Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

PH0673706

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 26 1979
DATE ENTERED JUN 22 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC: St. Andrew's Church ~~Complex~~ (Preferred)

AND/OR COMMON: St. Andrew's Church, School, Parish Hall, Instructive Visiting Nurse Association Building, Library

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 223, 224, and 227 S. Cherry Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN: Richmond __ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Third (David E. Satterfield, III)

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: (in city) CODE: 760

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | PRESENT USE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| __DISTRICT | __PUBLIC | X OCCUPIED | __AGRICULTURE | __MUSEUM |
| X BUILDING(S) complex | X PRIVATE | __UNOCCUPIED | __COMMERCIAL | __PARK |
| __STRUCTURE | __BOTH | __WORK IN PROGRESS | X EDUCATIONAL | __PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| __SITE | **PUBLIC ACQUISITION** | **ACCESSIBLE** | __ENTERTAINMENT | X RELIGIOUS |
| __OBJECT | __IN PROCESS | X YES: RESTRICTED | __GOVERNMENT | __SCIENTIFIC |
| | __BEING CONSIDERED | __YES: UNRESTRICTED | __INDUSTRIAL | __TRANSPORTATION |
| | | __NO | __MILITARY | X OTHER: charity |

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (3) (See continuation sheet #1)

NAME: (1) Church: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church c/o Rector

STREET & NUMBER: 227 S. Cherry Street

CITY, TOWN: Richmond __ VICINITY OF STATE: Virginia 23220

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Richmond City Hall

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE: 1978 __FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street

CITY, TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia 23219

# 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---|---|---|
| X EXCELLENT | __DETERIORATED | X UNALTERED | X ORIGINAL SITE |
| X GOOD | __RUINS | __ALTERED | __MOVED DATE_____ |
| __FAIR | __UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The St. Andrew's Episcopal Church complex is located at the intersections of Idlewood Avenue with Cherry and Laurel streets in the Oregon Hill neighborhood of Richmond. The complex includes St. Andrew's Church (1901), School (1901), and Church Hall (1904), the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association Building (1904), and the William Byrd Community House (1908). The buildings were constructed in a variety of Revival styles by the architectural firms of A. H. Ellwood of Indiana and Noland and Baskerville of Richmond.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is the principal architectural component within the complex. The design of the Indiana architect, A. H. Ellwood, the church is a rough-faced Virginia granite, cruciform structure erected in a revival of the Early English Gothic style. The facade at the intersection of Laurel Street and Idlewood Avenue is dominated by a 115-foot corner tower.

The tower is visually divided into three stages by the contrasting use of Indiana limestone against the Virginia granite. The first stage of the tower contains the Idlewood Avenue (south) entrance. The recessed entrance consists of a multiple lancet arch containing a double-door entry with a quatrefoil-shaped, stained-glass transom. The arch is supported by polished granite columns with carved floral capitals and bears the inscription, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Iron hinges and door handles decorate the double wooden doors. The tower's second stage consists of small lancet-arch windows. The tower's third stage is a belfry. Fenestration consists of paired lancet arches executed in limestone. The top is crowned by a stone rail and corner buttresses topped by pinnacles, the highest one terminated by a cross.

The facade's main entrance consists of a triple-arched limestone porch supported by polished granite columns and pilasters with carved capitals. The arch bears the inscription, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." The porch shelters a double door set within a simply executed stone frame. The door is flanked by pointed-arch, stained-glass windows. Above the porch, a large Gothic-arch, stained-glass window is embellished with Early English-type tracery. A round stained-glass window occupies the gable. Angled buttresses flank the nave. Balancing the main tower is a smaller tower with a single pinnacle.

The south elevation contains pointed-arch, stained-glass windows embellished with geometric tracery. The south transept contains a row of five lancet stained-glass windows on the first story, a rose window above, and a small pointed-arch window in the gable.

The west end of the building features three arched stained-glass windows. The north end contains the chapel which has an arched entrance on the first level and a round window above. A cross marks the apex of the gable roof.

St. Andrew's Church contains a lavishly decorated interior. The focal point of the interior is the choir and sanctuary. The sanctuary is dominated by a wooden reredos ornamented with pointed arches and pinnacles. The reredos is contained within an arcade that defines the choir area. The arcade is supported by polished granite cluster columns and carved stone capitals. The choir contains carved stalls, each having a sepa-

(see continuation sheet # 2 )

7. DESCRIPTION

rate design at the end of the standard. The ornamental woodwork throughout the church was the product of the Richmond Wood Working Company A baptistery is located to the north of the choir. The focal point is a massive white marble baptismal font with the inscription, "One Faith One Lord, One Baptism." Mosaics cover the walls of the choir and baptistery. The vaulted trusses of the church interior were executed from California redwood. The church has a seating capacity of 750, including the gallery and choir.

