

002-5055

National Historic Landmark 17 121/65

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-10/15/66 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Charlottesville (City)
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE 12/2/69

1. NAME
COMMON ROTUNDA, University of Virginia
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Charlottesville
STATE: Virginia 22204 CODE: 51 COUNTY: Charlottesville (City) CODE: 540

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One): Building, Structure, Object
OWNERSHIP: Public, Private, Both
STATUS: Occupied, Unoccupied, Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC: Unrestricted, No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate): Educational, Museum, Religious, Scientific, Transportation, Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: Commonwealth of Virginia
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia 23319 CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: City Hall
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Charlottesville STATE: Virginia 22204 CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: HABS
DATE OF SURVEY: 1933, 1937
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Charlottesville (City)
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

a. BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819, the University of Virginia was one of the three achievements for which he wished to be remembered, and both architecturally and spiritually it is a fitting monument to his genius.

As laid out by Jefferson, the "academical village" was dominated by the Rotunda, a half-scale adaptation of the Pantheon in Rome. Extending southward from the Rotunda on either side of the Lawn are the academic buildings, each row consisting of five two-story pavilions in a variety of classical styles, linked by one-story blocks behind Tuscan colonnades. Beyond the East and West Lawn, as they are called, are located the single-story East and West Ranges, used for student housing. The incomplete quadrangle was rounded out in 1898 by the construction of three buildings designed by Stanford White: Cabell Hall, the Rousa Physical Laboratory, and the Mechanical Laboratory.

The university has expanded far beyond the limits of Jefferson's original design, but in general the subsequent construction has been in harmony with the first buildings. Among other noteworthy structures are the Brooks Museum, built in 1877-78, the Alderman Memorial Library; the University Chapel, a Gothic-design structure completed in 1850; the President's House, built in 1908 from a design by Stanford White; Fayerweather Hall, erected in 1893; and the Monroe House, a residence of James Monroe in the late 18th century.

b. BOUNDARIES: The Rotunda is located off Main Street on the campus of the University of Virginia. It is bounded on the north by University Avenue, on the south by Jefferson Park Avenue, on the east by Hospital Road, on the west by McCormick Road.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Art
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry
<input type="checkbox"/> Invention
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Literature
<input type="checkbox"/> Military
<input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Political
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas Jefferson founded the University of Virginia in 1819 and considered it one of his three greatest achievements. Architecturally and spiritually, it is a fitting monument to his genius. The Rotunda dominates Jefferson's "academical village," consisting of two rows of academic buildings, East and West Lawn, and two rows of one-story student cottages, East and West Range.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Philip A. Bruce, History of the University of Virginia, 1819-1919; the Lengthened Shadow of One Man (New York, 1920); Thomas P. Abernethy, Historical Sketch of the University of Virginia (Richmond, 1948/); Dumas Malone, "Thomas Jefferson," in Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. X, pp. 17-34.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		38 °	02 ' 09 "	78 ° 30 ' 12 "
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Frank S. Melvin

ORGANIZATION: Virginia State Office, National Park Service DATE: 6/30/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 10008

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia 23240 CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date 9/9/69

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date 12/21/65

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



FROM SASAKI, LAWSON & DENNEY
PLAN FOR UNIVERSITY
OF VIRGINIA