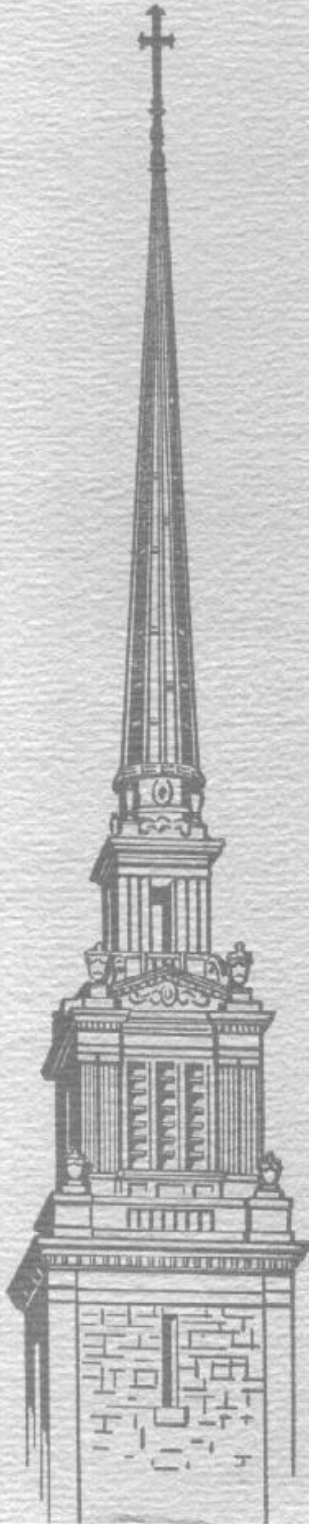


THE NEW
MORNINGSIDE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

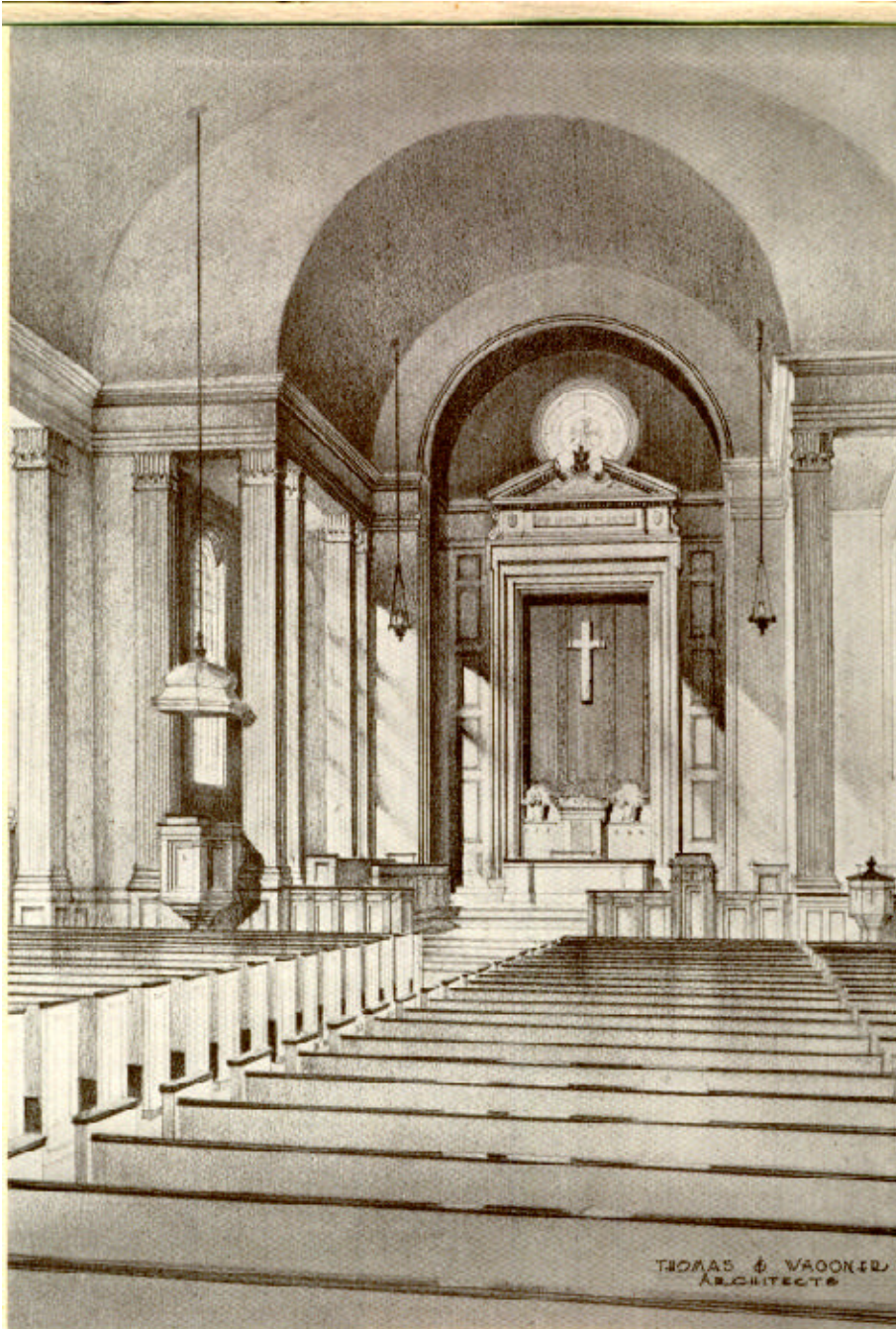
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



