French Huguenot Church

Originally part of the Congregational meeting house, a small group of members of French descent left that church to form a French Protestant church on the lot at 140 Church Street. The first church at that location was organized in 1687, but the building was destroyed to create a firebreak during the 1796 fire. A second church was built there but fell victim to poor attendance.

Later, a group of Huguenot descendents organized, razed the standing structure and built the present church in 1844-1845. Edward Brickell White, a West Point engineer turned architect, designed the Gothic style church.

The church was damaged during the Civil War and the 1886 earthquake, but restored in 1888. For many years, the only activity was an annual service in French in honor of Charleston's Huguenots. In recent years, a regular membership has been re-established. It is the only functioning French Huguenot Church in the United States.