August/September 1989

"Double-Hung's Restring: More than just fishing for sash weights." David Strawderman. Fine Homebuilding. January 1991

"Three Ways to Weatherstrip a Door: Whether vinyl, silicone or bronze, an airtight seal is your best defense against the weather." Gary M. Katz. Fine Homebuilding. September 1998

"Rot Patrol: Fixing the potholes in wood." Peter Jensen. This Old House. March/April 1996

8. Termites

"Bad Bugs: Now that we've banned killer chemicals, insects are winning the eat-your-house wars. New high tech tricks help, but good luck if your house is in a hot climate and termites attack." Jeanne Huber. This Old House. May/ June 1996.

Landscaping

1. Fences

"Building a Picket Fence: A carpenter uses shop-built sections and sturdy foundations for a traditional structure." Fine Homebuilding. April/ May 1997

"Fences: Our futile but fascinating bid to replace nature's boundaries with our own." Stephen Harrigan. This Old House. May/June 1996

"Stalk Market: Bamboo's value is shooting up." Jeanne Huber. This Old House. September 1999

2. Shading

"Shades of Summer: Cool ways to shield outdoor spaces from a scorching sun." Curtis Rist. This Old House. July/August 1999

Windows and Doors: The glass more than likely will need reglazing, a tedious but inexpensive task. If the putty between the glass and window frame has dried out and cracked, water and wind can penetrate. Sashes left unpainted for too long will typically rot at their bottom corners where they rest on the window sill. The rot can be dug out and filled with patching putty and painted over; but if left exposed extensively, the cumulative effect of this water can cause considerable damage to the framing and sills behind the siding requiring extensive re-framing and the rebuilding of windows. The same issues apply to doors because thresholds are even more exposed to wear and weather. It is critical to install secure and weather-tight thresholds and weather-stripping. To help protect windows and doors, and to avoid infiltration, installing storm windows and doors is advised.

Waste Disposal: Somewhere before the sewer line exits the house, a clean-out trap should be evident. If the clean-out trap is hidden, inaccessible, or absent, unclogging a sewer line becomes a lot more complicated. If you discover a wet area with lush vegetation and the odor of sewage, you have septic-tank or sewage line problems. It is critical that when a problem is detected it be resolved as soon as possible.

Plumbing System: Properly installed cast-iron or copper drain lines are maintenance-free except for clogging. Water-supply lines can corrode, if constructed of galvanized-iron pipe, which was used before copper pipe became available in the 1950's. Depending on the age of the plumbing and the hardness of the water, much or all of the iron pipe may have to be replaced. Water pipes are often installed in crawl spaces exposed to the elements. On the occasional winter day, where the temperature dips below freezing, the water in the pipes can freeze, expand and destroy the pipes. Attending to substandard plumbing practices, ultimately replacing the lines may be the most economical solution. Leaking fixtures that remain in disrepair can, over time, do considerable damage to the flooring, substrate and house framing. Signs of leakage should be dealt with immediately to avoid serious damage to the structure.

Electrical System: Although there is no legal obligation to bring the electrical system up to date, it is wise to conform to the National Electrical Code, assuring that the house is safe from the danger of electrical fires. It is important to inspect the electrical supply to the house to assure proper connection. Often, old houses have the original main fuse panel which are unable to handle the increased electrical loads of modern living. Since replacement of the service entrance requires working with potentially dangerous power levels and is subject to a host of code conditions, it is wise to hire a professional architect engineer. Although the code does not require existing circuits to be replaced by circuits with a continuous ground conductor, it is wise to do this.

Appendix C: Resource Guide: Case Studies: Possible Strategies for a Renewed Baptist Town



The Architecture students visited two projects that provided good models to consider in re-developing housing in Baptist Town. Both projects have been and continue to be implemented, providing safe, comfortable, and secure housing to its residents. The programs are both unique in the ways that they were developed and implemented and may not directly apply to Baptist Town, but they do suggest possibilities and identify people who are visionary and capable of getting things done. We highly recommend that the Baptist Town committee take a field trip to these sites and meet directly with the people who have made them happen.



Jackson's Farish Street Neighborhood

The Farish Street neighborhood was once a thriving middle-class African-American neighborhood, and the houses were built by African-American contractors. The identified block and the surrounding neighborhood went into decline over the past half century. Like Baptist Town, most houses were rented properties or abandoned and left open to vandalism. In general, however, the framing and general character of the shotgun style houses held potential for reinvestment.

Existing Conditions:

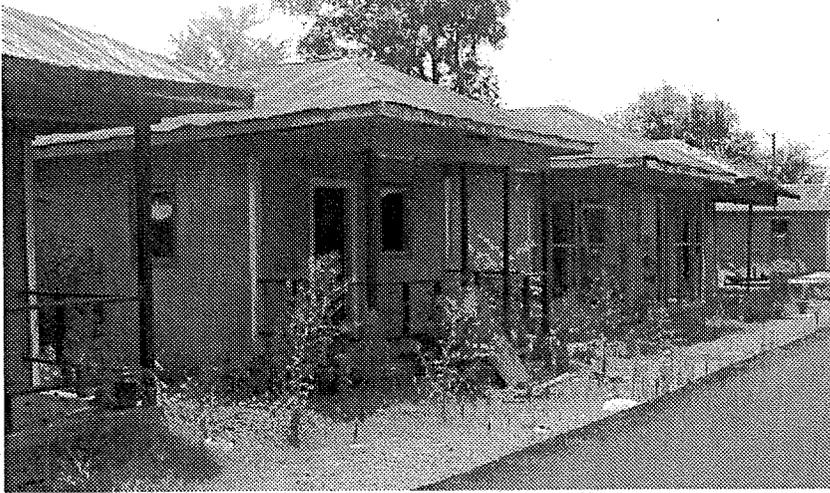
The plumbing, sewage, and electrical infrastructure throughout the block were in an unusable state. Therefore, totally new systems were installed.

The houses rest upon concrete block foundations with a continuous 4"x6" sill and 2"x8" joists, 2'-0" on center, spanning the width of the house, 13'-14'. The walls are 2"x4" studs fastened to the sides of the joists, at 2'-0" on center. Typically, the siding was fastened directly to the studs, with no substrate, vapor barrier, or insulation.

The majority of the houses had asbestos exterior siding which, in the course of rehabilitation, had to be abated. This was completed by a consultant prior to the contractor's involvement, costing approximately \$40-50,000. Most of the roofs had composition tiles or metal roofing; no asbestos was detected in those materials. The interior walls either had tongue and groove (T & G) wood siding with stapled cloth and wallpaper or drywall.

How the Project Came to Life:

Tax-credit benefits made this project possible. The Farish Street Historic District Foundation, a non-profit organization,



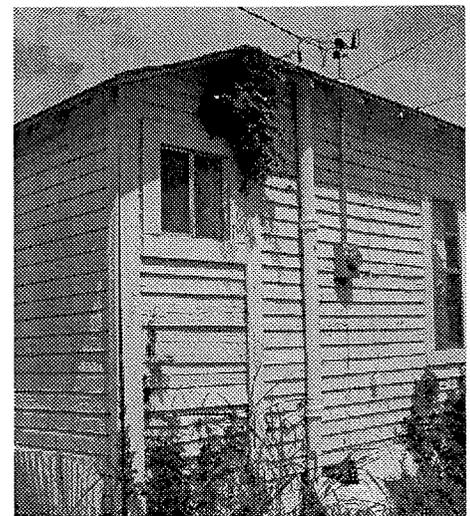
Prior to restoration, the homes in the Farish Street district were dilapidated

managed this project. The Historic District tax credits were sold to the National Equity Fund, which made 20% of the funding immediately available to finance this project. (Note: the tax credits are available for only the renovated historic houses, not for general infrastructure, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping, nor for new additions to the houses.) To receive the tax credits, the architect and the Farish Street Foundation worked closely with Ken O'Pool and Tomas Blackwell in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and ultimately required the approval of the U.S. Department of Interiors. Also, this project required coordination and approval by the Jackson Historic Commission. HUD grants were applied for to finance this project. This block was made into a Planned Unit Development (PUD), as half the site originally was zoned commercial and the remainder R3, residential. Establishing this block as a PUD area defined the entire block as residential, which unified it. Each house had its own electrical, gas and water meters, as these were leased properties.

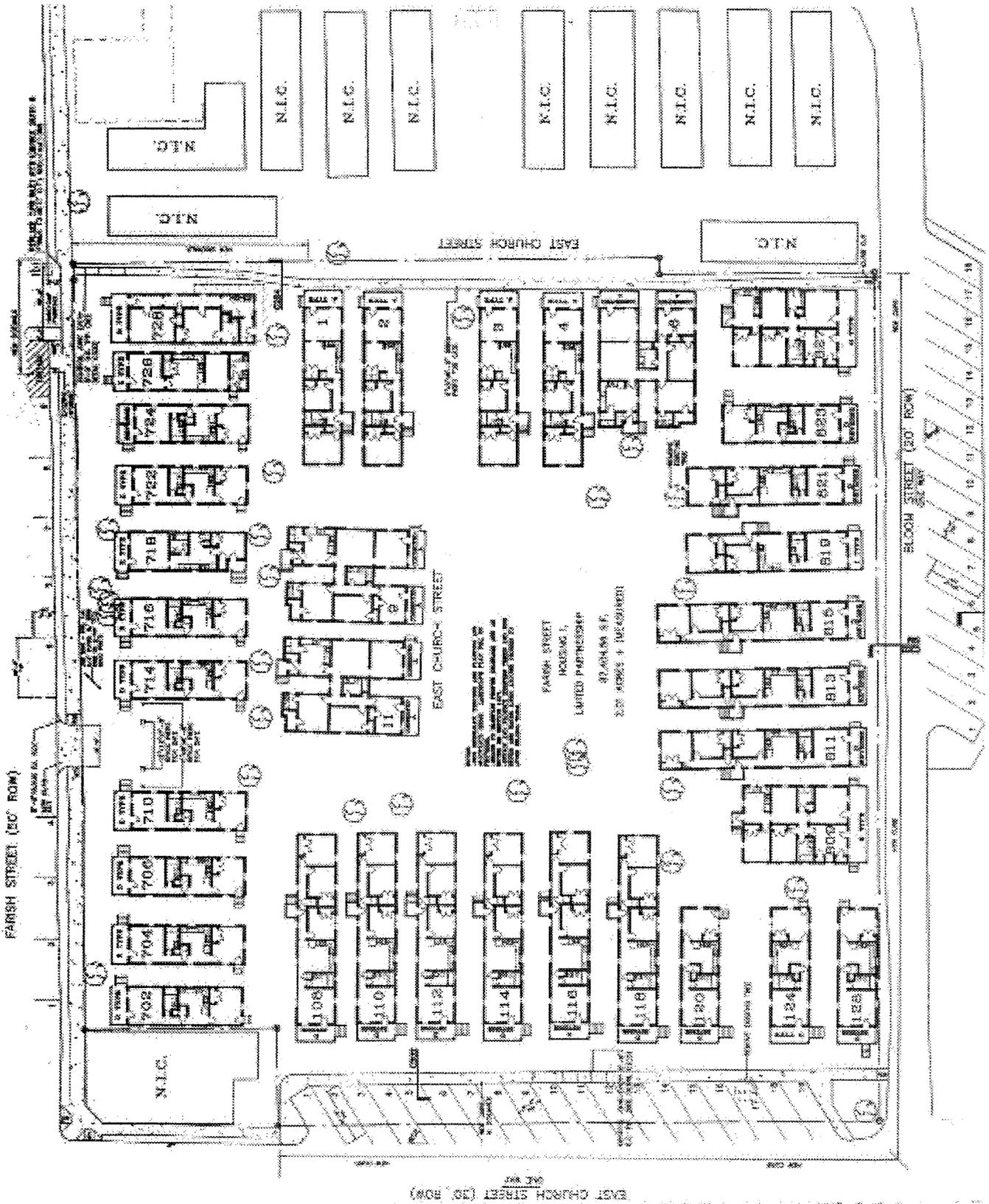
A most basic principle in this type of project is that larger family units are necessary to make houses attractive for families to rent. The small, one-bedroom houses are most useful to the elderly. In this project, it was critical to have a diverse group of people in the block: families AND the elderly. Therefore, more family units were required. Only three pairs of houses were able to be connected, those that were "hidden from view" from the street (as required by the Department of Interior). There were other houses that received one-bedroom additions at the rear. These additions required a "contemporary" looking use of materials and form: different sized siding, a break in the roof (which was not a good solution due to moisture/flashing difficulties) and different looking windows. Many houses were too tightly sited, which did not allow for rear additions. One ADA compliant unit was created.



