HIGHLAND HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ADAPTIVE REUSE DESIGN COMPETITION

BACKGROUND

Standing at the northwest corner of Summer & Highland is the former Highland Heights United Methodist Church (HHUMC). The Gothic style sanctuary was completed circa 1953 and the adjoining educational building was complete circa 1958. Although a Methodist congregation met at that site for 106 years, the congregation folded in 2019, leaving an empty building and an uncertain future.

HHUMC now has a new owner. Original plans involved razing the existing buildings allowing for the construction of a gas station and convenience store. The public lamented the thought of losing such an important landmark in the community, and subsequent preservation advocacy efforts resulted in a petition with over 4,000 signatures, a temporary moratorium on the demolition of the church, and a rezoning of the property that better aligns with the form and architecture of the existing structures.

But the beautiful archways, stained glass, bell tower, and courtyards remain threatened. The Heights Community Development Corporation (HCDC) is seeking concept proposals that reimagine HHUMC as a living and reinvigorated piece of architecture – one that honors the historic character of the existing buildings, while at the same time reflects a use for the 21st Century.

SUBMISSION

By entering the design competition, participants give permission to HCDC to republish any submitted content for the promotion of the preservation and redevelopment of HHUMC, and for purposes consistent with the mission of HCDC. Please submit entries in a **pdf** format to **info@heightscdc.org** no later than **5:00 pm** on **February 26, 2021**. Any questions before the submission deadline may be directed to dane@heightscdc.org.

- At a minimum, please submit two images showing your proposed redesign/enhancement of the exterior (sanctuary and/or educational building).
- Include a written description of your concept for adaptive reuse (250 words or less)
- OPTIONAL: Up to two additional images of the exterior
- OPTIONAL: Up to three images of the interior (sanctuary and/or educational building)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A panel of judges including Highland Heights residents, former members of HHUMC, professional architects, and staff from the Heights Community Development Corporation will evaluate submissions based on the following criteria:

Criteria	Point Value
Architectural Design	50
Use Proposal	20
Community Impact	20
Presentation	10

AWARD DETAILS

First Place

- $1,000
- Images included in a press release promoting the adaptive reuse of HHUMC
- Recognition on Facebook.com/SaveHHUMC

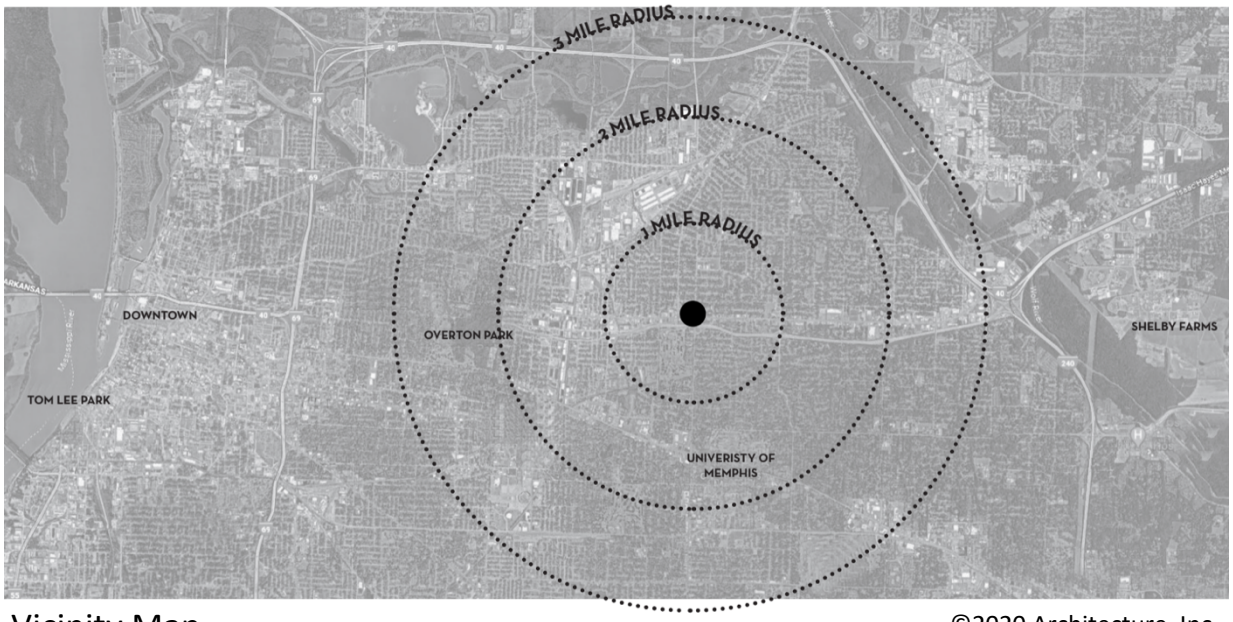
Second Place

- $250
- Images included in a press release promoting the adaptive reuse of HHUMC
- Recognition on Facebook.com/SaveHHUMC

