

VLR- 12/2/97
NRHP- 7/13/98

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Grace Street Commercial Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 9 blocks in downtown Richmond between 8th and Adams Streets not for publication N/A

city or town Richmond vicinity N/A

state Virginia code VA county (Independent City) code 760 zip code 23219

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
Director, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Keeper _____	Date of Action _____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain) _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
78	11	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
78	11	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register
7

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/department store
- COMMERCE/financial institution
- COMMERCE/business
- CULTURE/theater
- DOMESTIC/single family
- RELIGIOUS/religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/financial institution
- COMMERCE/business
- CULTURE/theater
- RELIGIOUS/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival
- Classical Revival
- Italian Renaissance
- Chicago
- Art Deco
- Moderne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation N/A
- walls BRICK
- STONE: Limestone, Sandstone
- roof OTHER
- other TERRA COTTA
- METAL: Bronze

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1820-1946

Significant Dates

1920-1930

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

William Leigh Carneal; Henry Eugene Baskerville;
Carl Max Linder; John Eberson; Starrett & Van Vleck
Voorhees, Gemlin & Walker; and
Marcellus Eugene Wright

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record# _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository : Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 22 acres (approximate)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	_____	_____	_____	3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kimberly M. Chen and Douglas J. Harnsberger

organization Harnsberger & Associates date October 1, 1997

street & number 108 North First Street telephone (804) 648-5040

city or town Richmond state VA zip code 23219

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name See attached sheets

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 200137127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (10240018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 1Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), VirginiaDESCRIPTION

The Grace Street Commercial Historic District, located in downtown Richmond, encompasses the core of the city's early twentieth century retail development and the remnants of a nineteenth century residential neighborhood. This area became part of the city in 1769 and, like the rest of the early city, was laid out in a regular grid of two acre blocks. The east-west streets were 65 feet in width while the north-south streets were 55 feet wide. Grace and Franklin Streets run east to west along the edge of a plateau. The land to the north and west is relatively flat, but to the south it slopes steeply towards the James River. Grace and Franklin terminate on the east at Capitol Square, the park-like setting for Mr. Jefferson's State Capitol building. To the west, the early residential development was halted by Thomas Rutherford's estate that extended westward from present-day Adams Street. Twentieth century retail development did not extend much beyond Adams Street because the shops were concentrated within walking distance of downtown office buildings and the two major department stores — Miller & Rhoads and Thalhimer's.

From 1820 to 1920, Grace and Franklin Streets were the heart of one of Richmond's most fashionable neighborhoods and home to some of Richmond's wealthiest and most influential citizens. The streets were lined with large homes (some could even be called mansions) and row houses set within narrow front yards often enclosed by fences constructed of wood or iron. In the second two decades of the twentieth century, Grace Street became a trendy shopping and business district. Grace Street was dubbed "Richmond's Fifth Avenue."¹ The transition from residential to commercial was not as drastic on Franklin Street. During this period much of the early residential neighborhood was demolished and replaced by small shops and tall office buildings built in the latest architectural styles. Primarily built in the revival styles inspired by the early architecture of Italy, Spain and the United States, as well as the modern styles of Art Deco and Moderne, the buildings exhibit a wide variety of materials and decorative elements that blend into a rich palette of textures and details. The majority of the buildings are three stories or less in height, with some of the corner lots punctuated by office buildings rising as high as fifteen stories. The buildings are situated close to each other and separated from the street by generous sidewalks and trees. The regularity of the blocks, the scale of the buildings, and street trees lend an intimate quality to the district. In the past ten years a few buildings have been demolished, especially in the 100 and 700 blocks, a few of the storefronts have been altered, and Sixth Street was closed between Grace and Franklin Streets. Despite these minor alterations, the district still retains much of its early twentieth century integrity, with a few remnants surviving from the antebellum and late nineteenth century residential neighborhoods.

Prior to 1820, Grace and Franklin Streets were sparsely settled with what might be described as "miniature plantations."² These enclaves usually occupied a full city block and typically included "a (frame) dwelling-house, small even by today's standards, outdoor kitchen, office, stable and carriage-house, servant's quarters, smokehouse, dairy, laundry, well-house and a 'necessary', the polite euphemism for outside plumbing."³ By the beginning of the nineteenth century, houses were generally constructed of brick in the Federal style. These large houses, usually two or 2-1/2-stories, "were still accompanied by many outbuildings, though lots were rarely more than a quarter of a square."⁴ Between 1813 and 1818, Richmond experienced unprecedented growth in both its population and its economy. This rapid expansion was accompanied by unchecked land speculation. Land prices increased daily. "Urban property rose from two to tenfold and numerous suburbs sprang to life

¹ *Richmond News Leader*, Friday, May 25, 1923.

² Mary Wingfield Scott, *Old Richmond Neighborhoods* (Richmond, VA: William Byrd Press, Inc.), 92.

³ Scott, *Neighborhoods*, 92.

⁴ Scott, *Neighborhoods*, 91.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 2Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

almost overnight.⁵ One of the results of the exorbitant land prices was the introduction of row houses, both for sale or rent, to the street scape along Grace and Franklin.

During an extended economic depression lasting from 1820 to 1840, few buildings were constructed on Grace and Franklin Streets, or elsewhere in the city for that matter. When prosperity returned in the 1840s, building activity resumed on a large scale. "The prosperity which launched Richmond on a building program in the late 1830's was particularly noticeable on Grace and Franklin streets. By this time Court End was pretty well filled with substantial houses, and leaders of Richmond's business and social life looked elsewhere for a place to build. South Fifth and the far larger space offered by Grace and Franklin were the most favored locations.⁶ The streets acquired a distinctly urban tone as large lots were subdivided and new houses built in the side yards of mansions; the large gardens that were so typical began to disappear. Most of the older, eighteenth century homes on Grace and Franklin were torn down to make way for newer row and high style homes. Over the 50 year period following the Civil War, Grace and Franklin Streets became even more urban. Many antebellum residences were demolished and their generous lots subdivided. The remaining lots were filled with houses, built in the latest architectural styles, namely Italianate, Second Empire and Richardsonian Romanesque.

Churches began to appear on Grace and Franklin Streets in the 1840s. It is a widely held belief that Grace Street was so named because of the number of churches present by 1844. Prior to 1844, Grace Street was simply known as "G" Street. At the time the name was chosen two churches, St. Peter's Catholic (127-0015) and Centenary Methodist (127-321), were already built, and two others, St. Paul's Episcopal (127-0014) and Grace Street Baptist, were under construction. Grace Street Baptist Church, completed in 1846, was the epitome of a temple-form Greek Revival style church. It stood on the northeast corner of Grace and Foushee streets until 1890 when it was demolished. Another early church building, Grace Street Presbyterian was located at the northeast corner of Grace and Fourth Streets from 1852 to 1920. Grace Street Presbyterian was a magnificent example of Gothic Revival style architecture with its paired entry towers and soaring spire. By the end of the nineteenth century three more churches had been erected on Grace Street, adding tremendously to the architectural character of the street. These churches were the harbingers of Grace Street's transition from a residential to a commercial neighborhood.

The transition of Grace Street from an upscale residential neighborhood to a retail center was swift. The September 7, 1935 edition of the *Richmond News Leader* included the following observation regarding Grace Street: "None of the changes in Richmond in a single generation has been more striking than that of Grace Street. At the turn of the century it was still a place of fine residences of the antebellum period." Prior to 1911, only a few residential buildings had been converted to commercial uses, principally for use as private clubs and schools, but in that year the first new commercial building, the Thalheimer's Office Building (127-0857-001), was built. Over the next eight years only three or four new commercial buildings were erected. However, with the beginning of the "Roaring Twenties" the flood gates of new commercial development opened. Between 1920 and 1930, more than seventy new retail shops and office buildings were constructed on Grace Street. This tally does not include the residential structures that were converted to commercial use by the addition of storefronts. The stock market crash of 1929 brought an end to the unprecedented building boom on Grace and Franklin Streets. Over the next ten years only a handful of buildings were erected. The Great Depression marked an end to the exuberant, fanciful storefronts that were built in the proceeding ten years along Grace Street.

⁵ Harry M. Ward, *Richmond: An Illustrated History*, (Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1985), 76.

⁶ Scott, *Neighborhoods*, 161.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 3Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia700 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREETNorth side

The Thalhimer Brothers' Business Office, located at 700 East Grace Street (127-0857-001), built in 1911 was one of the first, large commercial buildings erected on Grace Street. The first story was a showroom for Sydnor & Hundley, a furniture retailer. The five story brick building was designed by Charles K. Bryant in the Chicago style. The first story is an arcade of large display windows topped by a classical entablature. The next four stories are made up of ribbons of three windows separated by vertical piers and paneled horizontal spandrels. The windows on the fifth floor have arched heads. The building is crowned with a classical entablature supported by large carved brackets. The remainder of the block, to the east of the building, is a parking lot. (This site was once occupied by the classically styled Capitol Hotel, 714 East Grace Street, designed by John Keevan Peebles and the Standard Motor Company Building, 712 East Grace Street, designed by Carl Ruehrmund in Spanish Revival style. Both of these buildings were constructed in 1916 and demolished in the 1980s.)

South side

The Administration and Equipment Building for the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Company, 701 East Grace Street (127-0857-002), occupies the entire south side of the block. The eleven story Art Deco style skyscraper was built in 1929 and designed by the prestigious New York architectural firm of Voorhees, Gmelin & Walker. The building is supported by a steel frame with the exterior brick and limestone hung as curtain wall. "To ensure that the public understood this, the lower part of the wall is limestone carved to emulate curtains."⁷ The intermediate six stories are of brick and pierced at regular intervals by vertical windows. The upper two stories are clad in limestone that is richly carved with floral decorations. The limestone is staggered, creating a crenelated effect. The entire building tapers to a pyramidal roof. There have been later additions to the building on the east elevation which fortunately do not detract from the original design of the building.

600 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREETNorth side

The Loew's Theater, 600 East Grace Street (127-324), is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The theater was built in 1927 and designed by John Ebersson, a leading New York architect of the 20's noted for his "over the top" theater designs. Loew's is an extravagant interpretation of the Spanish Mission style and has been described as "a pyrotechnic display of architectural manipulation...a touch of insanity."⁸ The three story concave facade with its undulating parapet is placed diagonally at the corner of the block. Two story arcades run west and north on Grace and Sixth Streets. The dark red brick is heavily ornamented with lushly carved terra cotta and limestone. The brick of the parapet is laid in an intersecting diagonal pattern with the intersections punctuated by limestone diamonds.

The Thalhimer's Department Store at 612 East Grace Street (127-0857-003) covers the remainder of the block. In 1955, the New York architectural firm of Copland, Novack and Israel designed the aluminum screen for the Broad Street facade to unify a complex of earlier buildings and create the image of a modern department store. Architecturally, the most detailed part of

⁷ Robert P. Winthrop, *Architecture in Downtown Richmond*, (Richmond, VA: Whittet & Shepperson Printers, 1982), 101.

⁸ Robert P. Winthrop, *Richmond's Architecture*, (Reprinted from The Richmond Times-Dispatch Sunday Real Estate Section, August 9 through October 11, 1981), 29.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 4

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

the building is the Sixth Street elevation designed in 1939 by the New York firm of Tausig & Fleich. Despite its late date it retains elements of the Art Deco style. This elevation was compromised in the 1980s with the closing of Sixth Street and the construction of the Sixth Street Market Place. The Grace Street addition made in 1939 was designed by the Richmond firm of Carneal & Johnson. This addition is a polished granite box, a stripped down modern form that would become very popular in the post World War II era. (Plans approved in September 1997 by the City of Richmond Planning Commission call for the demolition of this building to accommodate the expansion of the Carpenter Center located in the adjacent Loew's Theater.)