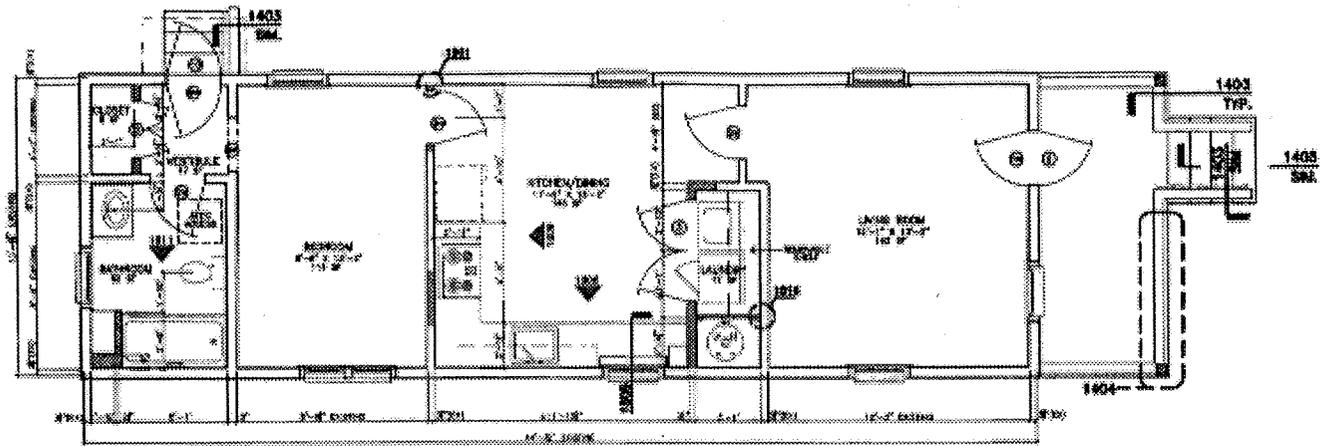
The houses are now restored to the standards of Mississippi Department of Archives and History.



Many of the houses had asbestos exterior siding which had to be abated.

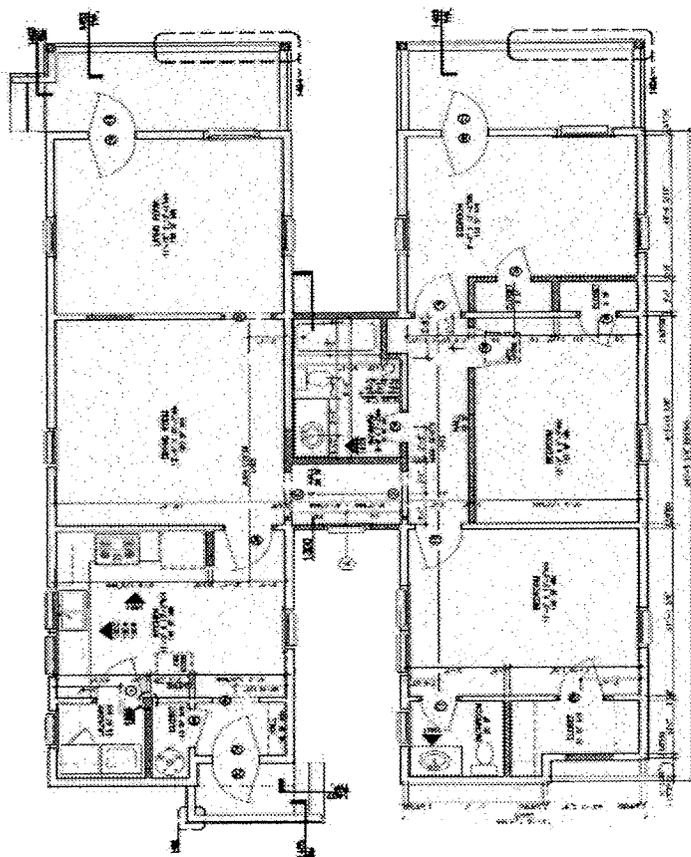


Site Plan

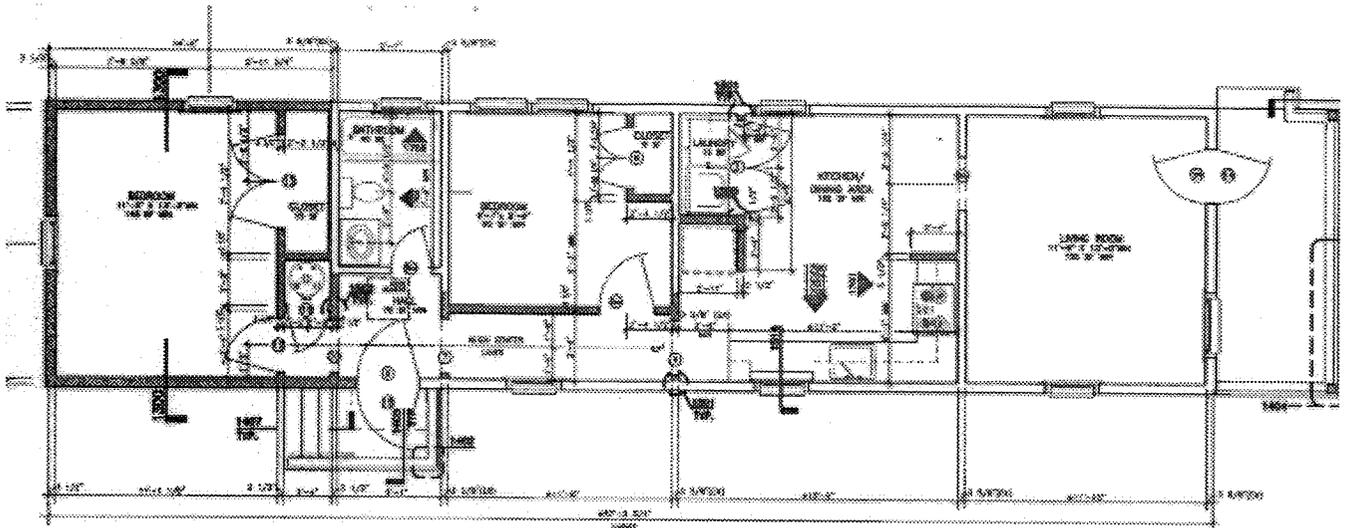


501 PROPOSED PLAN FOR TYPE C SHOTGUN -- 1 BEDROOM

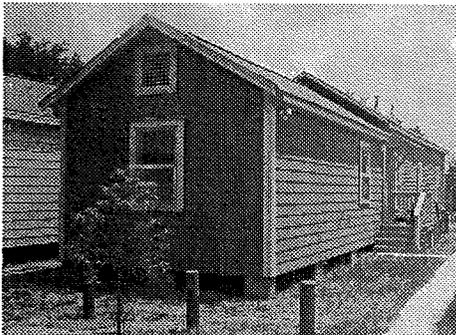
Each house required complete renovation. Many houses were sagging and out of plumb and required straightening. All existing kitchens and bathrooms were re-developed, and all houses required totally new wall surfaces. Each house was equipped with split-system mechanical heating and cooling, requiring an air condenser outside and a furnace on the interior. Each house required its own



Proposed Plan for Two-Bedroom Unit Joined by Addition



Rear addition to a house.



Addition had to be respectfully different units adding window types and roof variations.

hot water heater. Each house was provided with space for either a stacked washer/dryer unit or separate units. (Note: the stacked units are much more expensive and should be avoided if space is available.) Welded steel cages were made to secure the air condensing units. These cages were anchored into the concrete slabs below the units.

Total construction value is \$2,800,000 for 35 units (38 original single units with 3 pairs combined). A total of 28,400 square feet was rebuilt, resulting in a cost of approximately \$100 per square foot. The single-bedroom units were averaged at \$42,000 (560-620 square feet); the bigger units were \$48,000-50,000 (900-1000 square feet), in both cases, these cost do not include infrastructure and landscaping.

Hind-Sight Discoveries and Problems:

Straightening all of the houses so that they are level and plumb would require approximately \$500-1000 for each house. Some of the houses were 5-6" out of plumb/level, and many were straightened. For those houses that were not, it ultimately cost the project in mark-ups for the installation of drywall, trim, and cabinetry. The doors did not fit tightly into their frames. Therefore, securing the doors and making them weathertight was difficult. For these unstraightened houses, the extra costs to alleviate the problems would out-weigh the original investment to straighten them. Thus straightening all houses is advised.

A building forensic scientist from Boston (Joseph Lstiburek, Westford, MA, 508.585.5100, www.buildingscience.com, author of *Builder's Guide*) was consulted to review the need to make the houses airtight, weathertight, and insulated. Each house received central heat and air. Insulation was installed between the floor joists, and insulation was blown into the attic. However, it was advised that no insulation be installed in the walls (blown-in

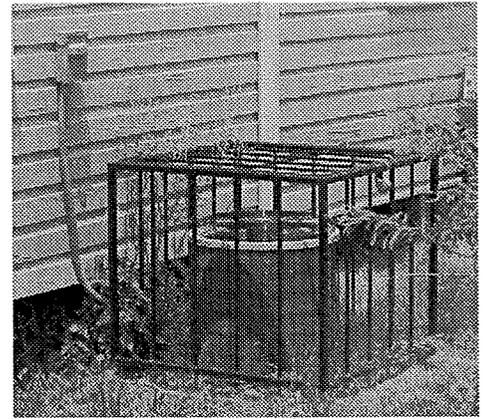


Two houses joined to make one.