Only once in a lifetime comes the privilege of organizing and building a church that will stand for generations in the community for which it is built. It will symbolize our love and devotion to Jesus Christ. It will set forth the Cross as the answer to the world's need. It will speak of God's supreme claim upon every human life. It will represent our hope of universal Brotherhood and Peace. We are grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift that He has made the building of a new church possible for us. We give Him the glory and praise and know that it is His will that this church be built to His Glory. This booklet is issued with the hope that it may inspire our friends to share by their prayers and gifts in this work.



The Sanctuary, as is necessary for the fullest spiritual and aesthetic uplift, dominates the Church group. Nature has wonderfully helped to accomplish this dominance by giving the forest of wonderful trees through which to cut our main vista and a deep stream-glen as a foreground.



The chancel is the heart of the Church. It is chosen for its inherent beauty, in an arrangement expressive of the deepest religious fervor. It confronts the worshipper with the meaningful symbols of the living faith, as they have been historically represented by the Presbyterian Church. With the table for Holy Communion in the center, the lectern for the reading of God's Word, and the pulpit for the expounding of God's Truth, the worshipper is constrained to say within himself, "Surely God Is in This Place."

In Grateful Appreciation

When selecting our site and crystallizing our plans we were ably assisted by Dr. Elbert M. Conover, Director of the Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture in New York City, who has written in part as follows:

"I am delighted to know that your church has very wisely authorized the architects, Thomas and Wagoner of Philadelphia, to proceed with the preliminary plans for your new church. You are very fortunate in securing this firm of exceptionally high qualified architects for your enterprise.

"From the viewpoint of the Protestant churches generally, I am deeply interested in your enterprise and the Christian statesmanship your church has demonstrated in securing a site which is worthy of so important an enterprise as your church building is. In these times Christianity is in a definite struggle with materialism. Vast sums are to be spent for secular amusement and commercial purposes. While the life of the church is spiritual, it must work with material instruments which, in themselves, must express the high purposes of the church. For this reason' the Protestant Episcopalians of New York, have for fifty years been building the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and \$20,000,000 have been expended. Ten million dollars worth of work remains to be done. Perhaps another fifty years will be occupied in this great endeavor. It has made it impossible for New York, with its millions of people, to ignore the church.

"Likewise, your site, with its limitless possibilities for development through the years and the type of building which will be possible on it, will prove to be a tremendous asset for the cause of religion in your splendid community. This does not mean that there must be an extravagant expenditure of money at any time. The site will make it possible rather to be economical and effective in the use of funds devoted to the enterprise."

What Is Being Done . . .

