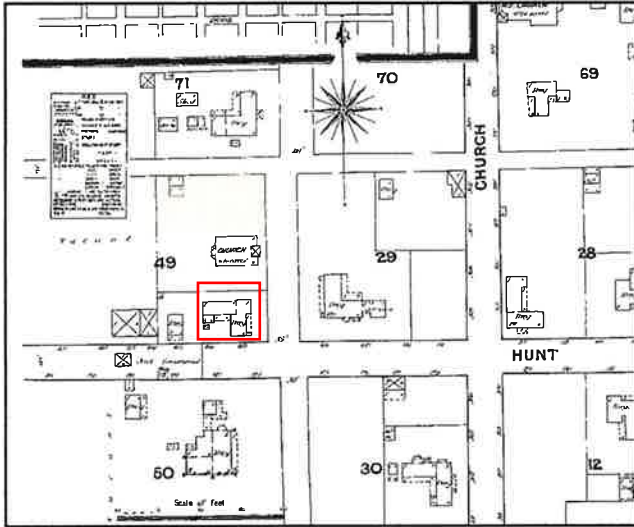
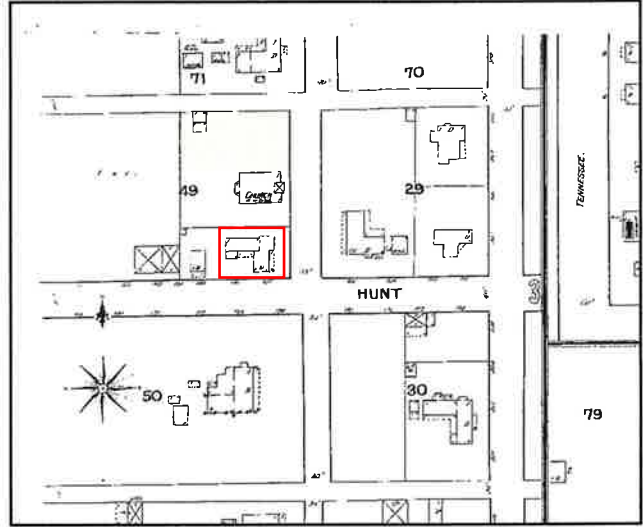