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

Built concurrently with the church, the St. Andrew's School is a three-story, stretcher-bond structure set on a stone basement. The building is designed in a Ruskinian Gothic style. The school's principal entrance, on Idlewood Avenue, is composed of a three-story entrance tower. The tower's first story consists of a drop-arch entrance, an open porch sheltering double wooden doors. The second story features a balcony with a quatrefoil stone rail. The third story is composed of an arched window with paired Gothic sash. The top of the tower is crowned with battlements. Fenestration on the first story consists of 2/2 hung-sash windows, framed to include blind wood transoms and crowned by stone lintels. Second-story fenestration consists of 2/2 hung-sash windows, with arched transoms, under stone arches. The hipped and multi-gable roof contains dormers. The building's central bay on Idlewood Avenue features elaborate low-relief carving on the second story, which includes the school's name and date of construction.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Adjacent to the school and church is the parish hall, erected in 1904. The hall is a three-story brick building set on a stone basement. The main entrance on Idlewood Avenue is comprised of a Jacobean-style doorway containing arched double doors. The inscription "St. Andrew's Hall, 1904" is carved in a stone pediment above the door. Fenestration on the first and second stories consists of diamond-paned casement windows topped by stone label molds. The hipped roof is broken by gabled dormers at the attic story.

INSTRUCTIVE VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION BUILDING

The Instructive Visiting Nurse Association Building at 223 South Cherry Street was originally erected as a teachers' residence for the school. Built after the designs of Noland and Baskerville, the building exhibits Queen Anne stylistic features. The building is constructed of stretcher-bond brick and stands three stories high. The first story consists of an open arcade which shelters the main entrance. The second and third stories contain 1/1 hung-sash windows crowned by stone lintels. The former residence is covered by a combination cross gable and hipped roof. A two-story wing was added at a later date.

(see continuation sheet # 3)

7. DESCRIPTION

ARENTS FREE LIBRARY (WILLIAM BYRD COMMUNITY HOUSE)

The Arents Free Library, a two-story brick building, was erected at 224 South Cherry Street in 1908. The building, renamed the William Byrd Community House in 1947, was built after the plans of Noland and Baskerville. Constructed in brick, the two-story, gable-roof structure is dominated by an entrance tower designed in the Decorated Gothic style. Fenestration consists of elongated 1/1 hung-sash windows on the first story, separated by stone panels from 1/1 hung sash on the second story. A gable roof covers the building. Buttresses frame the corners of the structure and entrance tower.

RCC

Boundary Justification

The St. Andrew's Church complex is confined to two city blocks in the Oregon Hill residential district of the City of Richmond. The boundaries are as follows:

The church, parish hall, school, and Visiting Nurse Association building are contained in a block bounded on the east by Laurel Street, on the south by Idlewood Avenue, on the west by Cherry Street, and on the north by relocated Cumberland Street. The church building is owned by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, the parish hall and school by the St. Andrew's Association, and the nurses' home by the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association.

The William Byrd Community House, owned by the St. Andrew's Association, is on the next (west) block. It is bounded on the east by Cherry Street, on the north by Cumberland Street, on the south by adjacent houses, and on the west by an alley. The boundaries are the same as when the complex was completed in 1908.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| __PREHISTORIC | __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | __COMMUNITY PLANNING | __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | X RELIGION |
| __1400-1499 | __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | __CONSERVATION | __LAW | __SCIENCE |
| __1500-1599 | __AGRICULTURE | __ECONOMICS | __LITERATURE | __SCULPTURE |
| __1600-1699 | X ARCHITECTURE | X EDUCATION | __MILITARY | X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| __1700-1799 | __ART | __ENGINEERING | __MUSIC | __THEATER |
| __1800-1899 | __COMMERCE | __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | __PHILOSOPHY | __TRANSPORTATION |
| X 1900- | __COMMUNICATIONS | __INDUSTRY | __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | __OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | __INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1901-1908 BUILDER/ARCHITECT A.H. Ellwood; Noland & Baskerville

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The St. Andrew's Episcopal Church complex stands as an architectural monument to the social, educational, and religious history of Richmond's Oregon Hill community. Built between 1900 and 1908, the complex contains a church and school designed by A.H.Ellwood of Elkhart, Indiana, and a parish hall, library, and faculty residence by Noland and Baskerville of Richmond. Architecturally, the richly embellished church is a distinguished example of the High Victorian Gothic. Overall, the complex is a reminder of the generosity of Miss Grace Arents, an adopted Richmonder whose life bears comparison with Andrew Carnegie, Jane Addams, and other nationally recognized symbols of philanthropy and social conscience during the Progressive era.