South side

The Atlantic Life Building and parking deck 609 East Grace Street (127-0857-004) occupies the entire south side of the block. It was designed by the Richmond firm of Carneal & Johnson and built in 1950 and 1959 as a creative design solution to the common urban problem of parking. The lower floors are a parking deck with shops opening onto the sidewalk. This low horizontal mass is in strong contrast to the vertical office building constructed on top nine years later.

500 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET

North side

The north side of Grace Street in the 500 block is fully occupied by the Miller & Rhodes Department Store, 508 - 512 East Grace Street (127-0857-005). The original portion of the store fronts on Broad Street. The Grace Street addition was built in 1922 and designed by the prestigious New York firm of Starrett & Van Vleck. Starrett & Van Vleck were well known for their designs of New York's posh department stores like Lord & Taylor and Bloomingdales. The five story brick building features a limestone arcade on the first story with large display windows, topped by a classical entablature. The next three stories have a series of triple windows joined vertically by limestone surrounds and paneled spandrels between floors. The sets of windows are separated by vertical brick piers. The third story is separated from the fourth floor by a classical entablature and key stones at the head of the center window in each grouping. The fifth story was crowned by a projecting cornice which was removed in the 1950s when the upper floors were added.

South side

The four story Berry-Burk Building at 525 - 529 East Grace Street (127-0857-006) was designed by the Richmond firm of Baskerville & Lambert. Constructed in 1928, the limestone building is in the Italian Renaissance style. The first story features large display windows. A classical entablature separates the first and second stories and paneled spandrels separate the second and third stories. Another entablature divides the third and fourth stories. The fourth story and the entablature are decorated with lush carving and polychromed in brilliant shades of blue, red and gold. The Grace Street entrance features a richly carved architrave on the first story with a two story arch above that is crowned by a shield featuring a formally attired gentleman in a top hat. The original illuminated sign remains on the top of the building.

To the west is a grouping of two-story shops. The four shops at 515 - 523 East Grace Street (127-0857-007) were built c. 1925 in the Italian Renaissance style. The first story features large display windows with limestone surrounds and central entrances. The second story has English bond brickwork and three-part arcades with stained glass windows and limestone surrounds. The arcade is topped by a simple entablature with keystones centered over each arch. The entire building is finished with a dentiled entablature that has projecting shields with decorative carving centered over each of the four shops.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 5Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

The two story brick store at 509 - 513 East Grace Street (127-0857-008) was built c. 1950 in the Georgian Revival style and contributes to the overall composition of the block. The first story display windows are deeply recessed and appear to not support the upper story. The second story is set off by a sign panel topped by a simple entablature. The double-hung windows on the second story are atop Chippendale panels and are flanked by louvered shutters. The building is crowned by a classical entablature.

The group of three shops at 503 - 507 East Grace Street (127-0857-009) were built c. 1940 in the Georgian Revival style. With the exception of the cast iron window surrounds on the second story and their simple entablature, these buildings are rather plain.

The corner shop, 501 East Grace Street (127-0857-010) built c. 1940 is an unadorned modernistic building with display windows that step in at the corner with a stuccoed curved parapet above. The most unique feature of this building is its one-story height which was rare in downtown when it was built.

400 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET**North side**

Built in 1929 as a store for W. J. Anderson, 424 East Grace Street (127-0857-011), was designed by Carneal & Johnson. The two story variegated limestone building combines elements of the Art Deco and Spanish Revival styles. The first story is an arcade of flat headed arches with ogee corners. The Fifth Street entrance is slightly recessed and flanked by pylons. The entire building is capped by an unusual parapet of polychromed terra cotta in brilliant shades of blue, green and gold.

Montaldo's, an exclusive women's clothing store, was built in 1923 at 420 - 422 East Grace Street (127-0857-012). The three store limestone building was designed in the Georgian Revival style by the firm of Linder & Phillips. The first story has large display windows with elaborate plaster frames and a wrought iron entrance canopy that was originally on the building next door. The second and third story windows are set within a delicately carved two story colonnade that is flanked by Corinthian pilasters and finished with a classical entablature and a cartouche in the center.

The building directly to the west, 416 - 418 East Grace Street (127-0857-013), built in 1923, was also designed by Linder & Phillips for the Stieff Piano Company. The Stieff building is a two story brick building in the Spanish Revival style. The stone first story has two large display windows flanking a central entrance and an entablature horizontally separating the floors. The second story has pylons with peaked parapets and arched windows flanking two pairs of windows. Between the two pylons is a tile roof. On the second story ornamentation is limited to garlanded vases on the pylons, stone window heads and stone trim at the edge of the roof and the top of the pylons.

Shepard's Store at 412 East Grace Street (127-0857-014) was built in 1926. The two story brick building is in the Georgian Revival style. The store front was altered in the 1950s but the second story still features a stone architrave with a broken pediment over the central window which also has a lacy wrought iron balcony. The flanking windows have stone lintels with keystones. There is decorative brick work at the corner to resemble quoins and a simple stone entablature.

The Kaufman and Company building, 406 - 410 East Grace Street (127-0857-015) was built in 1922. The one story, classically inspired terra cotta storefront was designed by Carneal & Johnson. The three display windows are set off by widely spaced columns, a decorative cornice and pedimented parapet.

Next to the Loew's Theater, the former W. W. Foster Studios, 404 East Grace Street (127-0857-016), designed by Henry Thomas Barnham in 1927 is one of the most extravagant interpretations of Spanish inspired architecture on Grace Street. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 6

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

four story building is constructed of dark brown brick with contrasting stone bands, ornately carved terra cotta window heads, columns and balcony panels, and an intricate entablature, the Foster Studio "building is one of the city's more elaborate examples of the Spanish/Moorish style, ranking with the theaters like the Towne or the Mosque..."⁹

The American National Bank Branch at 402 East Grace Street (127-0857-017) built in 1924 is a two story, stone, classically inspired building. Of note is the swag at the head of the second story ribbon window and the way the roof coping rolls up into a scroll and meets the cartouche.

The Grace American Building or the American National Bank Building at 400 East Grace Street (127-0857-018) was built in 1922 and designed by Marcellus Wright. It is a good example of a Chicago style high rise with its granite base, brick shaft and decorated upper floors. The Grace Street entrance was once demarcated by an elaborate architrave with rusticated columns and an arched pediment over an ornately carved cartouche. In the 1950s, this ornate entrance and the projecting cornice were removed and the lower stories altered.

(According to plans approved by the Richmond Planning Commission in September 1997, the buildings on the north side of the 400 block of East Grace Street with the exception of 400 East Grace Street are proposed for demolition and redevelopment.)

South side

The Methodist Publishing House was built at 415 East Grace Street (127-0857-019) in 1921. The five story brick building was designed by the Richmond firm of Carneal & Johnson in the Italian Renaissance style. The first story is a limestone arcade that extends along Grace and Fifth Streets. The last bay on the west end of the Grace Street facade is slightly recessed. The arcade was originally fully glazed but portions have been filled solid in recent years. Each arch features a delicately carved architrave and keystone; carved rondels decorate the wall between each arch, and a classical entablature tops the arcade. The next three stories are pierced by regularly spaced pairs of double-hung windows. The fourth and fifth stories are separated by a delicate entablature. The fifth story repeats the rhythm of paired windows of the lower stories and is crowned by a heavy projecting cornice.

Two of the oldest buildings in the district are located in the 400 block. Built in 1843, Centenary Methodist Church, 409 East Grace Street (127-321), was designed by John and Samuel Freeman in the Greek Revival style. It is believed that Centenary in its original form greatly resembled another church designed by the Freeman brothers – Union Station Methodist Church. Union Station was a massive brick, temple-form building in the Doric order. In 1874, Albert L. West transformed Centenary from Greek Revival to Gothic Revival by adding a castellated parapet, a central tower and lancet windows. West was influenced as many architects were by the writings of John Ruskin, an English architectural theorist, "who advocated the use of contrasting colors of brick and stone to produce bold polychromatic patterns."¹⁰ The body of the church is constructed of a deep, reddish, brown brick with limestone accenting the edge of the parapet, door and window lintels, belt courses and the shoulders of the buttresses. The three story Sunday School building to the west was built in 1929. It was designed by Charles M. Robinson, a Richmond architect best known for his design of city school buildings erected between 1910 and 1929. The Sunday School building is constructed of a lighter colored brick with similar limestone trim, lancet windows and a castellated parapet. Centenary Methodist Church (127-321) is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

⁹ Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 109.

¹⁰ John S. Poppeliers, Allen Chambers and Nancy B. Schwartz, *What Style Is It?*, (Washington, D.C., The Preservation Press, 1977) 19.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 7Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

To the west of Centenary Methodist Church is the Tompkins House, 405 East Grace Street (127-0857-020). It was one of three attached dwellings constructed on the southeast corner of Grace and Fourth Streets. The adjacent Greenhow Houses were built in 1818 and demolished in 1948. On January 15, 1820, Christopher Tompkins conveyed to his son John H. Tompkins a parcel "with buildings and improvements as commenced thereon."¹¹ The Tompkins House is a three-story brick building that was altered in the 1920s when the dwelling was converted to retail use. About all that remains of the original dwelling is its massing and the very delicate window trim. From early photographs, the window trim on the Tompkins House appears to be identical to that of the Greenhow Houses. The vertical members of the window architraves are delicately fluted and crowned by carved corner blocks. The horizontal member, the depth of which is somewhat exaggerated, is unadorned with undecorated corner blocks. In the 1920s, a Classical Revival storefront was added to the western two bays of the first story and an ornate metal hood and grille work installed at the entrance. The building was stuccoed and scored so as to appear to have been constructed of stone, deep entablatures with a molded cornice, carved modillions, dentils and a delicately carved frieze were added to the facade and part of the east elevation. Of interest are the ornate keystones at the heads of each window which act as a consoles supporting the entablature and the cartouches between the third story windows.

The Bank of Virginia at 401 - 403 East Grace Street (127-0857-021) built in 1949 was designed by the Richmond firm of Baskerville & Son. The two story granite building exemplifies the Streamlined Moderne style with its curved entrance, large multi-paned windows with metal frames and banded cornice.

300 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET**North side**

The commercial building at 318-322 E. Grace Street (127-0857-022) designed by W. Harrison Pringle in 1930 is a good illustration of simplification of ornamentation typical during and after the Great Depression. While the two story stone building is handsome, the ornamentation is limited to minuscule urns located at the top of the window trim.

The three story brick building at 316 East Grace Street (127-0857-023) built c. 1910 is an interesting mixture of Gothic and Italianate elements. The store front has been altered but the upper two floors still retain much of their original character. The second and third story windows are set within Gothic arch panels and the pedimented cornice has a crenelated frieze.

The one story brick store at 314 East Grace Street (127-0857-024) built in 1930 makes a cursory nod to the Art Deco style with the chevron patterned spandrel over the store front and the stepped pediment.

Carl Linder, a Richmond architect designed the next two buildings 308 - 312 East Grace Street (127-0857-025) and 306 E. Grace Street (127-0857-026). The brick, two story, row at 308 - 312 East Grace Street (127-0857-025) was built in 1932 and is in stark contrast to its exuberant neighbor built just four years earlier in 1928. At 308 - 312 East Grace Street (127-0857-025) the large glass display areas are divided by stone pylons with minimal carving. The stone storefront surrounds are unadorned except for shallow off sets at the corners. Decoration here is limited to bas-reliefs of fruit baskets centered over the three sets of windows and the staggered, projecting brick cornice.