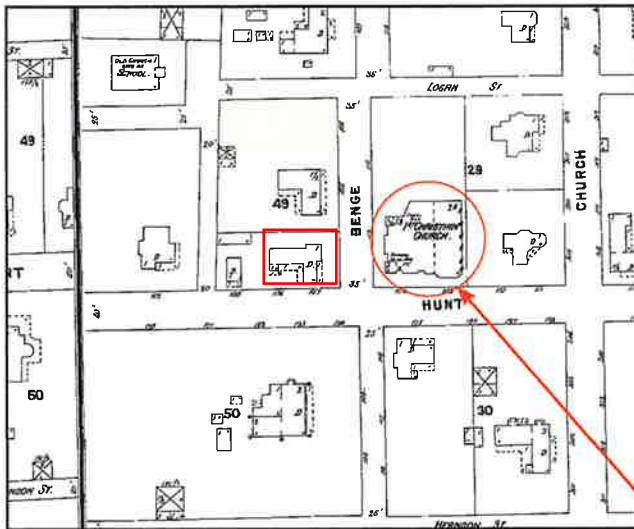
Sanborn Maps: 1888 - 1927+



1888

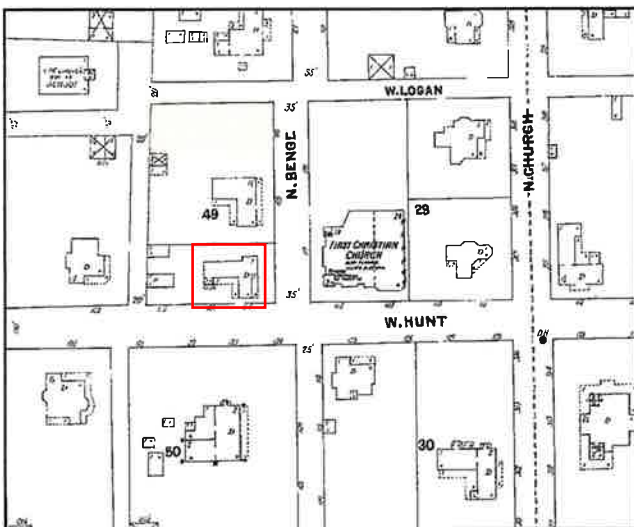


1893

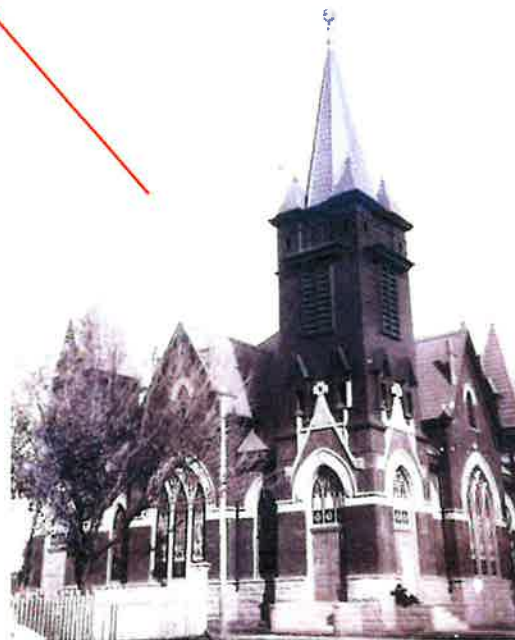


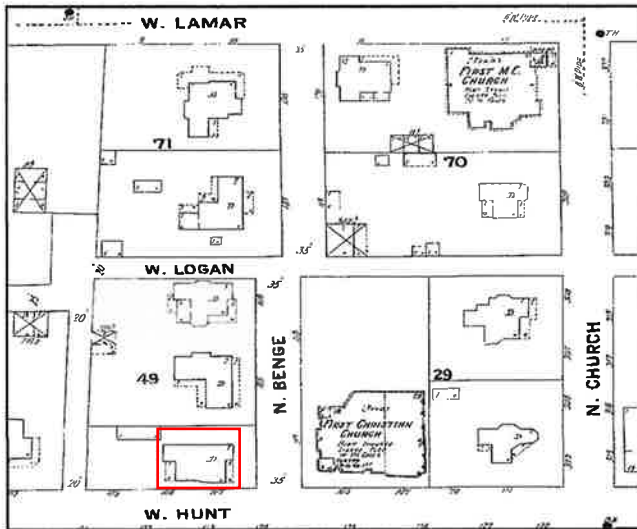
1897

In 1897, the First Christian Church moved from their wood-frame building they built in 1858 into their new Gothic Revival Style brick building across the street on Bengel Street. The building was designed by J.E. Flanders who is best known for designing the Heard-Craig House. The previous church was completely remodeled to become a parsonage. In 1906, Dr. Metz purchased the adjacent lot to the north of it. The Metz and Hill families were supporters of the church. Dr. Metz was the congregation Chairman in 1923. In 1970, the nearby First Methodist Church purchased the church property and razed the building to accommodate its own expansion.



1902

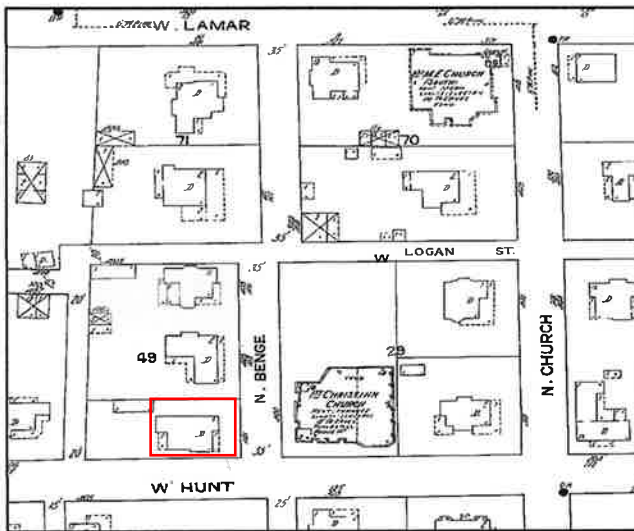




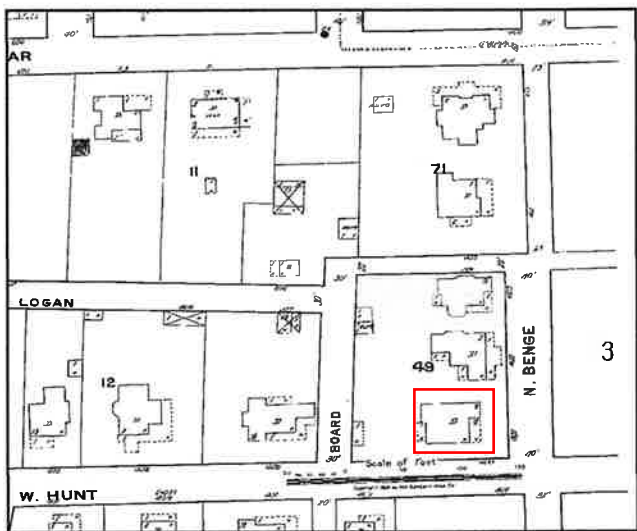
1908

In 1954, the home at the corner of Benge and Virginia Street owned by Willa Largent caught fire on a windy night, spreading sparks and embers north along Benge Street. Several homes in the vicinity were affected. A total of five houses were completely destroyed including the First Christian Church parsonage occupied by Rev. T.W. Sisterson. Sparks ignited the roof of Mrs. Metz's house but the firemen were able to subdue the threat during the three-hour conflagration.