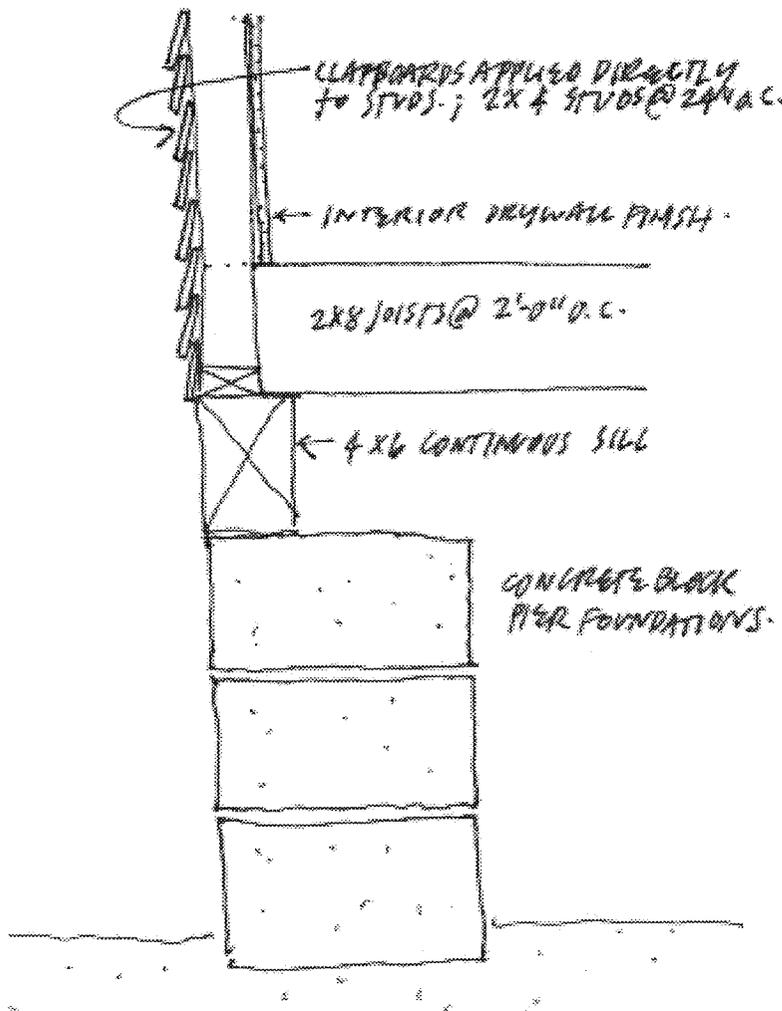
insulation would have been ineffective and moisture would have condensed inside the drywall, creating mold and moisture and affecting the exterior paint.) This decision not to insulate the walls caused great debate among the city building officials and lenders for the project, but once the details of why it was not advisable were understood, everyone agreed that this was the appropriate procedure.

The exterior doors ultimately didn't fit appropriately. They were difficult to make secure and weathertight. The back doors were replaced with steel panel doors for security reasons. Windows that could be restored were kept. Others were replaced with replicas to match the existing window units. The windows were made to match with 4/4, 2/1, etc.

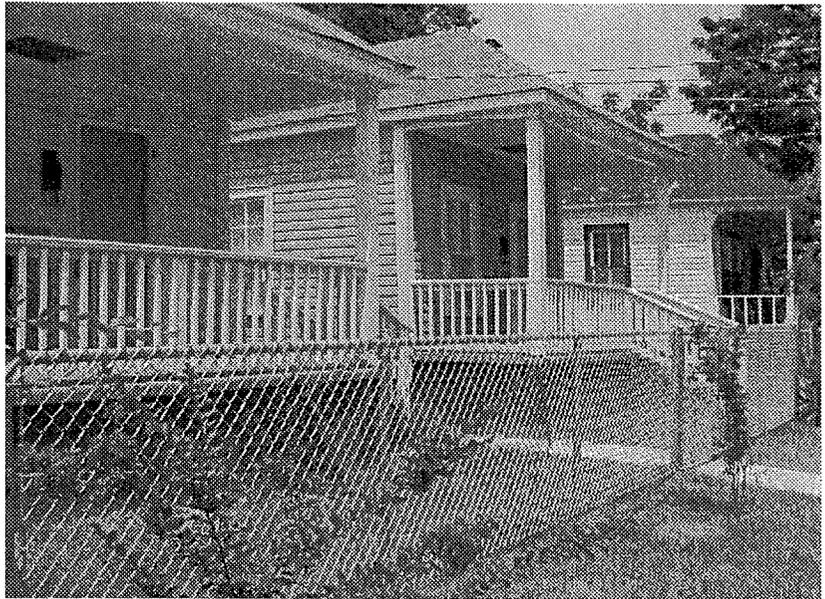
It is advisable to make construction as simple as possible. Many of the contractors and sub-contractors available for these types of projects are low-skilled and are not able to construct highly crafted buildings. Some of the details



Securing air conditioner units was necessary.



Typical existing wall section



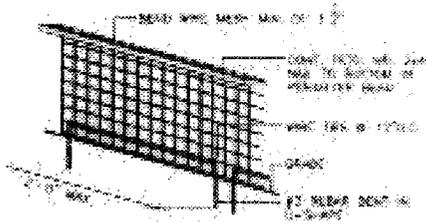
proved to be executable. (An example: railings were added, and it was originally suggested that they be plastic-wood, because they would not rot and would require less maintenance. However, the chosen contractor was unable to work with this material. Projects ended up using treated-wood railings, which will require more maintenance.)

An assumption was made that re-painting the wood floors would be the best solution. However, there were many rotted floor boards or conditions where there were holes or places where careful replacement would be required. In the end, the most economical and most appreciated solution was to install a commercial-grade, loop carpet. The carpet helped to eliminate air infiltration and covered areas where underlayment was used to stabilize the flooring. Vinyl composition tiles/flooring were used in the bathrooms and the kitchen.

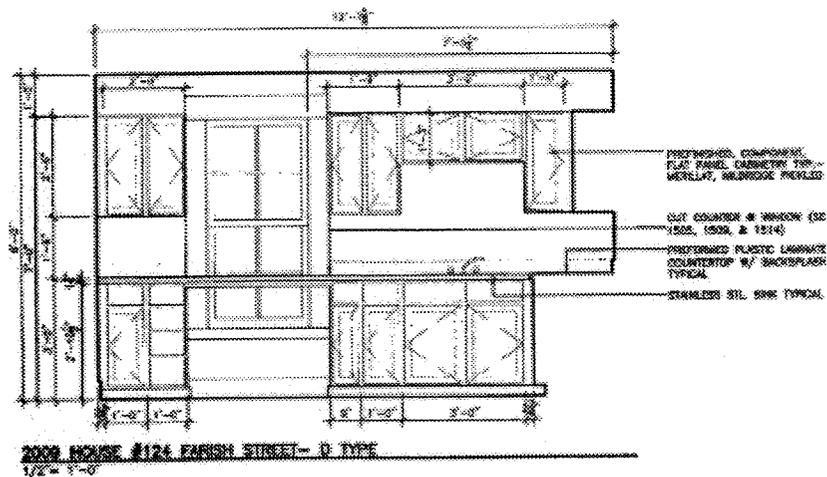
The kitchen cabinet countertops were all site-constructed and custom made to fit in front of the windows. (The contractor was unwilling to install custom-made countertops as he believed them to be too complicated.) It is recommended that the kitchen cabinets all be pre-made (i.e., Craftmaid). Also, it is critical that the floor be level, which will ultimately save money.

It was advised that the space under the houses be closed off to eliminate trash and alleviate miscellaneous problems. A wire mesh screen was installed between the foundation piers. In the end, this detail was too fussy and difficult to install. It would be advised to install solid panels on the back of the piers with vents within them.

Be sure that proper flashing is installed, especially over the heads of the windows. In situations where the windows remained (were not replaced), the boards need to be removed and flashing installed.

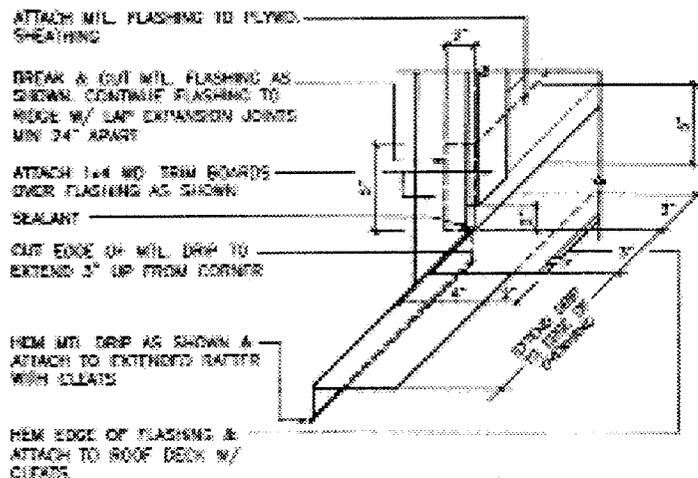


1307 TYPICAL DETAIL OF WIRE MESH
 © CRAWL SPACE

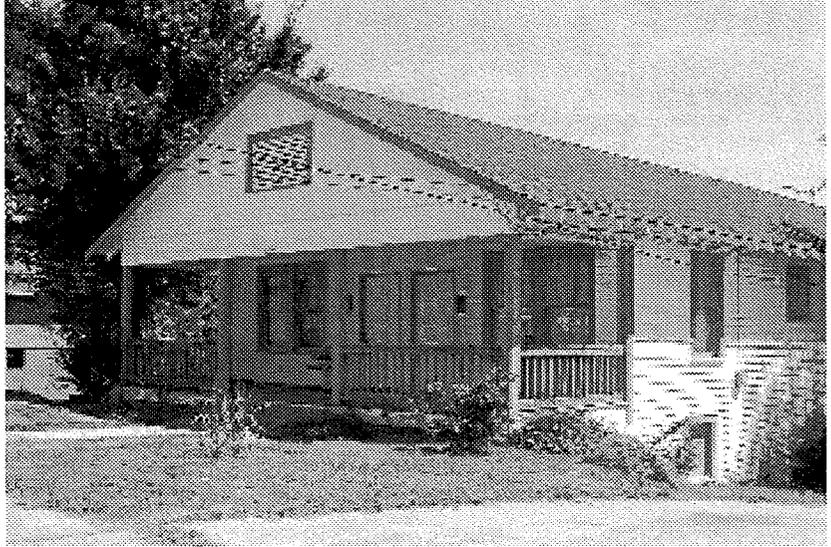


The architect specified that the contractor replace estimated amounts of rotten elements, i.e., 40% windows, 20% doors, 15% floor joists, etc. It was difficult to ascertain the amount of replacement actually completed. To do more documentation to manage this issue would require higher architectural fees. Ultimately, it is a difficult condition to manage.

Good flashing techniques are essential



Jackson's Stewpot and Bratton Street Projects

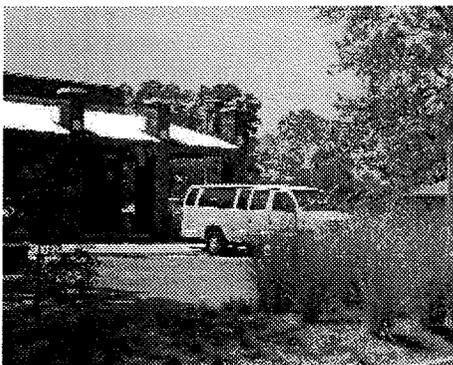


Stewpot Community Services, Inc.
1100 West Capitol Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39203
Website: www.stewpot.org
Phone: 601.353.2759

Stewpot Community Services was organized by several Jackson congregations in 1981 to provide assistance to people in central Jackson who needed food, shelter, clothing, love, and encouragement to make the most of the lives God had given them. With headquarters in the Central Urban Ministry Center at 1100 West Capitol Street, Stewpot is supported by over 60 Christian and Jewish congregations, as well as hundreds of individuals, institutions, and businesses. The volunteers and staff are people of faith committed to helping their needy brothers and sisters. Stewpot serves people who live in central Jackson, mostly in the neighborhoods surrounding Poindexter Elementary School. Over 54 percent of this population is below the poverty level. Ninety-four percent are African-American and a third of the population are children. Through the Stewpot shelters, counseling, food and clothing, and children's programs, Stewpot staff and volunteers work to help people find decent housing, jobs, and childcare while providing them with basic necessities. Stewpot currently has approximately two dozen staff administering the different programs.

Programs offered:

Community Kitchen: The noon meal is how Stewpot began, and it still serves as the center of the organized day and is exemplary of the Stewpot philosophy. Nourishing meals are provided to more than one hundred people a day. Volunteers serve the people five days per week, and local churches serve meals on Saturdays and Sundays. At the end of the meal, everyone helps clean-up.