By contrast 306 E. Grace Street (127-0857-026) is a richly ornamented stone building. The fluted corner pylons topped by sculptured panels and urns create a strong vertical emphasis which suggests a skyscraper and not the three story building it is. The frieze above the store front is lushly carved with abstracted natural forms which incorporate ornate light fixtures.

¹¹ Mary Wingfield Scott, *unpublished notes*, (Richmond, VA: Valentine Museum).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 8**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

The P. C. Abbott Store Building, 304 East Grace Street (127-0857-027), built in 1930 is a two story stone building in the Art Deco style designed by W. Harrison Pringle. The two entrances are deeply recessed and flanked by slender fluted pylons. The stepped area above the doors is infilled with decorative bronze grilles. The original grille over the western entrance has been removed. The area between the pylons above each entrance steps back to a slit window. In the center of the building on the first story is large display window and above that is a large fixed glass flanked by narrower double-hung windows. The tripartite window composition is divided by fluted pilasters similar to the larger pylons. The window head is richly carved with a geometric patten and stylized flowers in the center.

The Building and Loan Association Office Building at 302 East Grace Street (127-0857-028) built in 1929 was designed by Luther P. Hartsook. Once described as a "spectacular Classical bank,"¹² the building was heavily altered in the 1950s and is now entirely without character. This building does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

Carl Linder, who designed several other buildings in this block, designed the storefront addition for Lombardy's Confectionary 300 East Grace Street (127-0857-029) built in 1923. This simple, two story stone storefront was added to the front of a 1876 Second Empire style row house. All that is visible of the early dwelling is the patterned slate mansard roof and lacy iron cresting. The storefront features a colonnade and iron rail that suggest a balcony on the second story; rondels of dancing nymphs decorate the cornice.

South side

Baskerville & Lambert, later Baskerville & Son, Architects, were responsible for the design of the Richmond News Leader Building, 333 East Grace Street (127-0857-030) built in 1922 and the many alterations and expansions since then. The 1922 wing facing on Fourth Street contains some well carved decorative panels. The Grace Street facade is a good example of the International Style with its smooth, unadorned stone sheathing, ribbons of metal casement windows and its lack of a cornice or coping at the roofs edge. Unlike the surrounding buildings, the Richmond News Leader Building was sited back from the street, providing the first pedestrian plaza in downtown.

Designed by Marcellus Wright, the Grace Street Bank and Trust, 301 East Grace Street (127-0857-031), was built in 1922. It is a near twin to Wright's Grace American Building at 400 East Grace Street (127-0857-018). The Grace Street Bank and Trust (127-0857-031) still retains its projecting cornice and the broken pedimented architrave at the Grace Street entrance.

200 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET**North side**

The Broad and Grace Street Arcade, 216 - 226 East Grace Street (127-309), designed by John Eberson in 1928 as part of the Central National Bank project, is an excellent example of the richness and subtlety of detail found on Grace Street. The building is a very restrained rectangular composition. The entrances on Grace and Third Streets are delineated by arched openings with cartouches above. Upon closer examination, one becomes aware of the richly detailed bronze window surrounds with a low relief design of grape vines and classical urns above. This building is in stark contrast to Eberson's Loew's Theater. The Broad and Grace Street Arcade is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Central National Bank District.

¹² Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 113.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 9**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

The former Corley Company Building, 214 East Grace Street (127-0857-032) was designed by Carneal & Johnson in the Spanish Revival style. The Corley Company, built in 1928, is a three story brick building with a stone frieze with carved garlands at the head of the storefront windows, ribbon windows on the second and third stories that are separated by carved panels and a massive limestone cornice with ornately carved brackets. The store front has been altered and the full impact of the cornice has been diminished by the addition of a blank sign panel above.

The O.P. Brisner Store, 208 East Grace Street (127-0857-033) designed by Henry Carl Messerschmidt was built in 1930. It is an excellent example of lush Art Deco style carving. "No other building in the city has such a lavish display of sculpted decoration."¹³ Sculpted pylons define the edge of the building and the central entrance and emphasizes the vertical dimension. Decorative panels separate the first and second stories and grace the area above the second story windows. The frieze is also richly ornamented. Original decorative light fixtures remain. The building has been marred by the installation of inappropriate signage over the western bay.

Also built for the Corley Company in 1923, 200 - 206 East Grace Street (127-0857-034) were designed by Luther P. Hartsook. These one story stuccoed buildings are comparatively simple. Classically inspired, a single pilaster separates each shop. A classic entablature and paneled parapet unify the grouping.

South side

The White Tower Restaurant at 223 East Grace Street (127-0857-035) built in 1955 is typical of the chain restaurants being built during that era. In recent years the buildings has lost its large roof top sign and no longer contributes to the architectural character of the district.

Adjacent to the White Tower Restaurant is an interesting row of five dwellings built between 1881 and 1892 in the Second Empire and Richardsonian Romanesque styles. They were all altered in the mid-twenties by store front additions but the second and third floors retain much of their original character. Four of the houses offer a variety of interpretations of Richardsonian Romanesque influenced designs. The S. D. Crenshaw House, 219 East Grace Street (127-0857-036) built in 1892, is constructed of heavily rusticated stone. It has a steep mansard roof, bay window and a large hip-roofed dormer. The storefront, added ca. 1925, is in the Italian Renaissance style. The gracefully arched display window is surrounded by rusticated stone work. The upper portion of the display window is composed of many small panes of glass. The simple entablature is supported by a single centered bracket. At either end of the parapet are posts decorated with carved cartouches. Of note is the metal canopy suspended by chains.

Built in 1882, the T. E. Gill House, 217 East Grace Street (127-0857-037) is also constructed of rusticated stone. It has a bay window with an open balcony on the third floor crowned with a steeply pitched octagonal roof. In comparison to 219 East Grace Street (127-0857-036) the storefront here is architecturally undistinguished.

The Samuel Cohen House, 215 East Grace Street (127-0857-038), built in 1889 combines brick with stone accents. It also features a round bay with an open balcony on the third floor and conical roof topped with a finial. The storefront added ca. 1925 is reminiscent of the Italianate iron-fronts on Main Street with its cast entablature and end brackets.

The George D. Wise House, 213 East Grace Street (127-0857-039) built in 1881 was designed by Capt. Marion Johnson Dimmock, one of Richmond's most prolific architects of the post-Civil War period. The Wise House (127-0857-039) features exceptionally fine brick work in the cornice and the gabled pediment above the dormer. The storefront, added ca. 1925, was classically inspired. A classical entablature with a balustraded parapet is suspended between end posts which are topped with

¹³ Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 116.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 10

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

urns. The brick work on the corner posts has a subtle diamond pattern. The lower portion of the storefront was heavily altered by the installation of vertical aluminum panels.

The Wallerstein House, 211 East Grace Street (127-0857-040) built in 1886 is typical example of Second Empire styling with its straight sided mansard roof that is edged top and bottom with an intricately decorated entablature and dormers with highly ornamented crowns. The lacy cresting at the roof line is a beautiful example of this decorative element that was once so common in the city. The storefront features slender paired columns supporting an entablature that is topped with delicate decorative iron work. The canted storefront is composed of many small panes of glass and a multi-light door. The eastern portion of the storefront was remodeled in an inappropriate manner.

The last building on this side of the block is 201 East Grace Street (127-0857-041) a three story brick and concrete parking deck erected in 1977. This building does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

100 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET

North side

The Southern Bank building at 122 East Grace Street (127-0857-042) was built in 1956. It is a modernistic granite box and does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

One of the latest examples of the Art Deco on Grace is the Sydnor & Hundley building designed in 1931 by Carneal & Johnson 106 - 108 East Grace Street (127-0857-080). The use of four tapering pylons gives the five story building a skyscraper-like effect and the use of black and yellow brick set in a decorative pattern give the facade an effect not found in monochromatic buildings. The carved ornamentation is composed mostly of circles and zigzags.

South side

The Hammond Company Florist Shop, 121 East Grace Street (127-0857-043) was designed by William Lawrence Bottomley in 1923. This is the only commercial building in the city by Bottomley who was better known for his magnificent Neo-Classical residences. The Hammond building is a simple three story stuccoed mass with a first story arcade, applied quoins at the corners and a uniquely carved entablature.

The commercial buildings at 117 - 119 East Grace Street (127-0857-044) were built in 1932 in the Art Deco style. "The placement of ornamentation and numbers on broad, blank surfaces is architecturally effective. It serves to emphasize the elegant and modish quality of the decorations themselves."¹⁴

The building at 115 East Grace Street (127-0857-045) is an unadorned brick box constructed in the 1950s. It does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

The Investment Realty Company building located at 111 East Grace Street (127-0857-046) was designed by Henry Carl Messerschmidt in 1930. It is an excellent example of lush Art Deco style carving; fluted panels flank the storefront, a frieze of stylized flowers and sunbursts extends above the storefront between intricately carved rondels, and a scrollwork entablature completes the composition.

¹⁴ Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 117.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 11

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

Built in 1926 the commercial building at 109 East Grace Street (127-0857-047) and 105 East Grace Street (127-0857-048) are in the Classical Revival style. A balustrade extends between large rusticated piers with smaller rusticated piers dividing the building into four bays. Each of the small piers is topped with a decorative shield. The storefront at 109 East Grace Street (127-0857-047) has been harmed by unsympathetic alterations. While altered the simple classical details used at 105 East Grace Street (127-0857-048) maintains character of the building.

The Joseph P. Winston House built in 1874 at 103 East Grace Street (127-222) is an exceptionally good example of Second Empire style architecture. The 2-1/2-story brick dwelling has the trademark mansard roof and dormers. However, the ogee form of the roof is very unusual, straight or concave roof shapes are far more common. Of particular note is the exuberant iron porch. "With its spiral columns, heavy balustrade and sunburst spikes, the porch defies conventional architectural descriptions. It is almost certainly not a product of Richmond."¹⁵ The Winston House is also exceptional because it is one of the few residential buildings that was not altered in the 1920s to accommodate a store. The house is set back from the sidewalk and the small front yard is enclosed by a granite curb and iron fence. It offers a rare glimpse at what Grace Street used to look like at the turn of the nineteenth century. The Winston House (127-222) is listed in the National Register as part of the Winston House Historic District.

One of the earliest examples of Spanish-influenced design is the Richmond Art Company 101 East Grace Street (127-222), built in 1919, and designed by Duncan Lee, who was best known as a prolific designer of residential buildings. The three-story, stuccoed building has a sophisticated composition with the decorative elements clustered in the center of the Grace Street facade. A tile roof supported by paired brackets forms a canopy on the first story. The second story is a romantic composition of casement windows, iron rails, two urns and two lions and a centered, hipped roof. The treatment is reminiscent of a garden gate and fence. The third floor has a trademark triple arcade flanked by casement windows. The Richmond Art Company (127-222) is listed in the National Register as part of the Winston House Historic District.

00 BLOCK EAST GRACE STREET

North side

The building at 14 - 26 East Grace Street (127-0857-049) erected c. 1945 is a one story collection booth for the surface parking lot which encompasses the eastern end of the block. This building does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

The one story brick building at 12 East Grace Street (127-0857-050) built c. 1925 has a slightly projecting center block and a cornice composed of two courses of projecting brick laid on the diagonal.

Carl Linder designed this store for William J. Anderson 6 - 10 East Grace Street (127-0857-051) in 1927 with a second story arcade flanked by pylons, which are topped by shields. The most interesting feature of the building is the heavily textured brick work, with bricks randomly jutting out; the intricate cornice is composed of three layers of projecting bricks laid on the diagonal.