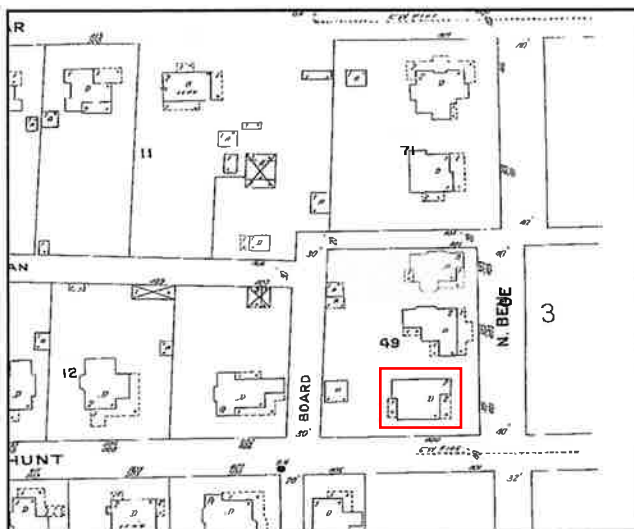
X The site of the destroyed parsonage.



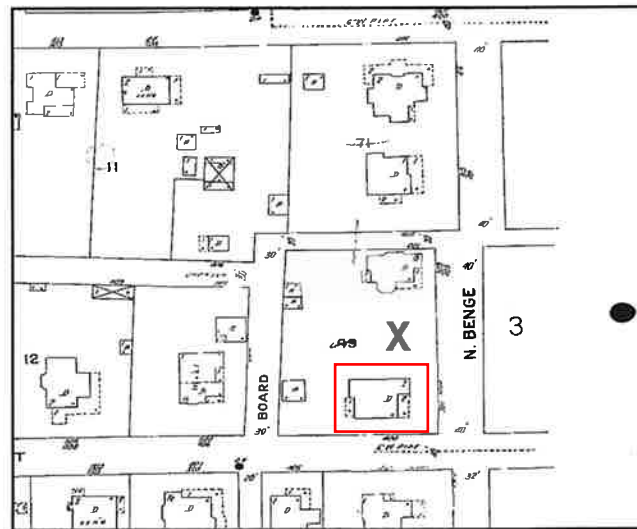
1914



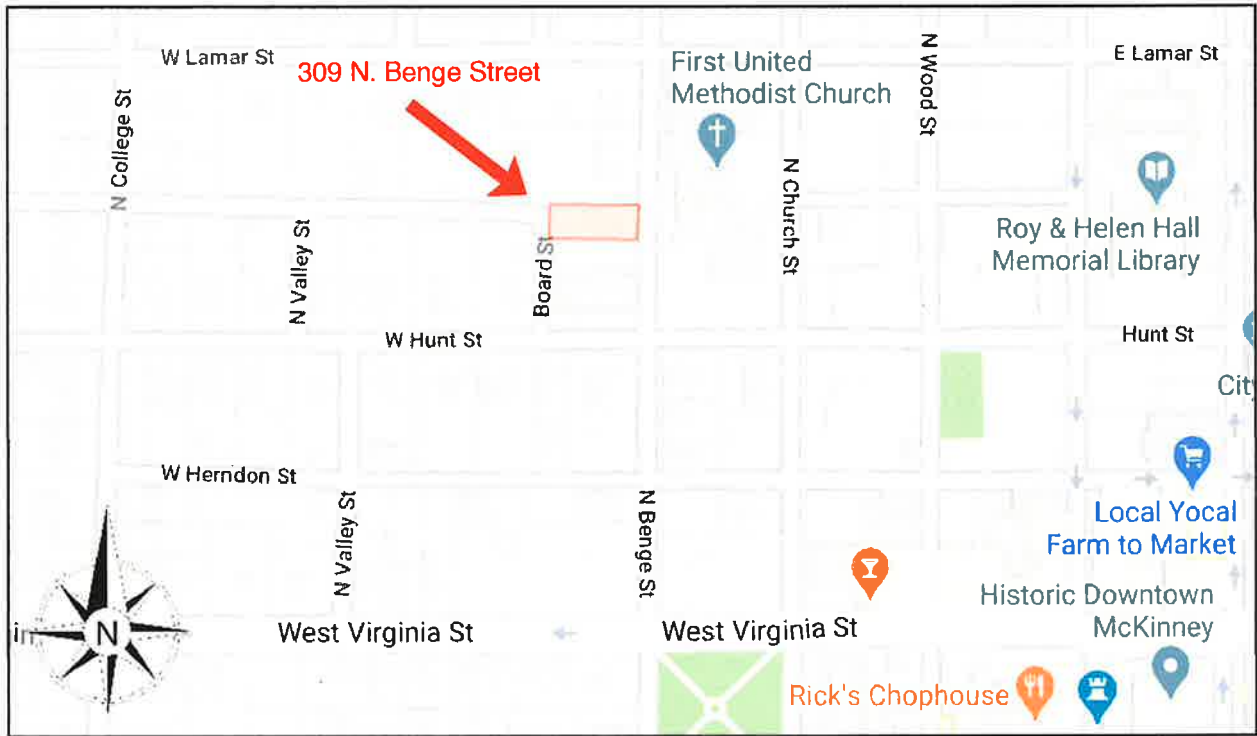
1920



1927



1927+



The map above shows the neighborhood around 309 North Benge Street. The aerial photo below shows the immediate neighborhood bordered by North College, West Lamar, North Benge and West Hunt Street.