Meals on Wheels: Each weekday, neighborhood volunteers help make lunches for over 50 elderly, ill, and disabled people who are confined to their homes. A team of local volunteers delivers the lunches and provides some companionship, which often is the only human contact the recipients enjoy on a daily basis.

Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is a mini-grocery store that provides a four-day supply of food for carefully screened applicants. Volunteers from local congregations sort, stock and bag groceries for each family that comes to the Stewpot for assistance. The pantry is stocked through donations from supporters.

Sims House: The Sims House is a transitional shelter for women and their children. It provides a ninety-day stay for its residents and serves over 200 guests a year. While at the Sims House, residents must find a job, participate in group and individual therapy with a licensed family counselor, help with chores around the house, learn about good nutrition and how to shop wisely, and learn about financial planning and wise money management. The residents are required to save 80% of their paychecks to help pay for housing, utilities, and housewares after their stay at the Sims House, helping the women to achieve some independence.

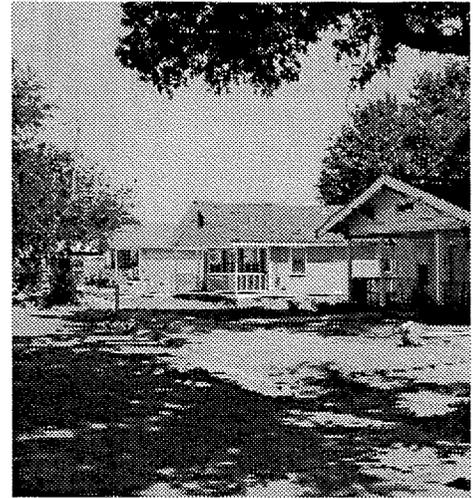
Matt's House: This facility is named in memory of the former Executive Director Matt Devenney. Emergency shelter is provided for homeless women and children who have no other place to go. For over 300 guests per year, the Matt's House offers a safe, nurturing environment while the staff assists residents in finding housing, employment, or transportation back to their families.

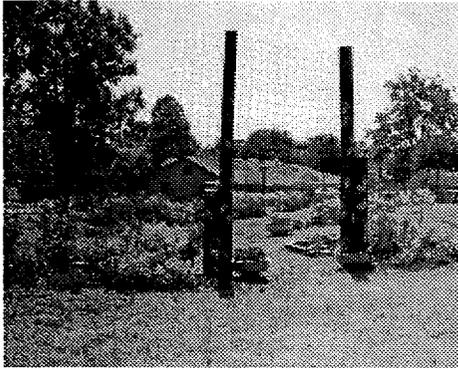
Billy Brumfield Shelter: This shelter is an emergency shelter for approximately 50 men and provides services for over 700 men per year. It serves as an emergency shelter for homeless men, has an alcohol and drug rehabilitation program, and provides room and board for disabled men and helps them find permanent housing.

Virginia's Playhouse: This program offers a variety of morning activities for the elderly and mentally disabled. The participants engage in art therapy, creative-writing classes, bingo games, and field trips; and they help to stock and operate the Clothing Closet.

Clothing Closet: The Clothing Closet provides quality clothing for all who come to Stewpot. The Virginia's Playhouse participants sort, size,, and assist with quality control. The Clothing Closet is stocked with clothing donated from residents of the Jackson Metro area.

Chaplaincy for Personal Care Homes: There are many personal-care homes close by which are filled with elderly and disabled people who cannot make it to Stewpot on their own. The Stewpot Chaplain visits these personal care homes and offers a pastoral presence to the residents through regular visitation, prayer, counseling, and communion services. Stewpot also integrates personal-care-home residents into the Stewpot activities.





Legal Clinic: Every week, lawyers from the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project provide free legal counsel during the lunch hour. These lawyers are trained to handle the kinds of legal matters that are most commonly encountered by the poor, elderly, and disabled people served at Stewpot. This clinic has been expanded to include assistance from representatives knowledgeable about Social Security, Medicaid, job services, mental-health programs, and programs offered by the Department of Human Services.

Neighborhood Children's Program: This program provides an atmosphere of love and second chances for all children who enter it. Stewpot offers an after-school program, a learning lab, a basketball court, other games, and a summer camp for elementary, junior high, and high school students. Throughout the year, over 200 children are given educational help, help with self-esteem building, and positive role models. Many of these programs are housed in a new brick building facility, which was donated by the Associated Builders and Contractors group.

Library and Learning Center: The Stewpot Library and Learning Center, located in the Stewpot Community Center, houses a computer lab with free internet access. Stewpot offers free job training, GED, and internet classes and educational software. The Library and Learning Center is a community resource that is especially important to the children.

Family Counseling: Stewpot provides access to trained family counselors for all Stewpot programs. These counselors help community members deal with difficult family issues as well as stress, depression, and self-esteem and relationship problems.

Community Garden: The Stewpot Community Garden is located behind the Stewpot Community Center. The children in the Neighborhood Children's Program and participants in other Stewpot programs plant and harvest the vegetables. The fresh produce is then used in the Community Kitchen and Food Pantry.

Chapel: Stewpot has an inter-faith worship service six days a week immediately preceding lunch. Ministers of different faiths lead the services. All are encouraged to share their gifts during the services with singing, scripture reading, and prayer. Participation is strictly voluntary.

Bratton Street Project: The Bratton Street Project, Stewpot's first community redevelopment program, is located on the street directly behind Stewpot. Through this project, abandoned and dilapidated houses are purchased and then renovated. In its first year, 9 houses were completed and 9 new mortgage-paying homeowners moved in. The new home-owners have started their own Neighborhood Association, with monthly meetings, enrichment programs, and holiday parties. Bratton Street, which is at Stewpot's backdoor, provides affordable housing and reclaims the neighborhood, getting kids closer to schools and removing people who in the past just hung out in these old houses and did nothing but deal drugs.



Steps Taken to Establish this Housing Program:

First, Stewpot identified all property owners along Bratton Street. A firm was contracted to go to the courthouse and conduct title searches on all 29 houses and 6 vacant lots. It was found that half of the properties were owned by single families, the other half by absentee landlords.

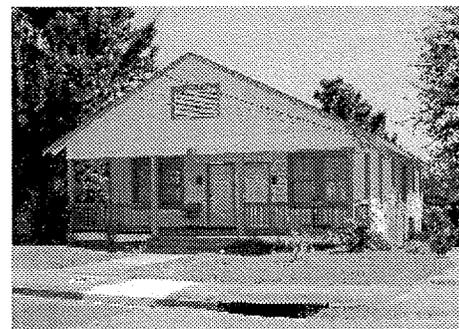
Stewpot worked with a realtor to contact each absentee landlord to talk to them about the possibility of Stewpot's purchasing the properties. A survey of the existing conditions of each house was completed at this time.

Stewpot developed a concept that inmate labor would be used to reduce the cost of renovation, allowing Stewpot to only assume the cost of materials. The inmate labor crew is provided by the Hinds County Detention Center run by Sheriff Malcolm McMillan. The crews are composed of either state, county, or city prisoners. There is a state law that authorizes a Sheriff to use inmate labor and donate it to non-profit organizations like Stewpot. Prior to Stewpot, the crews had worked on other housing projects, providing painting and general maintenance services, and many of the prisoners have had direct experience in the construction trades.

Parties involved in developing each property are the MSU Jackson Community Design Center, which provides design services; attorneys who donate their services for the legal work required for the purchase of and closing on properties; and a title insurance company that writes all insurance policies at basically no cost and offers a discount on insurance policies. On the empty lots or where the houses were beyond repair, Habitat for Humanity built new homes.

Donations were made to provide some cash-flow for the start-up of the project. Ultimately, a bank provided 15-year loans to families for the purchase of the homes, which reimbursed Stewpot for its initial investment. Reduced-mortgage programs for low-income families were made available by the Federal Home Loan Bank in Dallas and Fannie Mae. The Federal Home Loan Bank in Dallas provided a \$60,000 grant for six houses, which helped to reduce the mortgages.

A concept that has been adopted for some of the houses was to provide some duplex units, providing one primary residence and a second rental property, which helps the homebuyer cut mortgage payments in half. Some of the houses adapted to allow for an elderly person to rent an apartment so that both the



1. The mission and program descriptions are provided by a combination of the Stewpot Community Services brochure and from an interview with Dexter Branscome, a Stewpot staff volunteer, in July 2000.

2. Interview with Jerry Nash, Spring 2000.

3. Interview with Jerry Nash.

4. Interview with Jerry Nash.

family and the elderly person benefit by splitting the mortgage payment, and a situation is created whereby an elderly person receives attention and care by a family.

An example: A house was sold in the spring to a woman for \$35,000 which cost Stewpot \$50,000 to build. (Stewpot received the funding through grants and donations of materials and prison labor.) The homeowner now rents that apartment and splits the monthly mortgage in half, each paying \$150 for a total of \$300/month for the mortgage payment.

The reason the project is feasible and going is to be successful is that these homes are being sold to people who are part of the Stewpot community. The person responsible for managing the project knows these people; he knows who they are, what they do, and whether or not they are reliable. Most of the homebuyers have children who are involved in the Stewpot programs. Stewpot actively seeks the people who are involved in the programs, who currently do not own their own homes, and who are mistreated by absentee landlords in their current situation. It is these people who are offered the opportunity to purchase homes.

Appendix D:

Resource Guide:

Housing and Community Development Funding

HUD: www.hud.gov

Mission: Providing a decent, safe, and sanitary home and suitable living environment for every American. Goals include fighting for fair housing, increasing affordable housing and home ownership, reducing homelessness, promoting jobs and economic opportunity, empowering people and communities, and restoring the public trust
Grants Available under HUD include:

- Community Development Technical Assistance (CD-TA) Programs

- Continuum of Care Programs

- Drug Elimination Programs

- Economic Development Programs

- Fair Housing Initiatives and Housing Counseling Programs

- HOPE IV Programs

- Outreach and Training Assistance (OTAG)

- Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Programs

- Rural Housing and Economic Development Programs

- Self Help Homeownership (SHOP) Program

- Youthbuild Program

- Other Grants

Contact: Mississippi HUD office, Federal Building, 100 W.

Capitol St. Suite 910

Jackson, MS 39260-1096 (601) 965-4700

Enterprise Foundation: www.enterprisefoundation.org

Mission: Dedicated to bringing lasting improvements to distressed communities.

Creates special initiatives to test innovative solutions, build strategic partnerships, and take advantage of unique opportunities caused by changing political and economic environments

Current Initiatives: -Sandtown - Winchester, 72-square block neighborhood in West Baltimore. The loss of manufacturing jobs in 1960s caused people to abandon homes, investors to leave, and drugs to arrive. The community created a partnership with The Enterprise Foundation to repair many of the neighborhood's systems simultaneously, including schools, housing, open spaces, health services, safety programs, employment services and commercial

development. Residents work closely with government agencies and Enterprise staff

- Formed alliance with Habitat for Humanity
- Working to revitalize communities through technology and computer learning centers

Ford Foundation: www.fordfound.org

Mission: To strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement.

Program: The program consists of three areas of focus: Asset Building & Community Development, Peace & Social Justice, and Education, Media, Arts & Culture.

Asset Building & Community Development: Help people and groups acquire, protect and improve land, water, forests, wildlife and other natural assets in ways that help reduce poverty and injustice. Improve the quality of life and opportunities for positive change in urban and rural communities. The goal is to develop community-based institutions that mobilize and leverage philanthropic capital, investment capital, knowledge and skills, and natural resources in a responsible manner.

-Human Development and Reproductive Health: Support organizations and promote policies that help families mobilize social assets to overcome poverty and discrimination.