The Cactus Restaurant at 2 East Grace Street (127-0857-052) was built in 1930. Though small this building is elaborately treated with an arcade of spiral columns, lacy iron grills in the arches, heraldic symbols and evidence of polychromed walls.

¹⁵ Robert P. Winthrop, *Cast and Wrought - The Architectural Metalwork of Richmond, Virginia*, (Richmond VA: William Byrd Press, 1980), 47.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 12

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

South side

Ragland Row 13-17 East Grace Street (127-317) built in 1858 by E. F. Ragland and Company are the only surviving residential structures from the antebellum period. They are typical "of a type frequently built as investments in the late 1850s."¹⁶ These buildings blend the characteristics of Greek Revival style houses with the new Italianate style influences as seen in the bracketed cornice, molded window lintels and the arched door surrounds. Mary Wingfield Scott's note indicate that these buildings originally had "very attractive iron verandahs". The carriage house or servants quarter survives behind this block of Greek Revival dwellings that are listed in the National Register as part of the Zero Block East Franklin Street Historic District.

The building at 11 East Grace Street (127-0857-053) was built in 1928 as a small shop with a residence above for John Fahed. Built in the Spanish Revival style the building features an arcade of French doors on the second floor with an iron balcony and a tile roof. The remainder of the block, which included a Second Empire style dwelling and a Spanish Revival style commercial building designed by Charles Phillips, was demolished in the 1980s to make way for a surface parking lot.

00 BLOCK WEST GRACE STREET

South side

The one story metal clad commercial building at 1 West Grace Street (127-0857-054) of unknown date does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

The Mallory House built in 1875 at 3 W. Grace Street (127-0857-055) is a good example of an Italianate style dwelling. The building displays the vertical massing and heavy bracketed cornices characteristic of the style. The Mallory House has ornate bracketed window crowns as well. The Mallory House was altered in 1920s by the addition of a classically inspired storefront.

The John Kolbe Restaurant Equipment building at 5 - 7 West Grace Street (127-0857-056) was erected in 1923. Like several others in the district it was designed by Carl Linder in the Spanish Revival style. It has the signature tile roof supported by carved brackets and a ribbon window on the second story topped by panels with rondels.

The two-story brick commercial building at 9 West Grace Street (127-0857-057) has been so heavily altered that it no longer contributes to the district.

The one-story brick building at 11 West Grace Street (127-0857-058) was built in 1915 as a shop for C. A. Labenberg. It was designed by Marcellus Wright in a simple classically inspired manner.

500, 300 and 200 BLOCKS EAST BROAD STREET

South side

Until recently Woolworth's occupied the building located at 509 East Broad Street (127-0857-081). Designed in 1954 by the local architectural firm of Carneal & Johnson is a four story brick Moderne building with three bands of square metal windows and a metal canopy that projects out over the sidewalk. The southwest corner is clad in polished granite which is separated from the brick portion of the building by a large vertical sign that wraps over the edge of the roof.

¹⁶ Scott, *unpublished notes*, (Richmond, VA: Valentine Museum)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 13Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

The W.T. Grant Store 319 - 321 East Broad Street (127-0857-059) at the corner of Third and Broad, design by Baskervill & Son in 1939 is a one of the few examples of a streamlined modern building in Richmond's downtown with its curved glass block wall and fine stone work.

The Central National Bank building located at 219 East Broad Street (127-309) was designed in 1929 by John Ebersson. The Central National Bank is thought to be an almost perfect example of a 1920s Art Deco skyscraper. The square nineteen-story tower rises from a Triumphal arch base to an octagonal top heavily ornamented with oversized polychromed decorations. For many years the CNB building was the tallest in the city of Richmond. This building is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

700 to 100 BLOCKS EAST FRANKLIN STREET**North side**

The Virginia Railway and Power Company Office building at 700 East Franklin Street (127-0857-060) designed in 1912 by Alfred Charles Bossom is an extravaganza of Adamesque-inspired details. Alfred Charles Bossom, an English architect, who spent some years practicing in New York was a noted designer of tall office buildings. The three story base of the building is crowned by a classical entablature supported by Corinthian pilasters. The windows are separated on the first and second story by iron Chippendale railings and on the second and third story by ornately carved swags. The Franklin and Seventh Street entrances are set off by classical pediments. The shaft of the building is topped by a simpler entablature and arched windows. The entire building is crowned by a crenelated parapet. The upper two stories are decorated with richly patterned brick work and two-story Palladian windows with ornately carved architraves.

The Franklin Federal Savings and Loan building at 616 East Franklin Street (127-0857-061), built in 1940, was designed by Edward Francis Sinnott. It is one of the last period examples of large scale architectural ornamentation. It is a brutalistic two story building with crenelated pylons, sheer stone walls with glass block inserts and large pre-cast concrete eagles supporting flag poles.

The building located at 508 - 512 East Franklin Street (127-0857-083), built in the 1930s, is a restrained example of Art Deco design typically found after the stock market crash of 1929. Decoration on this otherwise plain brick building is limited to bas-relief panels between the second story windows.

The Imperial Tobacco Company building, 422 East Franklin Street (127-0857-062) was designed in 1923 by Neff & Thompson. Clarence Amos Neff and Thomas P. Thompson, Norfolk based architects, created a restrained Neo-Classical building. The first and second story windows are set in recessed panels, which give the building a vertical quality. The detailing is limited to the entablature separating the second and third stories and the richly carved architrave at the entrance, which is crowned by a cornice supported by carved consoles.

Built in 1938, as a retail space for Yonan Persian Rugs, 214 East Franklin Street (127-0857-063) was designed by Carl Linder. Decoration is limited to an ornamented colored band that outlines the top of the display windows and the entrance bay. The upper floors are a later addition.

The Bausch & Lomb building at 212 East Franklin Street (127-0857-064) built in 1940 is an extremely good example of streamlined modernism. The facade is an abstract arrangement of lines. Vertical lines accent the entrances on the first story and strong horizontal banding surrounds the second story windows.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 14

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

Built for Milton Glaser Association, Inc. in 1928, 210 East Franklin Street (127-0857-065) was designed by Duncan Lee as a collection of Georgian shops. A brick court yard extends along the western side of the building with the shops opening on to it. "Picturesque groupings of shops have become well known in the 1970s, but were rare in the 1920s."¹⁷

The Medical Arts Building at 116 - 118 East Franklin Street (127-0857-066) is a seven-story brick building erected in 1922. It was designed by Henry T. Barnham, consulting architect, and William Bernard Bates, engineer. This is a classically-inspired building with a stone base, brick shaft and projecting cornice. The Franklin Street facade is an asymmetrical composition of paired and single windows separated by vertical piers. The rooftop gables with corner turrets is a later addition of uncertain date.

100 BLOCK NORTH SEVENTH STREET

West side

Designed by Carl Ruehrmund 100 - 102 North Seventh Street (127-0857-067) was built in 1909 for A. S. Wallerstein and Richard Moore. The first story of this two-story brick commercial building has been altered. The entrance is set diagonally at the corner with a stepped parapet. The second story windows are set in recessed panels with corbeled brick work and Chippendale transoms. A classical entablature unifies the composition.

The commercial building at 104 - 106 North Seventh Street (127-0857-088) was built in the 1950s and does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

The building at 108 North Seventh Street (127-0857-084) was erected in 1917. E. L. Bass was the builder. The two story brick building is inlaid with stone cut in geometric patterns and the stepped parapet has a stone coping. The triple window on the second floor is reminiscent of Spanish-inspired designs.

Designed by architect D. Wiley Anderson in 1909 the building at 112 North Seventh Street (127-0857-089) was so heavily altered in the 1950s that it no longer contributes to the architectural character of the district.

The building at 114 - 116 North Seventh Street (127-0857-085), built in 1895, was designed by Carl Ruehrmund in the Italianate style. The building is distinguished by a second story arcade.

100 BLOCK NORTH SIXTH STREET

East side

One of the earliest examples of Art Deco styling in the district is the Richmond Garage, 107 North Sixth Street (127-0857-068). Built in 1927 the parking deck was designed by Lee, Smith and Van der Voort. The decorative motifs on this building are derived from the automobile. The major pylons are topped by eagles bearing radiators and the intermediate vertical elements are terminated by wheels.

¹⁷ Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 139.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 15

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

100 and 200 BLOCKS NORTH FIFTH STREET

East side

The Hotel John Marshall 101 North Fifth Street (127-0857-069) designed by Marcellus Wright in 1927 blends classical design with the Art Deco decorative elements. The u-shaped building tapers as it rises from its limestone base to the rooftop ballrooms. The Fifth Street entrance is a triumphal arch, flanked by niches, with cartouches and swags above and crowned by a carved balustrade bearing the hotel's name. There is a richly ornamented metal canopy suspended on chains at the entrance. The base is decorated with bas-reliefs of vases filled with flowers and fruit and recessed panels. The upper floors are sheathed in brilliantly colored terra cotta.

West side

Built in 1947 the commercial building at 112 - 114 North Fifth Street (127-0857-070) with its unadorned, sheer stone walls is a good example of the stripped-down buildings preferred in the years following World War II. This plain building was designed by Marcellus Wright.

The one-story, brick restaurant building at 110 North Fifth Street (127-0857-077) was built c. 1960 and does not contribute to the architectural character of the district.

An elegant Moderne storefront 206 North Fifth Street (127-0857-086) was built in the 1930s and features limestone sheathing of unusually large slabs and a single large window on the second story surmounted by a carved medallion. The cornice is a simple fluted band.

100 BLOCK NORTH FOURTH STREET

East side

Designed by Carneal & Johnson as offices for the Richmond News Leader in the 1950s 111 North Fourth Street (127-0857-087) is an example of a post World War II modern building with its smooth stone cladding and ribbons of multi-paned windows. This building is similar in character to several others found in the district.

100 and 200 BLOCKS NORTH THIRD STREET

West side

The buildings at 114 - 118 North Third Street (127-0857-071) epitomize the conversion of residential buildings to commercial use. In the 1920s, an elaborate Spanish Revival facade was added to a row of three-story, nineteenth century dwellings. The new facade is a well organized tripartite composition. The three blocks are separated by vertical recessed panels which extend from the belt course to the entablature. The three blocks are further emphasized by the treatment of the parapet. The first story features a central storefront with engaged spiral columns and flanking display windows, all with spindle-work transoms. The second story has ribbons of three casement windows divided by engaged spiral columns and the third story has French doors set in arched recessed panels. The French doors open onto iron balconies supported by paired consoles.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 16

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

East side

The three-story brick structure at 209 North Third Street (127-0857-072) built in 1879 is a typical example of a Victorian commercial building.

Steamer Company B built in 1877 at 207 North Third Street (127-0857-073) is a good example of the Italianate style. The building displays the vertical massing and heavy bracketed cornices characteristic of the style. Steamer Company B "has little of the elaboration generally associated with fire station design in the 19th century."¹⁸ Of note are the wide arch-topped windows on the second and third stories above the building's original door. Like many others in the district the first story was altered in the 1920s to accommodate a retail establishment.

100 AND 200 BLOCKS NORTH SECOND STREET

West side

The building at 114 North Second Street (127-0857-074) is one of few nineteenth century carriage houses to be found in downtown. It is a large and impressive building. The 1-1/2-story brick building has a hipped, slate roof with recessed dormers and a cupola. Even though the storefront is less than appropriate the building retains much of its original character.