Third Place

- Recognition on Facebook.com/SaveHHUMC

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION



Vicinity Map

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Project Site

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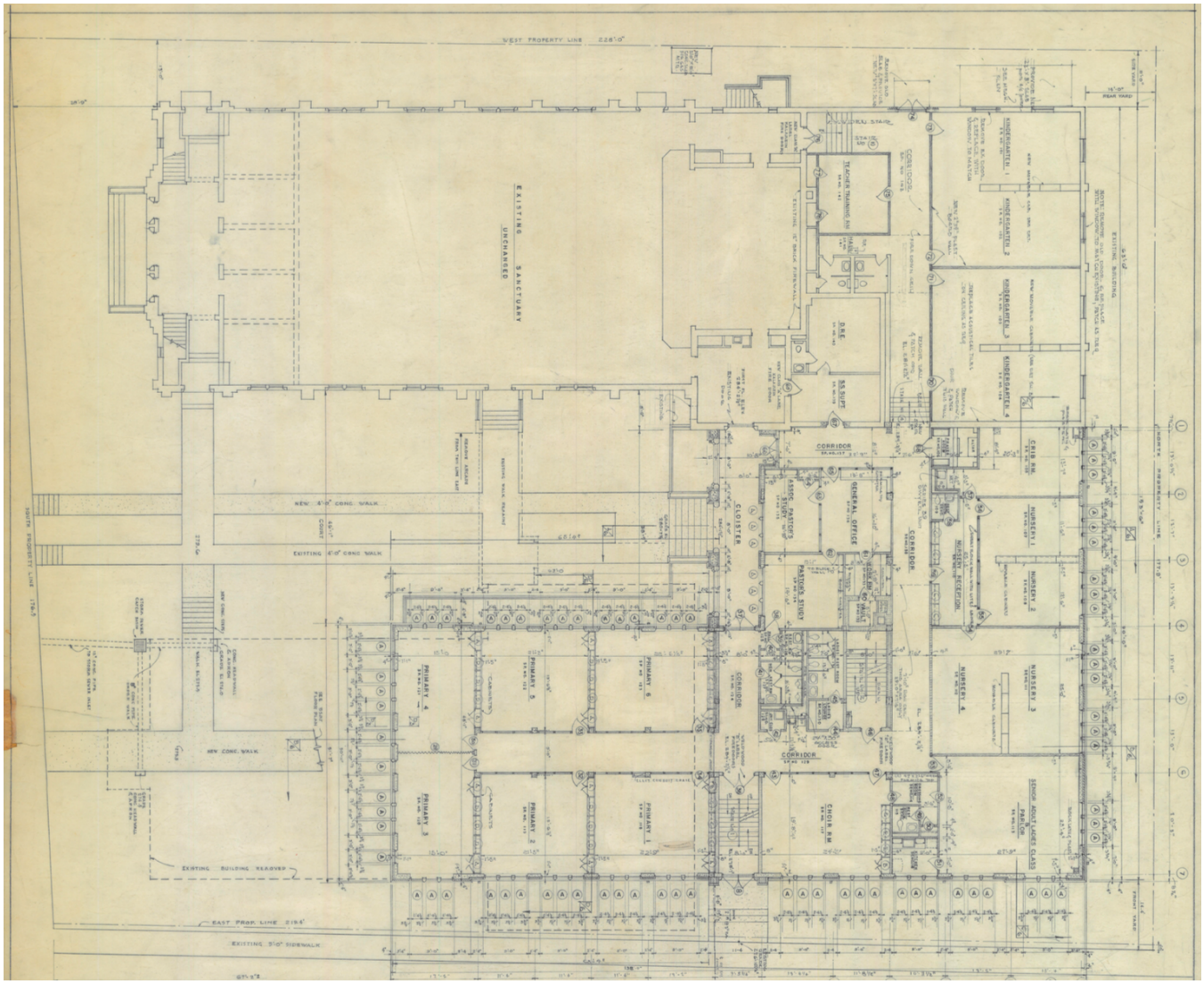
Educational Building ©2020 Architecture, Inc.

Sanctuary (left) ©2020 Architecture, Inc.

Sanctuary Interior photo by Dane Forlines



Original Drawing of First Floor Plan