-Economic Development: Support organizations that help businesses create employment opportunities and help people acquire, develop, and maintain savings, investments, businesses, homes, land, and other assets. In work-force development, support organizations that help improve the ways low-income people develop marketable job skills and acquire and retain reliable employment that provides livable wages.

Education, Media, Arts & Culture: Seeks to enhance educational opportunity, especially for low-income and chronically disadvantaged groups, and to address the challenges of pluralism and diversity, using interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches.

-Media, Arts, and Culture: Seeks to strengthen the arts and media as vibrant and crucial contributions to the communities and societies in which they function.

Contact: (212) 573-5000

Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI):

www.rurdev.usda.gov

Mission: To develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit, community-based housing and community development organizations, and low-income rural communities to undertake

projects to improve housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas (construction, in any form, is ineligible for this grant)

PROGRAMS

USDA Rural Development: www.rurdev.usda.gov/

Mission: USDA believes rural Americans have a right to the same quality of life as is enjoyed by people who live in suburban and urban areas.

Program: Rural Development is working to eliminate substandard housing by helping people buy, build, or rent decent housing. It also creates jobs by funding the growth and creation of rural businesses and cooperatives. Other Rural Development programs help rural communities build or improve community facilities and build or extend utilities, including water, electricity, and telecommunications services. Programs are delivered through three sister agencies, Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

Results: In a typical year, Rural Development programs create or preserve more than 150,000 rural jobs, enable 40,000 to 50,000 rural Americans to buy homes, and help 450,000 low-income rural people rent apartments or other housing.

Office of Community Development (OCD):

Mission: Provides leadership in the delivery of community development support through Rural Development's field offices.

Program: Provides this service by implementing special initiatives that demonstrate effective methods of building vital rural communities, disseminating information about effective rural community and economic-development strategies and methods, and promoting networking among rural communities and rural development practitioners.

Contact: (202) 619-7980

Rural Housing Service:

-Community Facilities Program

Mission: Administers programs designed to develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas. These facilities include schools, libraries, child care, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings, and transportation.

Program: Community Programs uses three flexible financial tools. These are the community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program, the Community Facilities Direct Loan Program, and the Community Facilities Grant Program.

-Single Family Housing Program

Mission: Provides home ownership opportunities to low and moderate-income rural Americans through several loan, grant, and

guarantee programs. The program also makes funding available to individuals to finance vital improvements necessary to make their homes decent, safe, and sanitary.

Programs: Direct Loan Program, Loan Guarantee Program, Mutual Self-Help Housing Program, and Home Repair Loan and Grant Program.

-Multi-Family Housing

Mission: Rural Development Multi-Family Housing programs provide a number of financing options to developers of low-income community housing.

Program: Rent subsidies under the Rental Assistance Program ensure that elderly, disabled, and low-income residents of multi-family housing complexes financed by RHS are able to afford rent payments. With the help of the Rental Assistance Program, a qualified applicant pays no more than 30% of his or her income for housing.

-NonProfit and Public Body Opportunities

Mission: The Rural Housing Service works with a wide variety of public and nonprofit organizations to provide housing options to communities throughout rural America. Local and state governmental entities; nonprofit groups, such as community development organizations; associations, private corporations, and cooperatives operating on a not-for-profit basis, are all eligible to apply for RHS funds.

Programs: For single-family housing, there are Mutual Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants, and Rural Housing Site Loans; for multi-family housing development, there are Rural Rental Housing Loans, Farm Labor Housing, and Housing Preservation Grants; and, for community facilities, there are Community Facilities Loans and Grants.

Contact: State Director, William Simpson, Federal Building, 100 W. Capitol St. Suite 831, Jackson, MS 39269 (601) 965-4316

-Area Offices: The contact point for Rural Development's community and economic development programs, offering financial and technical assistance in the areas of community and economic development. This includes strategic planning and locating resources.

Grenada Area Office: Rural Development Manager, Winifred E. McAdams (662) 226-4724

-Local Offices: Contact point for individuals interested in receiving single-family housing assistance, homeownership loans, and repair/rehabilitation loans and grants. These offices also provide home ownership counseling services.

Leflore County Local Office: 517 Brentwood Ave., Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 455-1199

EZ/EC: The Presidential Empowerment Initiative: www.ezec.gov

Mission: The Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program is designed to afford communities real opportunities for growth and revitalization. The framework of the program is embodied in four principles: Economic Opportunity, Sustainable Community Development, Community-based Partnerships, and Strategic Vision for Change.

Program: Rural Empowerment Zones received grants of \$40 million and rural Enterprise Communities received special EZ/EC grants of just under \$3 million. In Round 1 Designations, the Mid-Delta was chosen as an EZ (North Delta was chosen as an EC).

Results: In the Mid-Delta area, 500 jobs have been created or saved, 3 job training programs have been created, 2,035 computers have been donated, and 6 housing units have been built or rehabilitated.

Contact: USDA EZ/EC Team (800) 645-4712 or
Dr. Arthur Peyton, 1400 Hwy 82 West, Mississippi Valley State University, P.O. Box 7275, Itta Bena, MS 38941 (662) 254-9957

Volunteers of America: www.voa.org

Mission: Community-based, community-directed programs that work to solve America's most pressing problems.

Programs Include:

-Children and Youth Services: Promotes the positive development of and well-being of children, adolescents, and their families

-Family Services: helps families through hard times and teaches them coping strategies for the future. VOA partners with schools, religious groups, social-service agencies, police, and caring individuals to strengthen fragile families, thereby creating strong communities. Model Program: Positive Alternatives- works in L.A. to match healthy, financially strong families in mentoring relationships with inner-city families. The families get together for outings and a community center gives the children a safe meeting place after school for homework, tutoring, and activities that emphasize civic responsibility and pride in one's neighborhood. Parents' self-perception as educators of their children has improved, and their use of physical punishment has declined. The children have higher grades at school, higher language and math test scores, increased self-esteem, and better behavior and social skills.

-Housing and Homeless Services: Provides affordable housing for low-income families along with other services. Housing solutions include preserved units of affordable housing from failed savings and loans, partnerships with local governments to rehabilitate or build subsidized housing, eviction prevention program, housing mediation, and assistance for first-time home ownership.

Contact: National Office: (800) 899-0089 Local Affiliate: Windsong Apartments Jackson, MS (601) 372-2528

CASE STUDIES

EcoYouthSalvage: (Cedar Rapids, IA) .

Mission: Works with young people between the ages of 16 and 21, training them to recover and sell building materials.

Results: The EcoYouth Salvage program enables its parent organization, MidAmerican Housing Partnership, to provide affordable housing using salvaged material.

Source: newvillage1

North Midtown Community Development Corporation: (Jackson, MS)

Mission: Combining community members with outside volunteers to improve the community.

Implementation: Habitat for Humanity, Medical Centers, the city of Jackson, Housing Authority, and the Jackson Metro Housing all joined together to help the Midtown community. Four task forces were established, consisting of housing, quality of life, education, and economic development.

Provides job training, work ethics, personal development, and computer education, as well as homeowner training, parenting classes, after-school programs, community clean-up days, community gatherings, and parties

Result: Crime in the Midtown area has significantly dropped since the implementation of the program, and Habitat for Humanity has responded by building over 120 new homes. The community members are keeping their yards cleaner, and the numbers of homeowners has increased.

Housing

FUNDING

Housing Assistance Council: www.ruralhome.org

Mission: nonprofit corporation created to increase the availability of decent and affordable housing in rural areas.

-promotes home ownership for working low-income rural families through a self-help, "sweat equity", construction method.

-concentrates on regions in need, including the Mississippi Delta

-provides loans, technical assistance (including a contract with HUD to help rural Community Housing Development Organizations use HOME and other funding programs), research, and information, and training

-Rural Housing Services, Inc., an HAC subsidiary, helped create and now co-owns 20 low-income tax-credit rental projects. HAC provides low-interest loans to finance affordable and mixed-income housing projects in rural communities. Loans can be used for pre-development, acquisition, site development, and construction.

Contact: Southeast office: (404) 892-4824

Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME):

www.hud.gov/progdesc/home1a.html

Mission: Provides formula grants to states and localities that communities use, often in partnership with local nonprofit groups, to fund a wide range of activities that build, buy, and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or homeownership or provide direct rental assistance to low-income people.

-States and local governments can use HOME funds for grants, direct loans, loan guarantees or other forms of credit enhancement, or rental assistance or security deposits.

-States are automatically eligible and receive either formula allocation or \$3 million. Local jurisdictions eligible for at least \$500,000 under the formula can also receive allocation. Other localities can participate in HOME by applying for program funds made available by their state.

-HOME funds can be used to provide home purchase or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers, to build or rehabilitate housing for rent or ownership, or for "other reasonable and necessary expenses related to the development of non-luxury housing," including site acquisition or improvement, demolition of dilapidated housing, and payment of relocation expenses.

Contact: Jackson office: 100 W. Capitol St. Room 910, Jackson, MS 39269-1096 (601) 965-4700

Fannie Mae Foundation: www.fanniemaefoundation.org

Mission: Comprehensive nationwide grant-making programs with a focus on supporting affordable homeownership and rental housing opportunities and community development.

Programs Include: -Regional and Community Initiatives Grant Program- awards grants for activities that identify and properly prepare the next generation of homeowners; reach out to lower-income families, individuals, and communities (including rural) to revitalize neighborhoods and create affordable homeownership and housing opportunities; and prepare the next generation of leaders in the affordable housing industry in communities across America.

-Research Grant Program- funds policy analysis and empirical or theoretical research that makes significant contributions to the state of knowledge on housing policy, housing finance, and community development issues

-Signature Programs- includes Maxwell Awards of Excellence, Sustained Excellence Awards, and Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship at the Kennedy School of Government. These programs recognize and invest in excellence

Contact: Southeastern Regional office: (404) 398-6068

PROGRAMS

Habitat for Humanity International: www.habitat.org

Mission: Non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry, seeking to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world. Habitat has built more than 90,000 houses around the world.

Implementation: Habitat builds and rehabilitates simple, decent houses with the help of the homeowner (partner) families. Habitat houses are sold to partner families at no profit, financed with affordable, no-interest loans. The homeowners' monthly mortgage payments are used to build more Habitat homes.

Contact: Greenwood-Leflore HFH: (662) 453-6057

SERVICES

American Homeowner Education and Counseling Institute:

www.aheci.org

Mission: A national, non-profit organization to standardize the homeowner education and counseling industry. In addition, educate housing consumers on making informed decisions relating to home buying

National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials:

www.nahro.org

Mission: A professional membership organization to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities

National Low Income Housing Coalition/LIHC: www.nlihc.org

Mission: Committed to educating, organizing, and advocating to ensure decent, affordable housing within healthy neighborhoods for everyone. Provides up-to-date information, formulates policy, and educates the public on housing needs and the strategies for solutions

NLC's Affordable Housing Program: www.nlc.org

Mission: Provides needed and timely technical information to elected officials and policy staffs that will enable them to establish better local policies, laws, and regulations on affordable housing for the members of their communities.

Programs: -Unlocking Doors To Opportunity -a report on innovative and effective affordable housing programs at work today in communities across the nation.

-Housing & Community Services - available to take local leaders step-by-step through the process of making positive changes in the affordable housing situation for their citizens.