East side

The building at 201 North Second Street (127-0857-075) is identical to those found around the corner at 200-206 East Grace Street (127-0857-034). Corinthian pilasters support a classical entablature and paneled parapet. This building retains the multi-paned frieze with super-imposed arches.

Built in 1910 as the U. S. Post Office Central Station, 203 North Second Street (127-0857-076) is a modest brick Classical Revival building featuring fanlights over the central entrance door and flanking windows, a classical entablature, and quoins at the corners.

100 and 200 BLOCKS NORTH FOUSHEE STREET

East side

The building at 109 - 111 North Foushee Street (127-0857-078), built in the 1920s, is an unusual example of a small apartment building. The building displays elements of the Spanish Revival style including a tile roof and features and interesting entrance treatment and arched window and implied balcony on the third story.

Built in 1840, 113 North Foushee Street (127-0857-079) was the kitchen to the Royal Parrish House, which stood at 1 East Grace Street. This simple Greek Revival style building has been resorted and converted to residential use.

The commercial building at 207 - 209 North Foushee Street (127-0857-090) was built in the 1890s in the Italianate style. It has a cast iron store front and unusually large triple windows on the second and third stories. The first story has been altered in recent years but the building still retains much of its original character.

¹⁸ Winthrop, *Downtown Richmond*, 226.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 17

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

	<u>Address</u>	<u>VDHR #</u>	<u>City of Richmond Parcel #</u>
700	East Grace Street	(127-0857-001)	W000-0004-020
701	East Grace Street	(127-0857-002)	W000-0003-001A/001B
612	East Grace Street	(127-0857-003)	W000-0009-014
609	East Grace Street	(127-0857-004)	W000-0008-001
508 - 512	East Grace Street	(127-0857-005)	W000-0018-013A/013B
525 - 529	East Grace Street	(127-0857-006)	W000-0015-012
515 - 523	East Grace Street	(127-0857-007)	W000-0015-008
509 - 513	East Grace Street	(127-0857-008)	W000-0015-005
503 - 507	East Grace Street	(127-0857-009)	W000-0015-001
501	East Grace Street	(127-0857-010)	W000-0015-001
424	East Grace Street	(127-0857-011)	W000-0025-015
420 - 22	East Grace Street	(127-0857-012)	W000-0025-016
416 - 418	East Grace Street	(127-0857-013)	W000-0025-018
412	East Grace Street	(127-0857-014)	W000-0025-019
406 - 410	East Grace Street	(127-0857-015)	W000-0025-020
404	East Grace Street	(127-0857-016)	W000-0025-022
402	East Grace Street	(127-0857-017)	W000-0025-023
400	East Grace Street	(127-0857-018)	W000-0025-024
415	East Grace Street	(127-0857-019)	W000-0024-006
405	East Grace Street	(127-0857-020)	W000-0024-003
401 - 403	East Grace Street	(127-0857-021)	W000-0024-001
318-322	East Grace Street	(127-0857-022)	W000-0036-011
316	East Grace Street	(127-0857-023)	W000-0036-013
314	East Grace Street	(127-0857-024)	W000-0036-014
308 - 312	East Grace Street	(127-0857-025)	W000-0036-015
306	East Grace Street	(127-0857-026)	W000-0036-017
304	East Grace Street	(127-0857-027)	W000-0036-018
300	East Grace Street	(127-0857-029)	W000-0036-020
333	East Grace Street	(127-0857-030)	W000-0035-006
301	East Grace Street	(127-0857-031)	W000-0035-001
214	East Grace Street	(127-0857-032)	W000-0049-015
208	East Grace Street	(127-0857-033)	W000-0049-016
200 - 206	East Grace Street	(127-0857-034)	W000-0049-017
219	East Grace Street	(127-0857-036)	W000-0048-009
217	East Grace Street	(127-0857-037)	W000-0048-008
215	East Grace Street	(127-0857-038)	W000-0048-007
213	East Grace Street	(127-0857-039)	W000-0048-006
211	East Grace Street	(127-0857-040)	W000-0048-005
106 - 108	East Grace Street	(127-0857-080)	W000-0064-021
121	East Grace Street	(127-0857-043)	W000-0063-010
117 - 119	East Grace Street	(127-0857-044)	W000-0063-008
111	East Grace Street	(127-0857-046)	W000-0063-006
109	East Grace Street	(127-0857-047)	W000-0063-005
105	East Grace Street	(127-0857-048)	W000-0063-003
12	East Grace Street	(127-0857-050)	W000-0084-018
6 - 10	East Grace Street	(127-0857-051)	W000-0084-019

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 18

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

	<u>Address</u>	<u>VDHR #</u>	<u>City of Richmond Parcel #</u>
2	East Grace Street	(127-0857-052)	W000-0084-021
11	East Grace Street	(127-0857-053)	W000-0083-009
3	West Grace Street	(127-0857-055)	W000-0104-009
5 - 7	West Grace Street	(127-0857-056)	W000-0104-007/008
11	West Grace Street	(127-0857-058)	W000-0104-004
509	East Broad Street	(127-0857-081)	W000-0016-001/003/004/005/006
519 - 521	East Broad Street	(127-0857-082)	W000-0016-007/008
319 - 321	East Broad Street	(127-0857-059)	W000-0036-008
700	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-060)	W000-0003-021
616	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-061)	W000-0008-016
508 - 512	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-083)	W000-0015-015
422	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-062)	W000-0024-010
214	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-063)	W000-0048-017
212	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-064)	W000-0048-018
210	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-065)	W000-0048-019
116 - 118	East Franklin Street	(127-0857-066)	W000-0063-013
100 - 102	North Seventh Street	(127-0857-067)	W000-0008-013
108	North Seventh Street	(127-0857-084)	W000-0008-011/012
114 - 116	North Seventh Street	(127-0857-085)	W000-0008-009/008
107	North Sixth Street	(127-0857-068)	W000-0008-001
101	North Fifth Street	(127-0857-069)	W000-0015-017/015
112 - 114	North Fifth Street	(127-0857-070)	W000-0024-008
206	North Fifth Street	(127-0857-086)	W000-0025-014
111	North Fourth Street	(127-0857-087)	W000-0024-018
114 - 118	North Third Street	(127-0857-071)	W000-0048-012
209	North Third Street	(127-0857-072)	W000-0036-022
207	North Third Street	(127-0857-073)	W000-0036-021
114	North Second Street	(127-0857-074)	W000-0063-012
201	North Second Street	(127-0857-075)	W000-0049-017
203	North Second Street	(127-0857-076)	W000-0049-017
109 - 111	North Foushee Street	(127-0857-078)	W000-0083-024
113	North Foushee Street	(127-0857-079)	W000-0083-026
207 - 209	North Foushee Street	(127-0857-090)	W000-0084-022

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 7 Page 19Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), VirginiaNONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

	<u>Address</u>	<u>VDHR #</u>	<u>City of Richmond Parcel #</u>
302	East Grace Street	(127-0857-028)	W000-0036-019
223	East Grace Street	(127-0857-035)	W000-0048-010
201	East Grace Street	(127-0857-041)	W000-0048-001
122	East Grace Street	(127-0857-042)	W000-0064-015
115	East Grace Street	(127-0857-045)	W000-0063-007
14 - 26	East Grace Street	(127-0857-049)	W000-0084-012/014
1	West Grace Street	(127-0857-054)	W000-0104-011
9	West Grace Street	(127-0857-057)	W000-0104-006
110	North Fifth Street	(127-0857-077)	W000-0024-009
104 - 106	North Seventh Street	(127-0857-088)	W000-0008-013
112	North Seventh Street	(127-0857-089)	W000-0008-010

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

	<u>Address</u>	<u>VDHR #</u>	<u>City of Richmond Parcel #</u>
600	East Grace Street	(127-324)	W000-0009-018A/18B
409	East Grace Street	(127-321)	W000-0024-004
216 - 226	East Grace Street	(127-309-2)	W000-0049-012
219	East Broad Street	(127-309-1)	W000-0049-008/009
103	East Grace Street	(127-222)	W000-0063-002
101	East Grace Street	(127-222)	W000-0063-002
13 - 17	East Grace Street	(127-317)	W000-0083-010/011/012

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 20

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

When Richmond was incorporated as a town in 1742, it had a population of 250 and covered approximately two-tenths of a mile from 17th to 25th Streets and from the James River to Broad Street. Retail and commercial development was concentrated in Shockoe Valley on the west and residences sprang up on Church Hill and Main Street to the east. Between 1790 and 1819, Richmond grew from a town to a city. It was the seat of the legislature and related courts of law. Long a center of trade Richmond was becoming a manufacturing center with mills for the processing of wheat, corn, cotton and tobacco. The city was also a major producer of coaches, soap and candles. Spurred by expanding industry and trade, the first banks were founded in Richmond during this period thus making Richmond a financial center as well. By 1817, the city's population had swelled to 14,328 inhabitants. Court End, the area north of Broad Street between 9th and 13th Streets, was the new, desirable residential area and in response retail and commercial development began to appear along Broad Street. During the 1830s and 1840s dwellings for some of Richmond's most prominent citizens were built along Grace, Franklin and South Fifth Streets.

On the eve of the Civil War, Richmond had a population of 37,910 and had "become the third most affluent city in the nation, with a per capita wealth of \$1,593.42. Ninety-one manufacturing establishments (52 of which were tobacco plants) employed more than 11,000 workers. Tobacco, flour, and iron were indeed the capital industries."¹⁹ On April 3, 1865 retreating Confederate troops set fire to the munitions depots, the fire spread and engulfed the area from Main Street to the River and from 8th to 18th Streets. Even though the evacuation fire destroyed much of Richmond's business and manufacturing district the industries that had attributed to the city's prosperity in the proceeding years were still viable and attracted capital investment. "Recovery was phoenix like. As the *Dispatch* reported in its December 9th issue, '...Virginia's capital displayed 'an instance of enterprise almost miraculous...Richmond has sprung up to a new life, and renewed her energies with all the vigor of youth.' Richmond then would enter upon a vast economic expansion..."²⁰ reasserting itself as the premiere city of the South.

The turning of the twentieth century brought with it changes that would forever alter downtown Richmond, especially Grace and Franklin Streets. Richmond exemplified the new south with its diverse economic base and rapidly expanding population. In 1890, the city had a population of 81,388 which more than doubled to 171,667 by 1920. The Richmond Traction Company, later known as the Virginia Passenger and Power Company, was organized in 1895 and operated electric street cars on Broad Street from Chimborazo Hill to Reservoir Park. By 1928, just under 86 miles of streetcar tracks were completed. The expansion of the city's trolley system brought with it the development of the suburbs. Monument Avenue was laid out in 1890 as were Ginter Park, Barton Heights and Bon Air. The suburbs offered relief from the congestion of the urban areas. "Unlike the rigid town house, which was restrained by the straitjacket of small city lots, the suburban house could be free and informal, with sun porches and verandas opening into gardens on all sides."²¹ Windsor Farms was laid out in the 1920s. Improvements in transportation and suburban growth ended Grace and Franklin Streets' era of residential prominence. Many of the large houses were converted to private clubs and schools and were later demolished to make way for new retail and commercial development.

Economically the city thrived during the first decades of the twentieth century and with this prosperity came disposable income and a need for places to spend it. As was typical in many city's during this era fashionable department stores grew in popularity as did small specialty shops. With dwindling downtown residential growth, Grace Street was ripe for redevelopment as a

¹⁹ Ward, *Illustrated History*, 81.

²⁰ Ward, *Illustrated History*, 148.