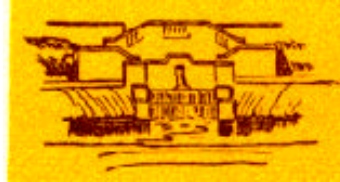


CONSTRUCTION began on the church and educational buildings on April 5, 1948. The work is being done by Griffin Construction Company of Atlanta, Georgia, at a contract price of \$362,000.00. This figure does not include the spire for the tower, landscaping of the grounds, pews and chancel furniture, light fixtures, or organ for the sanctuary. It does not include inside plaster for the walls of the ground floor. The whole structure together with furnishings and landscaping will cost \$547,000.00. The part now under contract is about one-half finished at this time. The sum of \$185,000.00 is needed now to assure the final completion, occupancy, and use of the buildings and grounds. The style of the building is modified Georgian or colonial, which adapts itself beautifully to our location. The buildings are of fire-proof construction. Antique brick with limestone trim is being used for the whole building except the tower which is built entirely of limestone. The tower will be capped by a leaded spire with a suitable Christian symbol at the apex. The church is designed to seat six hundred persons while the educational building will care for about seven hundred pupils.

This church is committed to the three fold ministry, to spirit, mind, and body. It is, therefore, providing the sanctuary for the worship of God, the educational buildings for teaching, and the

fellowship hall as well as recreation building and grounds for social activities. With the worship of God always at the center of all of our activities we propose to provide also the opportunity for Christian growth and fellowship through a full ministry to our community.

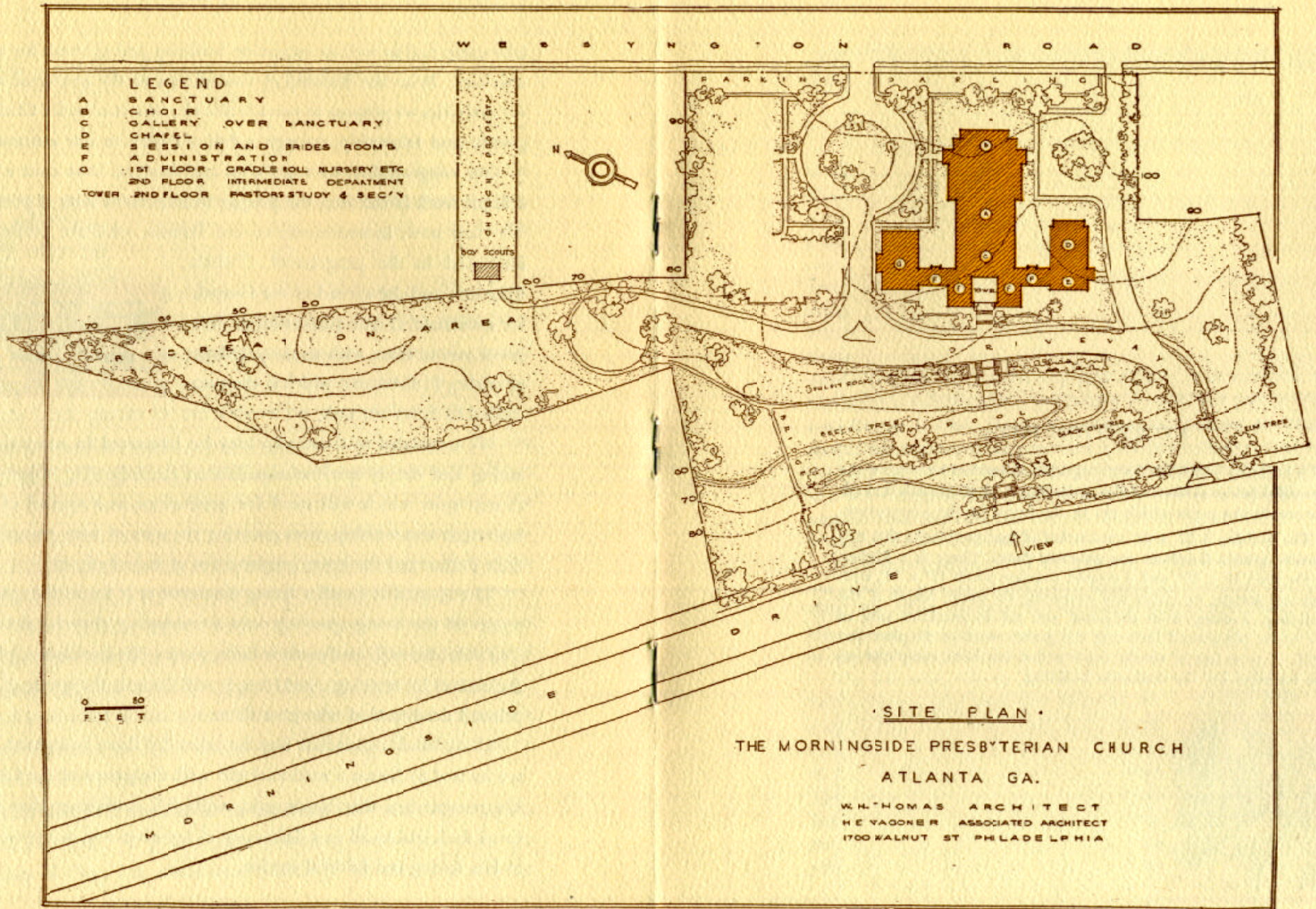
Our congregation, through labor and sacrifice, have done a magnificent work in carrying this project to its present state of progress. We turn now, in confidence to our friends, who are profoundly interested in the progress of Christ's Kingdom and the spread of the Gospel, for assistance in our undertaking. We invite you to share with us the privilege of raising \$185,000.00, which is the sum needed to finish our task.