Implementation:Community Policing examples:

-Community Policing in schools/youth/gangs: City of Bay City, Mich.-

The police department initiated the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force . Programs established include: V.I.P. (Very Important Person) Summer Recreation and After School program, a school conflict-resolution program, Project Success, SMART Moves,

Campus COPS, Something to Do Van, and Graffiti Abatement Program. contact: Chief Linda Collier (517) 892-8571

-Utilizing volunteers: City of Cincinnati, Ohio-

F.A.C.T. Organization (Fighting Against Crack Trafficking) or "The Drug Fighters" is a grass-roots approach to drug problems that empowers citizens to confront drug dealers. Contact: Lt. Daniel Steers (513) 325-3715

-Community Policing in Action (Pop. Under 10,000): City of Norwood, N.C.-

Established the Community Watch Program, a Home and Business Security Survey Program, a Home and Business Security Survey Program, a Law Enforcement Explorer Post, a bicycle patrol, increased foot patrols in business districts, Child Identification Program, and crime prevention programs. Contact: Chief Robert Blakely (704)474-3716

-Community Policing in Action (Pop. 10,000 to 25,000): City of Grand Haven, Mich.-

Programs include: Our Kids-Our Future, Miles of Smiles, Project I.R.I.S., Community Child Watch, Paint the Fence, Olde Town Association, and Community Vegetable Garden. Contact Director Robert Huff (616) 842-3460

Community

FUNDING

MacArthur Foundation: www.macfdn.org

Mission: The Program on Human and Community Development supports the development of healthy individuals and effective communities. (The Foundation also nationally supports research and policy analysis)

Programs: -Access to Economic Opportunity - developing effective approaches in favor of economic security and greater equality of economic opportunity.

-Building Community Capacity - a community must have the ability to mobilize and use the resources of its members, along with outside resources to foster individual growth and community development. In the arts, the program supports efforts that increase the use of art and culture to promote individual development, community-building, and understanding among communities

Child and Youth Development - takes a special interest in children of school age and in youth who are beginning to assume adult responsibilities.

-Guidelines for the Support of Media Centers: Supports projects that use media, primarily film and video, to foster community problem-solving; explore welfare, work force and related economic issues; and support the development of children and youth

Contact: Office of Grants Management: (312) 726-8000

CREATE Foundation: www.createfoundation.com

(Reference only, does not serve the Mississippi Delta)

Mission: Strives to be a catalyst for positive change in Northeast Mississippi by committing its resources to projects that will improve the quality of life for all citizens of Northeast Mississippi and by helping individuals and groups by providing financial support to meaningful projects.

Target Grants Include: -Community Development- the focus is on leadership development and adult education work-force training programs.

-Human Development- focus on programs that target high-risk youth, promote early childhood development, and provide support for the family

-Education- focus on programs to improve the quality of education and technical education, as well as improvement projects and historical programs

W.K. Kellogg Foundation: www.WKKF.org

Mission: Grants are given to requests that fall within the established or developing programming areas of Health, Food Systems and Rural Development; Youth and Education; and Philanthropy and Volunteerism. Within these areas attention is given to the cross-cutting themes of leadership; information systems/technology; capitalizing on diversity; and social and economic community development

Contact: (616) 968-1611

PROGRAMS

Center for Community Development: www.deltast.edu/ccd

Delta State University

Mission: The Center for Community Development is a growing partnership for public service and educational outreach between Delta State University and Mississippi Delta communities. The Center's philosophy is that positive change will occur if action is taken with and by Deltans through the community-development process.

Program: The four major components of the DPI Program are: 1. Delta Emerging Leaders Program, 2. Informing Public Policy Program, 3. Community Development Demonstration Program, and 4. Regional Capacity Building Program. Some of their programs include, America Reads Mississippi, Delta Reads Partnership, and MS Delta Service Corps, with members of AmeriCorps.

Results: DSU, through the Center, is showing that institutions of higher learning can be a driving force to help support community and economic development. The Center brings businesses, citizens, educational leaders, public officials, institutions of higher education, and faculty together to develop innovative solutions to problems.

Example: Citizens in a small Mississippi Delta town were concerned that there were no after-school programs for their youth. A group of concerned parents and two teachers applied to the Delta Service Corps and recruited an AmeriCorps member to lead a youth recreational program. Several lots were made available to build a playground. Fund-raising events to purchase equipment and a work day to clean-up and fix-up the park were successful. A softball field and basketball court were built and swings and slides were installed. Contact: Interim Director, Myrtis Tabb (662) 846-4372
Source: Center for Community Development2

AmeriCorps: www.americorps.org

Mission: National service program that allows people of all ages and backgrounds to help pay for education in exchange for a year of service.

VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America):

www.friendsofvista.org

Mission: Places individuals with community-based agencies to help find long-term solutions to the problems caused by urban and rural poverty. Addresses issues such as homelessness, illiteracy, economic development, and neighborhood revitalization.

Case study:-Hinds County Human Resource Agency, Metro Jackson Service Coalition/AmeriCorps

The Metro Jackson Service Coalition is comprised of nine community service agencies in an Urban Enterprise Community in Jackson.

Mission: AmeriCorps members help to decrease crime and violence while building neighborhoods, educating children and empowering citizens to make positive changes. The corps is divided into one of two areas to meet the education and other human needs issue areas.

Results: The School Success team members provide literacy tutoring to 125 children in the Reading and Ready Program, of which 75% of the participating students demonstrate an increase of up to two grade levels. The Public Safety/Housing team has renovated and constructed 70 homes for first-time homeowners and for residents with disabilities, in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity. Contact: Project Director, Della Archie (601) 923-3930, 2050 Martin Luther King Dr. MJSC/AmeriCorps Jackson, MS 39203

Keep America Beautiful, Inc.: www.kab.org

Mission: A non-profit organization whose network of local, state and international affiliate programs educates individuals about litter prevention and ways to reduce, reuse, recycle and properly manage waste materials.

Results: Programs motivate millions of volunteers annually to clean up, beautify, and improve their neighborhoods, thereby creating healthier, safer, and more livable community environments.

Programs:-The Great American Cleanup- "pick up, spruce up, paint up" -volunteers are helping to transform communities into areas that are more beautiful, livable and conducive to economic development.

-Graffiti Hurts! – partnership to educate citizens, business owners, government officials, and students about the negative impacts of graffiti and the importance of effective graffiti prevention.

-increased resident anxiety, economic decline and the escalation of more serious crimes results when graffiti is left unattended in communities. The highest rates of vandalism occur in areas with obsolete facilities, poor street lighting, overgrown lots, low community morale, and very little pedestrian traffic.

Tips for Preventing Litter: Research by Keep America Beautiful, Inc. found that people litter because they feel no sense of ownership for the property; because they believe someone else will pick up after them; and because litter has already accumulated.

-Set an example for others, especially children, by not littering

-Make sure trash cans have lids that can be securely fastened.

-Report areas where people have illegally dumped garbage and debris to your local highway, public works, or conservation office, and ask that the material be removed

-Volunteer to help organize a cleanup

Contact: (203) 323-8987

Environmental Courts: www.kab.org/old/envcourts.html

Mission: 25 communities have environmental courts. Their dockets are reserved for violations of local health, safety, housing, building, fire, solid waste, and litter ordinances. Many of these courts are patterned after the Memphis/Shelby County (TN) Division 14 Environmental Court, presided over by the honorable Larry Potter.

Results: As more environmental cases are prosecuted, greater compliance with local laws is realized, resulting in a safer and cleaner community.

Contact: KAB State Affiliate: Ms. Barbara Dorr (601) 981-5566

MS Department of Human Services:

www.mdhs.state.ms.us/ea.html

Mission: Youth Services- provides counseling through an adolescent offender program, a wilderness program for offenders, and an intensive counseling program providing concentrate services for juveniles at high risk.

Contact: Division of Economic Assistance: 750 N. State St., Jackson, MS 39202 (601) 359-4800

Stennis Institute of Government:

www.sig.msstate.edu or www.stennis.gov

Mission: Created as a service and research arm of Mississippi State University, the Institute seeks to integrate research, service, and teaching activities to improve government in the state, as well as promote the training of students who seek careers in public service.

Programs: Projects range in size and scope from specific work with Mississippi's smallest towns to federally-funded grants with multi-state application.

Contact: (662) 325-3328

Appalachian Regional Commission: www.arc.gov

(Reference only, does not serve the Mississippi Delta)

Mission: Established to support economic and social development in the Appalachian Region. ARC helps fund such projects as education and work-force training, leadership-development programs, small business start-ups and expansions, and development of health-care resources.

- Strategic Plan:
- develop a knowledgeable and skilled population
 - strengthen the region's physical infrastructure
 - building local and regional capacity
 - creating a dynamic economic base
 - fostering healthy people

Three Rivers Planning & Development District, Inc.:

www.trpdd.com/

(Reference only, does not serve Mississippi Delta)

Mission: TRPDD, with headquarters in Pontotoc, Mississippi, plays a key role in the further development of its eight-county area, serving as a regional planning organization. It was formed to promote overall economic development, foster responsible short-and-long term community planning, and to aid in general civic, social, and economic development. The District promotes, administers, and interprets a variety of programs that fall under the jurisdiction of several state and federal agencies.

Programs: Job Training Programs, including Occupational Skills Classes such as Nurse Assistant, Commercial Truck driving, and Furniture Assembly; the Participant Training Program (On-the-Job Training); Youth Competency and School-to-Work activities, Economic Development Financing, Area Agency on Aging, and Local Government Planning & Administration.

SERVICES

Foundation for the Mid South: www.fndmidsouth.org

Mission: A private, long-term, regional, and philanthropic response to the issues facing the Mid South. FMS believes in:

working at the community level; planning for the long term; and, creating partnerships within and outside the region.

Role: to provide support to individuals, organizations and communities that are already working toward their own visions and goals.

Programs: Efforts focused on three program areas: Education, Economic Development, and Families and Children.

Key Issues: -First, the level and diversity of economic activity must increase. -Second, we must eradicate poverty and low education levels that undermine the development potential of people and communities. -Third, to increase economic opportunity for all people, the region needs an inclusive development process that has the support and involvement of all people.

Contact: 308 E. Pearl St., Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 355-8167

NCCED (National Congress for Community Economic Development): www.ncced.org

Mission: Trade association and advocate for the community-based development industry.

Community Development corporations produce affordable housing and create jobs through business and commercial development.

Implementation: -create employment opportunities through business development and job training.

- support development of light industry

- produce affordable housing through new construction and rehabilitation

- owned and controlled by residents affected by their programs

Possible Funding Sources:

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Justice

Department of Labor

Department of Transportation

Department of Treasury

Environmental Protection Agency

Small Business Administration

The Federal Home Loan Bank System

Fannie Mae

Freddie Mac

Additional Grants include: (www.ncced.org/funding/funding.html)

Rural Cooperative Research

Food Projects

Rural Cooperative Business

Drug Abuse Prevention Grants

Violence Prevention Grants

Anti-Crime Grants



Habitat Restoration Projects
Juvenile Mentoring Program
Youth Violence Prevention Cooperative Agreements
Self-Sufficiency Grants
Job Training Grants
Rural Capacity Building
Economic Development Assistance Programs

National Community Development Association:

www.ncdaonline.org

Mission: A national nonprofit organization comprised of more than 550 local governments that administer federally-supported community and economic development and housing and human service programs, including HUD, CDBG, and HOME. Provides direct information and technical support to its members on federal housing and community development programs for local governments.

The Aspen Institute: www.aspeninst.org

Mission: The Communities Strategy Group strives to have a positive impact on communities by designing, facilitating, and participating in learning opportunities that enhance the efforts of organizations working to achieve more widely shared and lasting prosperity in communities.

Working Communities: www.rockfound.org/99prog./work.html

Mission: Equal Opportunity: Poverty is not merely a lack of income or wealth, but involves multi-dimensional deprivation in schooling and skills, racial or ethnic discrimination, and insufficient community and social support.