²¹ Winthrop, *Richmond's Architecture*, 13.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 21

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

premier retail center. Thalhimers Department Store began in Richmond as a tiny dry goods store in 1842 on North 17th Street between Main and Franklin. A few years later it moved to a larger store at 18th and Main which was destroyed in the evacuation fire. In 1870, Thalhimers moved to the first of several Broad Street locations. With rapidly expanding sales, Thalhimers moved to a five-story building with an 82-foot frontage on Broad Street between Sixth and Seventh in 1922. In 1911, the Thalhimers Office building and Sydnor & Huntley showroom was erected at 7th and Grace. The store expanded to Grace Street in 1939. Miller & Rhoads opened in 1885 at 117 East Broad Street and a year later moved to a larger store at 509 East Broad Street. "With the completion of its 1921 addition -- something over 200,000 square feet -- the store occupied the entire Grace Street frontage between 5th and 6th Streets..."²² O. H. Berry & Company, later Berry-Burk Company, opened in 1897 at Tenth and Main. In 1926, at a cost of \$203,500 a new store was erected at Grace and Sixth Streets.

"Almost overnight, Grace changed from a street lined with houses to one lined with shops. And in the mid-1920s, with the completion of the Miller & Rhoads addition, the Thalhimers annex, the new 10-story American National Bank Building at the corner of 4th and Grace and the Grace Street Bank and Trust Company's skyscraper at 3rd Street, Grace Street came into its own. Other modern and attractive business houses, smooth paving of all sidewalks between 1st and 9th, jitneys and bus transportation and plenty of lighting gave assurance that Grace Street entered on a new period of progress and prosperity."²³

During this period, "Richmond viewed itself as cosmopolitan and sophisticated, not a provincial backwater. A direct outgrowth of this view was a strong preference for hiring architects from New York, Philadelphia and Washington. The combination of outside talent mixing with the local created an architectural character that is distinctive and handsome and makes the architecture of downtown Richmond the finest in the State."²⁴ The Grace Street Commercial Historic District is significant as a collection of early twentieth century retail buildings that were built in a nineteenth century residential neighborhood, remnants of which are also significant. The buildings represent over one hundred years of continuous development and a variety of nineteenth and twentieth century architectural styles which gives Grace Street a quality found in few other places. The richness of detail and execution is unparalleled in Richmond. The buildings represent a collective body of work by some of the leading early twentieth century architects in Richmond and New York. Not only did the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries see the academic revivals of many architectural styles, including Gothic, Tudor, Georgian, Spanish Colonial, and Italian Renaissance, the era also saw the introduction of new styles that were less based on the past, like the Chicago School, Art Deco and Moderne.

²² James K. Sanford, editor, *A Century of Commerce 1867-1967*, (Richmond, VA: Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 1967), 123.

²³ Sanford, *Century of Commerce*, 127.

²⁴ Winthrop, *Richmond's Architecture*, 21.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 22

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

NINETEENTH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Federal

In the early decades of the new nation the United States abandoned the Georgian style of architecture and adopted new design ideas inspired by the writings and drawings of the Scottish brothers Robert and John Adams. Known as Adamesque or Federal, the style was typified by square or rectangular houses constructed of brick or frame, three stories high with low hipped roofs. The most noticeable change was in columns and moldings which "were narrow, chaste and delicate compared to the robust features of the earlier Georgian style."²⁵ Exterior decoration was confined to porches and entrance motifs, door and window openings often incorporated fan and oval forms. Major changes occurred on the interior, as well, rooms were no longer square or rectangular but often oval or octagonal. Fully paneled walls disappeared and mantels, door and window frames, ceilings and cornices were richly ornamented with delicately carved urns, swags and rosettes.

(127-0857-020) 405 East Grace Street Tompkins House 1820

Greek Revival

Thomas Jefferson's Virginia State Capitol building erected in Richmond in 1787 is believed to be the first Greek Revival style building erected in the United States. Jefferson took his inspiration from the Maison Carree a Greek temple in Nimes, France. The proliferation of Greek temple-form buildings in the United States was so great that in 1842 architect Alexander Jackson Davis complained that it was difficult "to distinguish between a church, a bank and a hall of justice."²⁶ Oddly enough the city in which Jefferson's temple was built did not share the rest of the country's enthusiasm, only two houses and half a dozen public buildings adopted this style. In Richmond, following a long economic depression that lasted from 1819 to the late 1830s, "someone seems to have worked out a formula that utilized the details of Greek decoration to make a house within the means of people of medium as well as great fortune."²⁷ The style became so popular in the city that it was practiced long after the Civil War. Houses tended to be narrow with a flat or low pitched roof. Moldings became bold and simple, the friezes of heavy cornices were unadorned, and round columns or pilasters supported heavy porticoes. The arches and fan lights seen in Adamesque houses were replaced with horizontal transoms and sidelights.

(127-0857-079) 113 North Foushee Street Royal Parrish House, kitchen 1840
(127-317) 13 - 17 East Grace Street Ragland Row 1858

Gothic Revival

During the early years of the nineteenth century a romantic movement swept the United States and Europe which greatly influences styles in literature, art and architecture. The Gothic Revival style was not wildly popular in the United States perhaps because it came from England and was associated with the aristocracy. Influenced by the romantic movement and a growing dissatisfaction with the constraints of classical architecture, Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing advocated

²⁵ Poppeliers, *What Style Is It?*, 14.

²⁶ Poppeliers, *What Style Is It?*, 15.

²⁷ Mary Wingfield Scott, *Houses of Old Richmond*, (New York, NY: Bonanza Books, Crown Publishers, Inc., 1941), 183.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 23

**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

the use of the Gothic Revival style for country houses. Because of the religious symbolism associated with Gothic architecture it also became popular in the design of churches. The Gothic Revival style was "distinguished by pointed arches that could ingeniously be combined with towers, crenellation, steep gable roofs, lacy bargeboards, verandas, clustered columns, foliated ornaments, bay and oriel windows, tracery and leaded stain glass."²⁸ The writings of John Ruskin, an English architectural theorist, advocated the use of boldly contrasting colors of stone and brick to create polychromatic patterns.

(127-321)	409 East Grace Street	Centenary Methodist Church	1874
(127-0857-023)	316 East Grace Street		1910 c.

Italianate

Like the Gothic Revival style, Italianate architecture was inspired by the romantic movement. Because, the Italianate style could be picturesque like the Gothic or restrained like the classical it nearly became a national style by the 1850s. Again the works of Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing enhanced the styles popularity. In urban areas, Italianate influences were seen in row houses and commercial buildings that incorporated bracketed eaves and either round-headed windows or classical architraves made easier by the mid-nineteenth century with the introduction of mass produced cast and pressed metal decorative elements.

(127-0857-055)	3 West Grace Street	Mallory House	1875
(127-0857-073)	207 North Third Street	Steamer Company B	1877
(127-0857-072)	209 North Third Street		1879
(127-0857-090)	207 - 209 North Foushee Street		1890 c.
(127-0857-085)	114 - 116 North Seventh Street		1895

Second Empire

Inspired by the architecture of France during the reign of Napoleon III (1852-1870), the Second Empire style was popular in the United States in the 1860s and 1870s. The most universal characteristic of the style is the mansard, a double-pitched roof with a steep lower slope, often covered with decorative patterns of colored or textured roofing materials and topped by lacy iron cresting. Second Empire buildings also featured projecting and receding wall surfaces, dormers in the lower slope of the roof and bracketed eaves.

(127-222)	103 East Grace Street	Joseph P. Winston House	1874
(127-0857-029)	300 East Grace Street		1876
(127-0857-040)	211 East Grace Street	Wallerstein House	1886

Richardsonian Romanesque

Richardsonian Romanesque buildings are always constructed of masonry and often combine brick and stone in one or more contrasting colors and textures to create decorative wall patterns. Round-topped arches over windows or as porch supports are also characteristic of the style as are asymmetrical facades with projecting or receding wall surfaces.

(127-0857-039)	213 East Grace Street	George D. Wise House	1881
(127-0857-037)	217 East Grace Street	T. E. Gill House	1882
(127-0857-038)	215 East Grace Street	Samuel Cohen House	1889
(127-0857-036)	219 East Grace Street	S. D. Crenshaw House	1892

²⁸ Poppeliers, *What Style Is It?*, 18.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 24

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

TWENTIETH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Neo-classical or Georgian Revival

By the end of the nineteenth century, American architects were being educated at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in France or were being trained in America in the tradition of the Ecole, which placed an emphasis on the academic study of Greek and Roman structures. In the United States the emphasis on academic study of architectural forms led to the revival of many ancient styles of architecture including the resurrection of America's colonial past. Neo-classical, or Georgian Revival, is the most widely represented style on Grace Street. The buildings took on many forms from small shops to skyscrapers but their designs drew from rich decorative motifs derived from Georgian and Adamesque buildings.

(127-0857-074)	114 North Second Street	Carriage house	1900 c.
(127-0857-067)	100 - 102 North Seventh Street	Wallerstein/Moore Building	1909
(127-0857-076)	203 North Second Street	United States Post Office	1910
(127-0857-060)	700 East Franklin Street	Virginia Railway and Power Company	1913
(127-0857-005)	508 - 512 East Grace Street	Miller & Rhoads	1922
(127-0857-015)	406 - 410 East Grace Street	Kaufman & Company Building	1922
(127-0857-066)	116 - 118 East Franklin Street	Medical Arts Building	1922
(127-0857-062)	422 East Franklin Street	Imperial Building	1923
(127-0857-012)	420 East Grace Street	Montaldo's	1923
(127-0857-034)	200 - 206 East Grace Street	Corley Company Building	1923
(127-0857-043)	121 East Grace Street	Hammond's Flower Shop	1923
(127-0857-075)	201 North Second Street		1923
(127-0857-017)	402 East Grace Street	American National Bank Branch	1924
(127-0857-047)	109 East Grace Street		1926
(127-0857-048)	105 East Grace Street		1926
(127-0857-014)	412 East Grace Street	Shepard Building	1926
(127-0857-069)	101 North Fifth Street	Hotel John Marshall	1927
(127-0857-065)	210 East Franklin Street	Milton Glaser Association, Inc.	1928
(127-309)	216 - 226 East Grace Street	Broad and Grace Street Arcade	1929
(127-0857-058)	11 West Grace Street		1930
(127-0857-009)	509 - 505 East Grace Street		1930 c.
(127-0857-008)	509 - 513 East Grace Street		1950

Spanish Revival

During the first decades of the twentieth century there was a renewed interest in the architecture of Spain and Mexico, a trend began in California, Texas and Florida where original Spanish Colonial buildings occurred. Given several names including Mission Style, Spanish Eclectic and Spanish Colonial, the style is characterized by smooth wall surfaces, often stuccoed, and tile roofs. Undulating parapets and a wide variety of applied and carved decorative embellishments are often incorporated. Because of the many interpretation that are possible, Spanish Revival buildings can range from the very simple and restrained to the exuberant and fanciful.