We commend to those who may be interested in memorials of lasting and deeply spiritual significance the following objects: the church spire which will stand for generations as a symbol of holy aspiration and worship, ever pointing the sons of man toward God their Father and the home prepared for all true believers.

The chancel is another fitting memorial as it forms the spiritual center of the living, growing, and worshipping church. Before it God's children will confess their faith, receive His sacraments, present themselves for marriage, and from it will commit the spirits of their beloved dead to God who gave them.

Many other memorials may be taken by those interested. You are invited to discuss a memorial gift with the pastor of the Church. We present you this opportunity with full confidence that God's spirit shall lead us all in a dedication of ourselves and our possessions to His loving and faithful service.



The architect's drawing shows the outline of our entire

facilities and grounds. While we have not been able to



RECREATION HALL

This building, which has been completed, is reached by crossing the beautiful bridge as shown below, following a winding path through the woods to a point which will in the future be the playgrounds.

The building is 24' x 48' constructed of concrete blocks with two massive granite fireplaces and concrete floor. There is a kitchen at the rear, 10' x 15', and a covered concrete porch 12' x 19', with concrete terraces on either side extending the entire length of the building. Looking from the porch you get an excellent view of the entire playground including the granite outdoor fireplace and grill. A scout hut of similar construction has been completed on the lot adjoining the recreation building.



Brief History of Church . . .

THE Morningside Presbyterian Church owes its origin to the efforts and prayers of the First Presbyterian Church and the Home Missions Committee of Atlanta Presbytery. The Reverend J. S. Lyons, D.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, early in 1925 presented the need for a church in the North Highland section of Atlanta to the session and they responded immediately with great enthusiasm. In April of that year Presbytery's Home Missions Committee assumed direction of the work at the suggestion of the session of the First Presbyterian Church. All obstacles having been resolved and due preparation made, the Church was organized on November 15, 1925, by a Commission of Atlanta Presbytery with seventy-five charter members, three elders and four deacons. The Reverend Carl W. McMurry was installed pastor on February 14, 1926, and continued as pastor until October 2, 1932. During his pastorate the bungalow standing on the present church property was purchased by the Home Missions Committee and the First Presbyterian Church. The present educational building was erected at a cost of \$24,000. The church membership grew from seventy-five charter members to four hundred and one and the Sunday School from an enrollment in 1926 of 204 to 525 in 1932.

Following the resignation of Mr. McMurry, the Reverend S. L. Morris, D.D., was called on January 22, 1933, and his ministry continued until December 1936. The church continued to progress and gain strength under his leadership. Young People's work was active and a cottage for their use was erected at Smyrna Camp Grounds.