The goals of the working communities are: Equity and social injustice on public agendas

- Increasing employment
- Improving schools

NeighborWorks: www.nw.org

Mission: A national network of public and private partnerships, providing information relating to a host of community-revitalization efforts from across the country.

Mississippi State University Enterprise and Community Resource Development

Mission: The Community Resource Development Department provides programs and assistance that enhance the decision-making ability of local leaders, and hence, the quality of life that they affect within their communities.

Contact: Bost Extension Center (662) 325-3144

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory3

Entergy Corporation: (601) 969-2343

Mission: Community Development offers cooperative assistance to communities in the following areas: downtown redevelopment, leadership development, matching grants for marketing industrial sites and properties, industrial development training, Team City and community marketing.

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory4

CASE STUDIES

Bronx Center Project: www.unesco.org/most/usa1.html

Mission: Community Renovation: The Bronx Community Forum is an approach to addressing urban problems. It connects community members, academics, urban development, and professionals.

Projects: -Community labor exchange on new construction projects in the Bronx

- Rehabilitation of landmark buildings
- Community developing alternatives
- Community enhancement program: provides grants and loans to new homeowners in the Bronx area.
- Construction of housing for the homeless and low-income
- Renovation of abandoned buildings
- Frequent community meetings and outreach efforts
- Preparation for safe and active streets and an open space proposal

Wooten Center: www.wootencenter.org

Mission: The youth center's primary focus is to serve as a neighborhood approach to the revitalization of education, counseling, and recreation. The Wooten/Brown Foundation provides help to youth in phonics, writing, literature, math, computer, black history classes, and general help with school work. The center also provides help with video production, sewing and gardening, and programs centered around education, culture, and recreation. To support the foundation monetarily, the center operates a mini-market. The youth center's primary goals are to counter idleness, supplement the public-education system present in the community, foster family participation, and identify and meet the social needs of the families.

Funding:

Crime and Violence Prevention Programs

Love and Attention Confidence Act

Hull House

National African-American Male Collaboration.

Ann Arbor Community Center:

<http://comnet.org/aacc/programs.html>

(734)-662-3128

Mission: "igniting new visions" and providing tools to provide a better life, providing services for youth, seniors, mental health patients and substance abusers. The center is focused around various support services through rental space. Education, self-development, and recreation are the primary purposes of the center. It also provides a bookmobile.

Morristown: www.neighborhood-house.org

-Neighborhood House Association in New Jersey, providing community-based support systems. It focuses on recreational, educational, cultural, and social-service programs, providing childcare, after school help with homework, literacy programs, scholarships, music, sports, and a wood shop.

Funding:

Government grants

United Way

Foundation support

Capital improvement

Investment income

Corporate sponsors

The appropriation of the money goes towards services provided, fund raising, building/construction, and general management.

Contact: Marge Moncale: 973-538-1229

The Food Project: (Roxbury and Lincoln, Boston, MA)

Mission: Developing youth and community through food and sustainable agriculture.

Results: The Food Project in 1999 grew 128,000 pounds of food and hired 60 teenagers for eight weeks during the summer to tend the land, work in Boston homeless shelters, and run two farmers' markets. Fifty-Five percent of the food grown this year was donated to shelters and soup kitchens, and 5% was sold in inner-city farmers' markets, where prices were appropriate for that community. The other 40% went to 50 paying shareholders of the project's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), which just started, and is expected to fully pay for all food production cost within three or four years.

Source: newvillage5

Greensgrow Farm: (Philadelphia, PA)

Mission: Mary Seton Corboy and Tom Sereduk were motivated to start a business by reusing vacant land in the city to grow produce, such as lettuce, tomatoes, and herbs.

Results: After only two growing seasons, the farm is breaking even. In the second year, they hired three unskilled, single mothers from the area. They are also creating a guide for others venturing into urban agriculture.

Source: newvillage6

Village of Arts and Humanities: (Philadelphia, PA)

Mission: Lily Yeh was invited to create a park in an abandoned lot next to the Ile-Ife Black Humanitarian Center. She offered to train residents in masonry, mosaics, painting, and construction techniques.

Program: The park has been transformed from a park of “concrete trees” – sculptures created until soil was available to plant real trees – to the Village of Arts and Humanities. The Village has its own building, construction crew, theater, literary and photography publications, after-school program, Narcotics Anonymous meetings, community gardens, tree farm, and job training program.

Results: Through its Grassroots Transformation Task Force, the Village has helped residents clear debris and restore 120 abandoned lots. Produce from Village gardens is sold at three farmer’s markets. The two-acre tree farm with 75 permanent trees, 3,000 seedlings, and 200 trees in buckets, made \$1,250 in its first year. Next year, the Village will start building a Community Garden Center, which will offer workshops, and job training and sell topsoil, wood chips, and seedlings.

Source: newvillage7

Education

PROGRAMS

GED: www.acenet.edu/calec/ged/home.html

Information: -more than 800,000 adults take GED tests each year
-those who obtain a GED diploma outperform at least one-third of today’s high-school seniors

-more than 95 percent of employers in the U.S. consider GED graduates the same as traditional high-school graduates in regard to hiring, salary, and opportunity for advancement

Contact: Center for Adult Learning: Program Coordinator, Melissa Smith (202) 939-9475

GED Testing Service Contacts: Client Services Coordinator, Cheryl Roberts
(202) 939-9490

Even Start Family Literacy Program:

www.ed.gov/pubs/EvenStart/highlights.html

Mission: focuses on the educational needs of low-income families with young children. The goal is to help break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by improving the educational opportunities available to low-income families with limited educational experiences. To reach this goal, Even Start projects build on existing community resources to integrate adult education, parenting education, and early childhood education services into a unified program. Even Start provides high-school dropouts an opportunity to get a GED and

possible employment opportunities. The program also offers family literacy programs.

Early Start:

www2.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb/about/programs/ehs.htm

Mission: Program for low-income families with infants and toddlers. It provides a course for parents which looks at the kind of activities that will develop children's early reading and writing skills.

Head Start: www.goddard.org/hdstart.htm

Mission: Provides child-development and parent-education services. parenting programs, day care, classrooms, and after-school recreational activities.

Contact: U.S. Department of Education: www.ed.gov (800) USA-LEARN

Miss. Department of Education: www.mde.k12.ms.us/ (601) 359-3513

National Mentoring Partnership: www.mentoring.org

Mission: An advocate for expansion of mentoring and a resource for mentors and mentoring initiatives nationwide. Provides a checklist for mentoring programs

Results: young people with mentors are

-46% less likely to use illegal drugs

-27% less likely to use alcohol

-53% less likely to skip school

-37% less likely to skip class

-33% less likely to hit someone (than in the research control groups)

-Mentoring can improve education and career opportunities for youth and support them in making successful transitions to higher education.

-Effective mentoring programs can have important and positive effects on the lives of youth. It can improve academic attitudes, behaviors, and performance of youth

Contact: the Metro Jackson Mentoring Partnership (601-948-0899)

Pathways: (www.ppv.org/natlmentoring) sets aside \$10,000 for economically disadvantaged youth taking part in mentoring programs. The children can liquidate the account when they graduate from high school, obtain a GED, or turn twenty-three. The money is to be used for a college education, job training, a house down payment, business, or other investment.

Youth Build: (215) 627-8671 -Vocational training and academic redemption for youths

-Turning abandoned buildings into low-income housing

-Provides training in construction skills.

Youth Build: www.youthbuild.org

Mission: A comprehensive youth and community development program as well as an alternative school. Offers job training, education, counseling, and leadership-development opportunities to unemployed and out-of-school young adults, ages 16-24, through the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing in their own communities.

Results: Many graduates go on to construction-related jobs or college. The buildings that are rehabilitated or constructed during the program are usually owned and managed by community-based organizations as permanent low-income housing.

Funding: Includes HUD, which has awarded grants and contracts to YouthBuild and AmeriCorps programs in which participants earn part-time AmeriCorps educational grants to help cover tuition to college and technical school.

Contact: YouthBuild USA (617) 623-9900 (Local Affiliates: Jackson Youthbuild, Jackson; Mississippi Delta Community College, Moorehead)

Youth Venture: www.youthventure.org

Mission: To mobilize young people to develop their own opportunities for leadership through the creation and operation of organizations that meet their needs.

Program: These organizations fall into three categories. They are community-service organizations, such as student-run tutoring, teen hotlines, or park cleanups; small business ventures, such as a coloring-book company or local landscaping operation; or after-school clubs, such as athletic, dance, music or computer clubs. Young people come up with the ideas and control the initiatives, Youth Venture supports each team with the resources to put their ideas into action.

Contact: Ellen Miller (703) 527-8300

After School Programs: www.afterschool.com or www.ed.gov/21stcclc/

Mission: The after-school programs work with cognition, culture, communication, creativity, art, music, drama, and dance.

Research: According to the US Department of Education, statistics show that most juvenile crime takes place between 2-8 p.m. Children are also at a greater risk of being victims of crime during the hours after school. Research shows that the arts help children build both basic and advanced thinking skills, and instruct children in diverse modes of thinking and learning.

Contact: U.S. Department of Education (800) USA-LEARN

4-H Club: www.dublinonline.com/4hclub

Mission: Promotes initiative and responsibility, leadership and service, knowledge and career skills, and positive self-images. 4-H

clubs have regular meetings and projects centered around animal and plant science, entomology, woodworking, engineering, and sports.

Contact: National: www.4h-usa.org (202) 720-2908
Leflore County Extension Service: (662) 453-6803

Camp Fire Boys and Girls: www.campfire.org

Mission: Improving self-confidence and responsibility. The Camp Fire organization provides safety courses, alcohol and drug prevention, nutrition, negative peer pressure, baby-sitting skills, and service projects.

Contact: National Executive Director: Stewart J. Smith (816) 756-1950

Green Thumb: www.mi-greenthumb.org/SCSEP.html

(Reference only, does not serve the Mississippi Delta)

SCSEP: Senior Community Service Employment Program

Mission: Provides teacher's aides, computer operators, emergency dispatchers, childcare providers, and librarians. Enhances abilities and skills. It incorporates opportunities for jobs with improved income and benefits. The positions are paid minimum wage.

Also provides work alternatives, second-career training, and employment placement help.

CASE STUDIES

YouthBuild Boston: www.ybboston.org

Mission: Program that teaches Boston's unemployed and unskilled young people to renovate abandoned buildings into affordable housing for low-income families. YouthBuild Boston offers these young people a second chance to obtain the educational, occupational, social, and leadership skills they need to become economically self-sufficient, able to assume full responsibility for themselves and their families.

Program: -offers a multi-disciplinary academic, vocational, and job training program

Results: YouthBuild Boston has a proven track record for placing graduates into well-paying, career-oriented jobs. Through participation with the AmeriCorps program, eligible YouthBuild Boston graduates receive education awards and can access college scholarship funds.

Boys and Girls Club: www.sdboysandgirls.org/c2000/funding.htm

Mission: SMART Community Club is sponsored by youth services to assist neighborhood children in coping with everyday life. Enhances leadership skills

James R. Jordan Boys and Girls Club:

www.jordanbgcc.org/services

Mission: Computer Learning Center: Recreational activities such as pottery lessons, bumper pool, and basketball. The center also provides help with homework and basic-employment skills. There is a science lab, kitchen, day care, meeting space, classrooms, game room, photo lab, and a health center.

Communities in

www.cisphila.org/info.html

Mission: Small Learning Communities with the career theme of learning: 215-875-3171

The program focuses on increasing school attendance, achievement, graduation rates, self-esteem and responsibility, reversing school drop-out rates and involvement in juvenile-crimes help during the transition after high school, placement in part-time employment, college preparation, mentoring, community service, health, and parenting skills.