(127-0857-084)	108 North Seventh Street		1917
(127-222)	101 East Grace Street	Richmond Art Company	1919
(127-0857-071)	114 - 118 North Third Street		1920 c.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 25

**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

(127-0857-078)	109 - 111 North Foushee Street		1920 c.
(127-0857-056)	5 - 7 West Grace Street	John Kolbe Restaurant Equipment	1923
(127-0857-013)	414 East Grace Street	Stieff Piano Company Building	1923
(127-0857-050)	12 East Grace Street		1925
(127-0857-007)	515 - 523 East Grace Street		1925
(127-0857-051)	6 - 10 East Grace Street	W. J. Anderson Building	1927
(127-0857-016)	404 East Grace Street	Foster Studio	1927
(127-324)	600 East Grace Street	Loew's Theater	1927
(127-0857-053)	11 East Grace Street	John Fahed Company Building	1928
(127-0857-032)	214 East Grace Street	Corley Company Building	1928
(127-0857-011)	422 East Grace Street	W. J. Anderson Building	1929
(127-0857-052)	2 East Grace Street	Cactus Restaurant	1930

Italian Renaissance

Like the other revival styles discussed, details for these buildings were drawn directly from historic proto-types. Unlike the earlier Italianate movement, these buildings did not merely mimic decorative elements but they also drew from the massing and materials of buildings constructed during the Renaissance. These buildings are generally brick or stuccoed and scored to look like stone, have ground floor arcades and projecting cornices supported by brackets.

(127-0857-019)	415 East Grace Street	Methodist Publishing House	1921
(127-0857-006)	525 - 529 East Grace Street	Berry-Burk	1928

Chicago School

The Chicago School style is named for the city where new technologies and materials were first exploited to produce the skeleton-framed skyscraper. Chicago School buildings are tall and rectangular, usually more than six stories and fewer than twenty with a flat roof. The trademarks of these buildings are large expanses of glass and articulation of the structure with vertical decorative members between the windows. Like classical style buildings, Chicago Style buildings are also generally composed in three sections consisting of the base, the shaft and an elaborate and boldly projecting cornice. There are three examples of this architectural style on Grace Street.

(127-0857-001)	700 East Grace Street	Thalhimer Brothers Business Office	1911
(127-0857-031)	301 East Grace Street	Grace Street Bank and Trust Company	1922
(127-0857-018)	400 East Grace Street	Grace American Building	1922

Modern Movements

Art Deco

The Art Deco and other modern movements in architecture were a conscious rejection of revivalist architecture. The literature at the time declared that "the reproductions, imitations, and counterfeits of ancient styles will be strictly prohibited."²⁹ Essentially

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 26

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

a style of decoration that could be applied to all manner of objects, the Art Deco influences appeared in buildings between 1920 and 1940. Walls were covered with concrete, smooth-faced stone and metal with accents in terra cotta, glass and colored mirrors. Polychrome was also a frequent element of the design. Ornamentation took the form of zigzags, chevrons and other stylized and geometric motifs and buildings took on a vertical emphasis with towers and projections above the roof line.

(127-0857-068)	107 North Sixth Street	Richmond Garage	1927
(127-0857-026)	306 East Grace Street	Commercial Building	1928
(127-0857-002)	701 East Grace Street	Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co.	1929
(127-309)	219 East Broad Street	Central National Bank	1929
(127-0857-033)	208 East Grace Street	O.P. Brisner Store	1930
(127-0857-027)	304 East Grace Street	P. C. Abbott Store Building	1930
(127-0857-046)	111 East Grace Street	Investment Realty Company	1930
(127-0857-083)	508 - 512 East Franklin Street		1930 c.
(127-0857-081)	106 - 108 East Grace Street	Sydnor & Hundley Store Building	1931
(127-0857-044)	117 - 119 East Grace Street		1932
(127-0857-063)	214 East Franklin Street	Yonan Persian Rug Company	1938

Moderne or Art Moderne

Modernistic styles were inspired by the streamlined industrial designs for ships, airplanes and automobiles. Moderne buildings display smooth wall surfaces often stuccoed, sometimes of stone and occasionally of metal. These buildings place an emphasis on the horizontal by incorporating lines, grooves or balustrades. They often have flat roofs with a small ledge or coping at the roof line and they often have curved corners. "The smooth surfaces, curved corners, and horizontal emphasis of the Art Moderne style all give the feeling that air streams could move smoothly over them."³⁰

(127-0857-024)	314 East Grace Street		1930
(127-0857-022)	318-322 East Grace Street	Store Building	1930
(127-0857-025)	308-312 East Grace Street	Commercial Building	1932
(127-0857-059)	319 - 321 East Broad Street	W.T. Grant Building	1939
(127-0857-086)	206 North Fifth Street		1930 c.
(127-0857-061)	616 East Franklin Street	Franklin Federal Savings and Loan	1940
(127-0857-064)	212 East Franklin Street	Bausch & Lomb	1940
(127-0857-081)	509 East Broad Street	Woolworth's	1954

International Style and Other Post World War II Designs

In the decades separating World War I and World War II, European architects began to experiment with radical new designs which exploited the materials and technology of the day. The basis of this revolution was the use of a structural skeleton that was covered with a non-structural skin, windows and expanses of glass were often a part of the skin. Wall surfaces were unornamented except for an occasional expression of the underlying structure and roof lines went unexpressed.

(127-0857-030)	333 East Grace Street	Richmond News Leader	1922
(127-0857-003)	612 East Grace Street	Thalhimer's Department Store	1939

³⁰ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide To American Houses*, (New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1985), 465-466.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 27

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

(127-0857-070)	112 - 114 North Fifth Street	Lane Bryant	1947
(127-0857-021)	401-403 East Grace Street	Bank of Virginia	1949
(127-0857-004)	609 East Grace Street	Atlantic Life Building	1950/1959
(127-0857-088)	104 - 106 North Seventh Street		1950 c.
(127-0857-087)	111 North Fourth Street	Richmond News Leader	1950 c.

ARCHITECTS AND THEIR BUILDINGS IN THE GRACE STREET COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Anderson, David Wiley (1864-1940) was a self-taught architect and had established his practice in Richmond by 1895. Wiley has been described as talented and slightly eccentric. Wiley claimed to have designed hundreds of buildings but unfortunately none of his office records and drawings have survived.

(127-0857-089)	112 North Seventh Street		1909
----------------	--------------------------	--	------

Barnham, Henry Thomas (1865-1937) studied engineering at the Newark Technical Institute and Columbia University. He came to Richmond in 1914 and had a brief partnership with Charles L. Hofmann from 1920 to 1921. The bulk of his practice appears to have been dedicated to commercial and industrial buildings and a few residences. During his career he was responsible for the design of several downtown Richmond commercial buildings including:

(127-0857-066)	116 - 118 East Franklin Street	Medical Arts Building	1922
(127-0857-016)	404 East Grace Street	W. W. Foster Studios	1927

Baskervill, Henry Eugene (1867-1946) a native of Richmond, he studied engineering at Cornell University. Baskervill and William C. Noland formed a partnership in 1897 and won many important commissions in Richmond. After Noland's retirement in 1917, Alfred Garey Lambert was Baskervill's partner from 1918-1931. In 1932 Baskervill's son, H. Coleman Baskervill joined the firm and the name was changed to Baskervill & Son. The firm is still active.

(127-0857-030)	333 East Grace Street	Richmond News Leader Building	1922
(127-0857-006)	525 - 529 East Grace Street	Berry-Burk Co. Store Building	1925-1928
(127-0857-059)	319 - 321 East Broad Street	W.T. Grant Building	1939
(127-0857-021)	401-403 East Grace Street	Bank of Virginia	1949
(127-0857-007)	515 - 523 East Grace Street	remodeling storefront, Ardley's	1951

Bossom Alfred Charles (1881-1965) an English architect, he came to the United States in 1903. He worked principally in New York and was noted as a designer of tall office buildings. He returned to England in 1926.

(127-0857-060)	700 East Franklin Street	Virginia Railway and Power Company	1912-1913
----------------	--------------------------	------------------------------------	-----------

Bottomley, William Lawrence (1883-1951) studied architecture at Columbia University in New York, the American Academy in Rome and at the Ecoles des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Began his career in New York in 1910 and earned a reputation as the designer of Colonial Revival residences for wealthy clients in Virginia.

(127-0857-043)	121 East Grace Street	Hammond Company Florist Building	1923
----------------	-----------------------	----------------------------------	------

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 28

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

Bryant, Charles K. (1869-1933) a native of Powhatan County, he studied architecture for many years with architect Marion J. Dimmock. He began his independent practice in Richmond in 1892, in association with William Poindexter. In 1906, he was named Architect for the School Board.

(127-0857-001) 700 East Grace Street Thalhimers Brothers Business Building 1910-1911

Carneal, William Leigh, Jr. (1881-1958) born in Richmond, he graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1903. Worked as an estimating clerk in his father's hardware concern, Sitterding-Carneal-Davis Co. He began his architectural practice in 1906 and in 1907 he and James M. A. Johnson formed a partnership which is still active in Richmond. "A 1957 newspaper article estimated that Carneal & Johnson had designed 1,334 commercial and public structures."³¹

(127-0857-019)	415 East Grace Street	Methodist Publishing House Building	1921-1922
(127-0857-015)	406-410 East Grace Street	Kaufmann & Co. Store Building	1922
(127-0857-005)	519-521 East Broad Street	Addition-Miller & Rhoads	1926
(127-0857-003)	615 East Broad Street	Addition-Thalhimer Bros. Store	1928
(127-0857-032)	214 East Grace Street	Corley Company Building	1928
(127-0857-011)	422 East Grace Street	W. J. Anderson Store Building	1929
(127-0857-081)	106 - 108 East Grace Street	Sydnor & Hundley Store Building	1931
(127-0857-003)	7th and Grace Street	Thalhimer's Department Store	1939
(127-0857-004)	609 East Grace Street	Atlantic Life Office and Parking Garage	1950-1959
(127-0857-081)	509 East Broad Street	Woolworth's	1954
(127-0857-087)	111 North Fourth Street	Richmond News Leader	1950 c.

Dimmock, Marion Johnson (1824-1908) born in Portsmouth, he came to Richmond with his family in 1833. During the Civil War he served under J.E.B. Stuart and rose to the rank of captain. Dimmock was known as the "dean of [Richmond] architects".³²

(127-0857-039) 213 East Grace Street George D. Wise House 1881

Eberson, John (?-1947) born in Romania, he studied technical engineering at the University of Vienna. Eberson immigrated to the United States in 1901 and opened an architectural practice in Ohio in 1908. "He quickly won a reputation in theater design and opened an office in Chicago in 1910. He later worked in New York. Eberson designed at least 13 theaters in Washington, D.C., all exemplary of the Art Deco manner."³³

(127-324)	600 East Grace Street	Loew's Theater	1927-1928
(127-309)	216 - 226 East Grace Street	Broad and Grace Arcade	1928-1930
(127-309)	219 East Broad Street	Central National Bank	1929

³¹ John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The Virginia Architects 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary*, (Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1997), 67.

³² Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 119.

³³ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 129.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 29

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

Freeman, John and his brother Samuel Freeman listed themselves in the 1845 Richmond City Directory as carpenters and house builders.

(127-321)	409 East Grace Street	Centenary Methodist Church	1845
-----------	-----------------------	----------------------------	------

Hartsook, Luther P. (?-1940) was a draftsman for Duncan Lee in 1913. He later was associated with Alfred G. Lambert (1916-1918) and Edward F. Sinnott (1924-1929).