The Reverend John B. Dickson, who had been acting as supply pastor since May 1934, was duly installed pastor in January 1937. In the fall of 1938 an effort to secure funds for the erection of a new church was begun with some success. The debt on the educational building was liquidated on May 13, 1941, and a service commemorating this event was held. During the same year Miss Nancy Snyder was employed as director



of religious education. She was succeeded by Miss Mary McRae in 1942. Three candidates for the ministry were commended to Presbytery during Mr. Dickson's pastorate. Mr. Dickson resigned May 23, 1943, after a fruitful ministry, the church having grown to a membership of 564. The pulpit was supplied from May to November by Dr. W. Childs Robinson, D.D., of Columbia Theological Seminary.



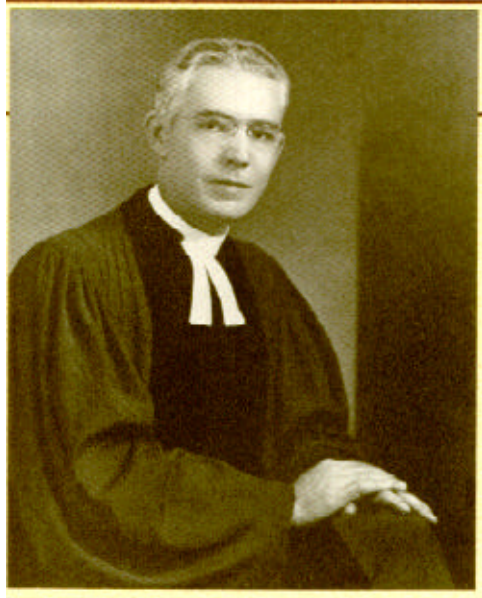
The present manse at 798 Cumberland Road was purchased October 10, 1943. The Reverend Arthur Vann Gibson, of the First Presbyterian Church of Sanford, North Carolina, was called during this period and having accepted was duly in-stalled December 5, 1943. Plans were immediately laid toward the building of a suitable sanctuary and a Planning Committee elected in December with full authority to act. In March, 1944, the Committee of Religious Education was appointed to study the needs of our Sunday School looking forward toward a suitable educational building to be erected later. On March 26, 1944, the session called Mrs. Kathryn K. Wicker as director of religious education.



In April, 1944, the Planning Committee secured the services of Dr. Elbert M. Conover, Director, interdenominational Bureau of Church Architecture of New York and the purchase of five hundred feet on Morningside Drive was completed. A campaign was started in May to raise \$50,000.00 toward the erection of a new sanctuary and in October the Architects Thomas and Wagoner were employed to draw complete plans. The contract for construction has been let to Griffin Construction Company and the sanctuary and educational building are half completed. The Church has enjoyed a fine growth in membership. The



per capita gifts for 1947 were \$1 1 0. This is more than double the average for our whole denomination. It is with sure confidence that our Church faces the future knowing that He who hath begun a good work in our midst will continue and prosper it until faith becomes sight.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Through the Providence of God we have been given the gracious privilege of building this house to His glory. It is a tremendous and challenging task which will require that every one of us stand in our own place and work. We go forward to the work in the full assurance that He who has put the vision in our hearts will bring His will to pass through us.

To you, my people, and to the friends of this Church, I give the message of the faithful of old as a watchword: "*Let us go up and possess it, for we are well able to overcome.*" We, therefore, in prayer and industry dedicate ourselves anew to the finishing of this work, knowing that with God all things are possible.

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Arthur Vann Gibson, *Minister*

Miss Nancy Johnson, *Director of Religious Education*

Miss Elizabeth Ohme, *Secretary*

Mrs. Foster L. Spain, *Organist and Director of Music*

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F.H.Bierman	J.C.Howard	S.H.McGuire	Knox Walker
J.B.Bost	C.M.Lancaster	F.W.Schanck	E.R.Whiteman
S.O.Gillespie	Rutledge Laurens	K.C.Shaver	

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A.M.Henry, <i>Landscaping and Grounds</i>	F.H.Bierman, <i>Public Relations and Publicity</i>



“When we build, let us think we build forever. Let it not be for present delight nor present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for; and let us think as we lay stone upon stone, that the time is to come when these stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the labor and the wrought substance of them, ‘*See, this our fathers did for us*’.”

-- JOHN RUSKIN