Youth Employment Partnership (YEP): (Oakland, CA)

Mission: Making use of building deconstruction to train youths for high-paying jobs in the construction industry.

Program: Deconstruction, taking buildings apart by hand and salvaging reusable materials for resale, generates wood and other building materials. Up to 80% of materials from a deconstructed building are diverted from landfills. The labor-intensive nature of dismantling a building enables four workers to be taught by just one skilled tradesperson. And, taking buildings apart is another way to learn how they are put together. The training operations at Youth Employment Partnership are funded by a welfare-to-work grant awarded by the state of California. The building removal project is being funded by Port of Oakland contracts and revenue from salvaged construction material sales. Results: The nonprofit organization pays young adults a training wage per hour in three-to-six month cycles. A majority of the trainees, half of whom are women, land full-time jobs after completing the program. YEP is also working with several nonprofit groups to build a local re-claimed lumber mill.

Source: newvillage8

Visited:

Brickfire Project: (Starkville, MS)

Mission: Helping children from low-income families. Provides day-care facilities for toddlers and after-school programs for children, including recreation activities and tutoring.

The program focuses on getting the children off of the streets. The facilities include one computer lab and tutoring, day care, and after-school activities. The Starkville school system provides teachers to instruct in GED programs.

Contact: Helen Taylor- director (662) 323-5321

Boys and Girls Club of Columbus/Lowndes County: (Columbus, MS)

Mission: Provides after-school activities and programs for adult education

The club offers assistance with homework, access to computers, recreation, summer programs, classes on alcohol and drug prevention, pregnancy, and adult GED classes.

Incentive programs with rewards like special events or field trips.

Contact: (662) 244-7090 or (662) 244-7050

Computers

FUNDING

AOL Foundation: www.corp.aol.com/foundation.html or www.helping.org

Mission: To use online technology to benefit society, improve the lives of families and children, and empower the disadvantaged.

Focus Areas: -Digital Divide - empower underserved populations to close the widening social and economic gaps between those who have access to information and technology and those who do not

-Civic Engagement - enable more immediate, higher quality and more personal communications between elected/appointed officials and citizens and build capacity for communities to build online dialogue and problem solving

-Kids/Family/Education - ensure that the medium is rewarding and safe for kids and expand the capacity for using technology effectively in education

-Healthcare - improve access to and make health information and services more widely available through the online medium - especially to senior citizens - and build interest and capacity among healthcare providers to the medium

-Philanthropy - build awareness and establish giving and service as a fundamental element of the medium, and build capacity in the non-profit community to meet the demand for online non-profit activities

Technology Opportunities Program:

www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/top/index.html

Mission: The Department of Commerce's TOP promotes widespread availability and use of advanced telecommunications technologies in the public and non-profit sectors. TOP gives grants for model projects demonstrating innovative uses of network technology. TOP evaluates and actively shares the lessons learned from these projects to ensure that benefits are broadly distributed across the country, especially in rural and under-served communities.

PROGRAMS

Youth Entertainment Studios: www.yesamerica.org

Mission: To develop urban youth into leaders in their communities and chosen fields by engaging them in media-related activities, to recognize and encourage the talents they possess, to develop and market pro-social media products, and to promote public awareness and understanding of the urban-youth dilemma and how YES programs are effectively advancing young lives

Sponsored by:

National TCU Point Leadership Foundation

National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences

Operation Blessing

Contact: 757-545-8766

Community Technology Centers' Network: www.ctcnet.org

Mission: A network of more than 350 community technology centers where people get access to computers and computer-related technology, such as the internet. Provides classes on basic computer skills and programs. Established to improve employment rate, learning, personal gains, and sense of community.

Results: Technical centers were successful in being a valuable resource for work and education. The centers helped members reach personal goals, improve job skills, and improve self-esteem.

CTCN Centers:

Computers In Our Future: www.ciof.org

Mission: Statewide model program that has developed 11 community technology centers throughout the state of California.

Research:-The following groups have been identified as the "least connected": rural poor, rural and central-city minorities, young households, and female-headed households.

-The majority of jobs today require technological skills - whether for young people entering the job market, people transitioning off of welfare, or workers looking to advance their careers

-Over the next seven years, more than one million new jobs will be created in computer-related fields alone.

Results: Low-income residents who have experienced limited success in the past are finding new hope in their marketable skills, to learn from the job placement assistance they are receiving at their local community-technology center.

CIOF and other community technology centers in low-income neighborhoods provide a valuable model for extending the benefits of technology to low-income communities. They are strengthening the economy of these neighborhoods and building stronger communities.

The Street-Level Mission: www.streetlevel.iit.edu

Mission: Street-Level Youth Media educates Chicago's inner-city youth in media arts and emerging technologies for use in self-expression, communication, and social change. Using video production, computer art, and the Internet, Street-Level's young people address community issues, access advanced communication technology, and gain inclusion in our information-based society.

Implementation: The first pilot program, Neutral Ground, used cameras to create a series of video letters. Rival gangs who had never spoken face to face developed a dialogue about identity. Each site has a variety of networked computers, access to the Internet, and video-production and editing facilities. Offers special projects that allow students to tell their stories to new audiences and create residencies with schools that revitalize classrooms through the art-making process.

Community Minority Cultural Center: www.cmcclynn.org

Mission: A facility in Massachusetts which contains a computer lab, resource center, gallery, and performing arts center. Its goals are to promote multi-culturalism and provide cultural enrichment programs for all youths and adults so that they can take pride in the achievements of all ethnic groups and races. Disseminates information regarding social services and economic opportunities and provides a place where persons of diverse cultures can meet, conduct programs, share experiences, and address mutual problems.

CASE STUDIES

Community Arts Center: www.doityourdamnsself.org

Mission: Teen-media program. Its goals are to produce tapes through a group process, distribute them as community-educational materials, and provide economic development through youth business.

Documentary and narrative videos deal with immigration, race-related issues, teen parenting, and other youth issues. Provides video training and equipment access for youth, artist-mentoring programs, and extended-educational offerings.

Contact: e-mail: joe@communityartcenter.org / 617-868-7100

Economic

FUNDING

U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training

Administration: www.wdsc.org or www.dol.gov/

Grants: -H-1B Technical Skill Training Grants- grant funds for skill-training programs for unemployed and employed workers.

-USDL 00-52 - grants to provide education and job training opportunities to young people who are most at-risk of permanent joblessness

Contact: Assistant Secretary: (202) 693-2700

PROGRAMS

Mississippi Department of Economic and Community

Development: www.mississippi.org

Programs: -Employment Training- (UTPA), RRT, and SOICC - federally funded entity providing job training and employment opportunities for the economically disadvantaged and dislocated worker in Mississippi

UTPA -provides occupational training for young workers and unskilled adults and encourages their entry into the work force.

-Minority Business Enterprise Division- The MBED is responsible for facilitating the success of minority and women entrepreneurs by fostering economic-development activities that increase business vitality and stability. Also promotes legislation that will enhance the environment in which these businesses operate and offers services and training.

Contact: MDECD Northwest Field Office: 119 Grand Blvd. Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 455-4508

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory9

Some Further Grant Resources:

-Foundations and Grant makers: www.foundations.org

-Grants Web: <http://sra.rams.com/cws/sra/resource.htm>

-Foundation Center: www.foundationcenter.org

-U.S. Foundations and Fundraising Coalitions Resources:

www.contact.org/usfound.htm

-Grants and Awards:

www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/topics/grants.html

SERVICES

Mississippi State University Small Business Development Center: (601) 325-8684

Mission: The purpose of the MSBDC is to reduce the failure rate of small businesses in Mississippi, to assist small businesses in improving management skills and their ability to generate profit, and to advise potential small-business persons regarding the feasibility of businesses prior to investing capital.

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory10

The Mississippi Small Business Development Center: (601) 232-5001

Mission: The MSBDC Network functions as a framework for cooperatively linking the resources of the university and community-college systems, federal and state agencies and programs, and the

private sector to help solve problems and answer questions for small business.

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory11

U.S. Small Business Administration: www.sba.gov

Mission: Provides new and existing small businesses with financial assistance, management counseling, and training.

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory12

Electric Power Associations of Mississippi: www.epaofms.com

Mission: The Economic Development Department attempts to provide information and technical assistance to community officials, development professionals, business, and entrepreneurs on such matters as financing, taxes, labor, training, sites, utilities, available buildings, raw materials, markets, state and federal regulations, and many others.

Source: Mississippi Resource Directory13

Safety

PROGRAMS

National Crime Prevention Council: www.ncpc.org

Mission: Reducing crime is clearly one of the nation's most urgent social problems. Communities and local governments are the front line in the struggle to find practical and effective ways to build community, protect public safety, support families, encourage healthy youth, and improve residents' quality of life.

Programs: Include: Community Mobilization, Youth Mobilization, Police-Community Partnerships, and Violence Prevention.

-Code Enforcement- Police can curtail illegal activities by enforcing municipal standards and codes. Observation and reporting by community residents are particularly valuable in this partnership. Enforcing codes involves a series of steps. Police and housing records can identify the landlord of a property where illegal activity may be happening. A letter of abatement to the landlord is usually followed by inspections conducted by police, health, public works, fire, housing, or utilities personnel. If the landlord does not comply with required changes, a court hearing can result in receivership, demolition, or rehabilitation of the building.

-Community Beautification- The physical condition of neighborhoods and business districts conveys ownership and care and signals whether offenders should consider the area vulnerable to crime victimization or drug trafficking. Beautification projects – trash cleanups, landscape, enhancements, gardens – also serve as a focus for community organizing.

Case studies: -The Trust for Public Land supports dozens of groups throughout the country in their efforts to rehabilitate dilapidated properties and parks into green spaces for the community's recreational needs.

-Pond Street in New Haven, Connecticut, suffered from illegal drug sales, trash, loiterers, and excessive noise. The Block Watch resolved to take back some streets by planting flowers along curbsides and in a blighted corner lot. The beautification idea has spread to other streets, and crime has receded.

-Economic Development-Economic development opportunities create the promise of jobs, thereby increasing the stability of a community and reducing its vulnerability to crime. The revitalization of communities through tax incentives, infrastructure improvements, and aggressive civic marketing campaigns for new jobs can be a potent force for reducing crime.

Case studies:-Chicago's Fulton-Carroll Center for Industry began as a cornerstone for revitalization of a desolated industrial neighborhood. FCCI provides an incubator where young business can start up and grow.

Bicycle Patrols-Because bicycle patrols increase police visibility in an accessible way, they can facilitate cooperative relationships between residents and law enforcement.

Community Needs- Community policing officers can learn about problems that contribute to crime and then facilitate cooperation among local agencies to provide needed services. Needs usually addressed include youth programs, employment assistance, safe recreation facilities, medical or social support-services, sanitation, and substance abuse treatment.

Case studies: - The Neighborhood Network Center was established in the Sparrow Estates Neighborhood of Lansing, Michigan. Using donated space, the center provides parenting classes, substance abuse and job counseling, health-care advice, dropout prevention assistance, interpreters, and a base of operations for law-enforcement and code-enforcement-agency activities. It now serves an adjoining neighborhood. In the three years following the center's establishment, reported crime in the two neighborhoods has dropped 75 percent.

-CPTED: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design- CPTED uses many city agencies (such as planning, law enforcement, licensing and code enforcement, housing, and others) and members of the community in the solution and provides alternatives to traditional methods of dealing with crime.

Case studies: -A partnership of housing-authority management, residents, and police officials in Cincinnati, Ohio developed a CPTED plan which resulted in a 12 to 13 percent decline in crime in each of three successive years after the plan was implemented. It included community clean-ups, increased maintenance, new fencing, lease enforcement, and an array of on-site programs for parents and youth.

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