(127-0857-034)	200-206 East Grace Street	Corley Company	1923
(127-0857-075)	201 North Second Street		1923
(127-0857-028)	302 East Grace Street	Building and Loan Association Office	1929

Lee, W. Duncan (1864-1952) apprenticed to architect George R. Tolman and later formed a partnership with Marion J. Dimmock in 1906 - 1908, Dimmock and Lee. He opened his own practice in 1910. "In 1924, Lee claimed to have designed some 300 residences in Richmond alone."³⁴

(127-222)	101 East Grace Street	Richmond Art Company	1919
(127-0857-065)	210 East Franklin Street	Milton Glaser Association, Inc.	1928

Lee, Smith and Van Dervoort

Merrill Clifford Lee, (b. 1892) was born in Pennsylvania. Lee studied architecture at Pennsylvania State College (1912-1914), the Beaus Arts Institute of Design in New York (1914) and MIT (1916-1917). He worked for the Boston firm of Cram, Goodhue & Ferguson where he assisted with the drawings for the Milhiser Gymnasium at Richmond College. In 1919-1924, he formed a partnership in Richmond with Clifton Lee (Lee & Lee) and served as supervising architect for Milhiser Gymnasium. From 1924 to 1934, Lee formed a partnership with Horace L. Smith, Jr. and Jameson Van Dervoort. "As consulting architects for the Bell Telephone Company of Virginia, Lee, Smith & Van Dervoort designed 82 new buildings and 120 additions between 1930 and 1965."³⁵

(127-0857-068)	107 North Sixth Street	Richmond Garage	1927
----------------	------------------------	-----------------	------

Linder, Carl Max, Sr. (1895 - 1973) a Richmond native, learned architecture while working for his uncle Carl Ruehrmund and studied at the Virginia Mechanical Institute. He began private practice in 1919. Over his career Linder was associated with Bascom J. Rowlett in 1920 and Charles H. Phillips, 1921-1923 and Ivan Alten, 1952 -1955.

(127-0857-029)	300 East Grace Street	Addition Lombardy's Confectionary	1923
(127-0857-056)	5-7 West Grace Street	John Kolbe Restaurant Equipment	1923
(127-0857-013)	414 East Grace Street	Stieff Piano Company	1923
(127-0857-012)	420 East Grace Street	Montaldo's	1923
(127-0857-051)	4-10 East Grace Street	William J. Anderson Store	1927

³⁴ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 252.

³⁵ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 251.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 30

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

(127-0857-026)	306 East Grace Street		1928
(127-0857-025)	308-312 East Grace Street		1932
(127-0857-063)	214 East Franklin Street	Yonan Persian Rugs	1938

Messerschmidt, Henry Carl (ca. 1891-1994) native Richmonder, studied architecture at the Carnegie Institute of Technology and began private practice in 1915.

(127-0857-033)	208 East Grace Street	O.P. Brisner Store	1930
(127-0857-046)	111 East Grace Street	Investment Realty Company	1930

Neff & Thompson

Clarence Amos Neff, Sr. (1873-1952) attended Ohio Wesleyan and Columbia University and studied architecture under Emmanuel-Louis Masqueray. Neff settled in Norfolk in 1898 and in 1900 formed a partnership with H. Irving Dwyer. From 1902 to 1933, he was partners with **Thomas P. Thompson**, together they designed over 600 projects, including commercial buildings, apartments and schools.

(127-0857-062)	422 East Franklin Street	Imperial Tobacco Company Office	1923
----------------	--------------------------	---------------------------------	------

Pringle, W. Harrison (?-1953) began independent practice in Richmond around 1925.

(127-0857-027)	304 East Grace Street	P. C. Abbott Store	1930
(127-0857-022)	318-322 East Grace Street		1930

Ruehrmund, Carl August (1855-1927) a native of Berlin, Germany, he studied architecture and civil engineering at the Royal Academy of Architecture, in Berlin. Ruehrmund immigrated to the United States in 1881 and worked in Philadelphia. In 1882, he came to Richmond to supervise the construction of the additions to the Customs House and Post Office and stayed. He was partners with Albert Lybrock in 1882 and Albert Huntt (1893-1894).

(127-0857-085)	114 - 116 North Seventh Street		1895
(127-0857-067)	100-102 North Seventh Street	A.S. Wallerstein/Richard Moore Building	1909
(Demolished)	712 East Grace Street	Standard Motor Company Garage	1916

Sinnott, Edward Francis (1890-1974) had no formal architectural training, but worked for several Richmond architects and gained his registration in 1925. He worked with W. Duncan Lee for several years and with Luther P. Hartsook from 1924 to 1929. Sinnott began independent practice in 1930 and specialized in school and institutional design as well as restoration work.

(127-0857-061)	616 East Franklin Street	Franklin Federal Savings and Loan	1940
----------------	--------------------------	-----------------------------------	------

Starrett & Van Vleck

Goldwyn Starrett (1876-1918) studied architecture at the University of Michigan and worked for Daniel H. Burnham in Chicago. In 1900, Starrett opened an office in New York. In 1904 he formed a partnership with **Joseph Van Vleck** that lasted until his

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 31

**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

death. Starrett & Van Vleck were noted as designers of stylish department stores.

(127-0857-005) 508 - 512 East Grace Street Additions and Alterations to M&R 1922

Voorhees, Gmelin & Walker

Stephen Francis Voorhees (1878-?), Paul Gmelin (1859-1937) and Ralph Thomas Walker (1889-?) were associated in New York from 1926 to 1939. They were fluent in the Art Deco style and designed buildings for Western Union and New York Telephone Company.

(127-0857-002) 701 East Grace Street Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. 1929

West, Albert Lawrence (1825-1892) began his architectural career in Richmond in 1855 and advertised himself as an "architect and measurer".³⁶ It is noted that:

He was especially a master of ecclesiastical architecture, a branch of the business admitted by the profession, as, next to the construction of a fine theater, one requiring more thorough understanding of architecture, practical and artistic, than any other.³⁷

(127-321) 409 East Grace Street Centenary Methodist Church 1874

Wright, Marcellus Eugene, Sr. (1881-1962) was born in Hanover County. He worked in Richmond for the firm of Noland & Baskervill while studying at the Virginia Mechanics Institute. He moved to Philadelphia and worked for the firm of Cope & Stewardson while attending the School for Applied Art. Wright received his architectural degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1905. After graduating he toured and studied in Europe for a number of years until returning to Richmond in 1912 when he opened his own firm. The firm is still active in the city.

(127-0857-058) 11 West Grace Street C.A. Labenberg Business Building 1915
(127-0857-031) 301-303 East Grace Street Grace Street Bank and Trust Company 1922
(127-0857-018) 400 East Grace Street Grace American Building 1922
(127-0857-069) 101 N. Fifth Street Hotel John Marshall 1927-1929
(127-0857-070) 112 - 114 North Fifth Street Lane Bryant 1947

³⁶ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 469.

³⁷ Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*, 470.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 32

**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cutchins, John A. Memories of Old Richmond. Verona, VA: McClure Printing Company, Inc., 1974.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. A Field Guide To American Houses. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1985.
- Morrison, Andrew, editor. The City on the James. Richmond, Virginia: The Chamber of Commerce Book. Richmond, VA: George W. Englehardt, Publisher, 1893.
- Poppeliers, John S., Allen Chambers and Nancy B. Schwartz. What Style is It? Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1977.
- Richmond News Leader*, Friday, May 25, 1923.
- Sanford, James K., editor. A Century of Commerce: 1867-1967. Richmond, VA: Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 1967.
- Scott, Mary Wingfield. "Unpublished Notes". Richmond, VA: Valentine Museum.
- . Houses of Old Richmond. New York, NY: Bonanza Books, Crown Publishers, Inc., 1941.
- . Old Richmond Neighborhoods. Richmond, VA: William Byrd Press, Inc., 1950.
- Ward, Harry M. Richmond: An Illustrated History. Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1985.
- Wells, John E. and Robert E. Dalton. The Virginia Architects 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. Richmond, VA: New South Architectural Press, 1997.
- Winthrop, Robert P. Architecture in Downtown Richmond. Richmond, VA: Whittet & Shepperson Printers, 1982.
- . "Richmond's Architecture." The Richmond Times-Dispatch Sunday Real Estate Section, August 9 through October 11, 1981.
- . Cast and Wrought - The Architectural Metalwork of Richmond, Virginia. Richmond VA: William Byrd Press, 1980.
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Reconnaissance Level Survey conducted 1996 by Jen Blakenship, Ann Bruder, Ashley Dezio, Bill Pettus and Wade C. Yarborough under the direction of Marc Wagner, Fall 1996. Survey completed in the Fall of 1997 by Kimberly M. Chen of Kimberly M. Chen and Associates, Inc.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEETSection number 10 Page 33**Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia****UTM References**

5	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-420</u>	<u>41-57-850</u>	6	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-470</u>	<u>41-57-810</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
7	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-440</u>	<u>41-57-770</u>	8	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-480</u>	<u>41-57-740</u>
9	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-520</u>	<u>41-57-780</u>	10	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-560</u>	<u>41-57-760</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
11	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-520</u>	<u>41-57-710</u>	12	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-600</u>	<u>41-57-650</u>
13	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-630</u>	<u>41-57-680</u>	14	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-780</u>	<u>41-57-560</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
15	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-750</u>	<u>41-57-520</u>	16	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-780</u>	<u>41-57-500</u>
17	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-740</u>	<u>41-57-450</u>	18	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-800</u>	<u>41-57-400</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
19	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-750</u>	<u>41-57-340</u>	20	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-700</u>	<u>41-57-390</u>
21	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-670</u>	<u>41-57-350</u>	22	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-440</u>	<u>41-57-530</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
23	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-470</u>	<u>41-57-580</u>	24	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-350</u>	<u>41-57-660</u>
25	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-320</u>	<u>41-57-620</u>	26	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-210</u>	<u>41-57-720</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
27	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-240</u>	<u>41-57-770</u>	28	<u>18</u>	<u>2-84-070</u>	<u>41-57-890</u>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 34

Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Richmond (Independent City), Virginia

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The district is bounded roughly by Adams Street on the west, the alley between Broad and Grace Streets on the north, Eighth Street on the east and the alley between Franklin and Grace Streets on the south. In the 500 and 600 blocks the boundaries extend to the south side of Broad and the north side of Franklin. Also included in the district is the southwest corner of Broad and Third Streets and portions of the north side of Franklin Street in the 100, 200, 400 and 700 blocks. More specifically the district contains the following parcels as recognized by the City of Richmond Office of Real Estate Assessment:

W000-0003-001A, 001B, and the portion of parcel number 021 formerly listed as 023
W000-0004-020
W000-0008-001, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 016
W000-0009-001A, 001B, 006, 007, 009, 011, 014, 018A, 018B
W000-0015-001, 005, 008, 012, 015, 017, 018
W000-0016-001, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 013A, 013B, 020, 022A, 022B, 026
W000-0024-001, 003, 004, 006, 008, 009, 010, 018
W000-0025-014, 015, 016, 018, 019, 020, 022, 023, 024
W000-0035-001, 003, 006, 025, 027, 028
W000-0036-008, 009, 010, 011, 013, 014, 015, 016, 017, 018, 019, 020, 021, 022, 023, 025
W000-0048-001, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, 010, 012, 015, 017, 018, 019
W000-0049-008, 009, 012, 015, 016, 017
W000-0063-002, 003, 005, 006, 007, 008, 010, 011, 012, 013
W000-0064-015, 021, 023
W000-0083-001, 004, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 024, 026
W000-0084-012, 018, 019, 021, and that portion of parcel number 006 formerly listed as 014
W000-0104-004, 006, 007, 008, 009, 011

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include all of the early twentieth century commercial and office buildings and the remnants of the nineteenth century residential neighborhood on Grace Street. The eastern boundary was determined by the loss of fabric on the north side of Grace Street and an individually listed property on the south side of the street. The western terminus was established by the loss of fabric in the 00 block and 100 block west of Foushee Street. The boundaries were extended to the north in the 300 block of east Broad Street and to the south in the 100 to 700 blocks to include buildings that are significant examples of early twentieth century architectural styles.



Grace Street Commercial Historic District
Proposed District Boundaries





Richmond Quad

Zone 18 UTM 1

284120

4157940