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**HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD  
STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

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Landmark/District:	<b>Capitol Hill Historic District</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Agenda
Address:	<b>525 A Street, NE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concept
Meeting Date:	<b>September 24, 2015</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alteration
Case Number:	<b>15-502</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction
Staff Reviewer:	<b>Sarah VanLandingham</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition
		<input type="checkbox"/> Subdivision

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The Capitol Hill Baptist Church with plans prepared by Gary Hallewell seeks concept review for a new accessible ramp in the Capitol Hill Historic District.

**Property Description**

Located at the corner of A Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE, the subject property is a large brick church designed by Appleton P. Clark, Jr. and built around 1911 with a brick school addition dating to 1927 at the rear along A Street. The entrance to the addition is 6' above sidewalk level and is served by a stair only.

**Proposal**

The plans call for adding a ramp to the building at the Northwest entrance on A Street. The ramp would have a brick base to match the church and a black iron railing. In order to get up to the level of the existing entrance with a 1:12 slope, the foot print of the ramp, including flat areas, will be a total of 52 feet long. It will terminate at a landing at the stop of the stairs so that anyone using it will enter through the same doors as those using the stairs.

In order to provide a landing large enough to meet ADA requirements, the concrete stairs will be re-poured with a slightly larger landing at the top. The existing walls along the side and entrance will remain in their current configuration.

**Evaluation**

Adding a large ramp will always have an aesthetic impact but this one is designed to be sympathetic to the historic building. The design has been revised so that the impact on the historic fabric is minimized and the existing stairs remain fully usable.

**Recommendation**

*The HPO recommends the Board find the concept to be compatible with the Capitol Hill Historic District and delegate final approval to staff.*