"Oregon Hill" refers to the area of Richmond north of the James River, south of Cary Street, east of Hollywood Cemetery, and west of the State Penitentiary. The neighborhood had its beginnings in 1828, when Benjamin Green built a row of small, three- and four-room dwellings on land he purchased from Lewis E. Harvie. In 1846 Harvie sold another tract of land which was subsequently divided into thirty-foot lots. Modest homes were built on the lots, many by workers of the Tredegar Iron Works. Oregon Hill developed with considerable rapidity and was referred to in 1851 as, "a handsome little village."[1] Mordecai, in his History of Richmond, describes the residents as, "a hardy and industrious and fiery race, disciples of Vulcan."[2] Many of the residents listed in the City Directory of 1856 are identified as puddlers in the iron works, carpenters, stonecutters, millworkers, shoemakers, and city guards. The area was thus populated by workmen, both skilled and unskilled. Although there were many rental properties, a large number of houses were owner-occupied.

In 1873 a committee of St. Paul's Episcopal Church was sent to investigate various sections of the city with the view of establishing a mission. It was concluded that the need was greatest on Oregon Hill. As a result, a Sunday School was opened in March 1874 at the residence of Mrs. C. (Nannie) Barksdale. There were 109 students and sixteen teachers. School enrollment increased so rapidly that the school was soon moved to the old Confederate arsenal.

In February 1875 the mission group conveyed to the trustees of St. Paul's a lot on Laurel and Beverly streets that had been purchased from Lewis E. Harvie. Construction of a mission chapel was begun in April and completed in October 1875. It was consecrated as "St. Andrew's Chapel of St. Paul's Church." St. Andrew's became a mission church of the Diocese in 1884 and elected its first vestry. Although St. Paul's was forced to discontinue official support in 1888, interest in the mission continued. In 1890, independent of the vestry, the Young Ladies Altar Guild of St. Paul's raised more than $1500 to enlarge St. Andrew's and purchase adjacent land on Laurel Street. An enthusiastic and generous member of the ladies guild was Grace Arents, "the patron saint of the Hill."[3]

(see continuation sheet # 4)

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


Bustard, C. A. "Oregon Hill, A Rural Town in Disguise". Richmond Times-Dispatch. Richmond, Va., January 29, 1978.

"City Benefits by Large Gifts in Arents Will". Richmond Times-Dispatch. Richmond, Va., June 26, 1926.

Glenn, William N. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and Its Environs. Richmond: Whittet and Shepperson, 1978.


(see continuation sheet # 1 )

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Richmond, Virginia

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

| | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING | | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 18 | 283260 | 4157720 | B | | | |
| C | | | | D | | | |
| E | | | | F | | | |
| G | | | | H | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point at NW corner of intersection of Laurel Street and Idlewood Avenue; thence extending approximately 300' W to NE corner of intersection of Cherry Street and Idlewood Avenue; thence extending about 150' N along E side of Cherry Street; thence extending about 200' W to (see continuation sheet # 5)

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE
April 1979

STREET & NUMBER
221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE
(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN
Richmond

STATE
Virginia 23219

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE X LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE APR 17 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 6-22-79

ATTEST: Emma Jane Saxe
~~CHIEF OF REGISTRATION~~
Regional Review Coordinator

DATE 6-21-79

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Miss Arents was a favored niece of the Richmond tobacco magnate Major Lewis Ginter and was a primary heir to the Ginter fortune. She was born in New York City in 1848 and moved to Richmond after the death of her father to live at Ginter's home. Her obituary in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, June 21, 1926, describes her as, "One of Richmond's most practically philanthropic and best loved residents...It is generally conceded that the improvement of this (Oregon Hill) part of the city was due very largely to the efforts of Miss Arents."

These efforts began in 1890 with her gift of a pump organ and employment of a pumper for St. Andrew's Church. She continued to support the activities of the parish for the remainder of her life. When, in order to systematize and give permanence to her charitable works, Miss Arents established a trust fund, it was to be administered by the St. Andrew's Association. She increased the endowment of the trust both during her lifetime and through generous provisions in her will.

By 1899 the church membership had grown so rapidly that the need for a new building became critical. It was decided to replace the wooden structure with one of stone which would adequately seat seven hundred to eight hundred people. A generous contribution from Miss Arents assured the construction of the church. The architect was Mr. A. H. Ellwood of Elkhart, Indiana. The stained-glass windows, installed in 1901, were the work of the Von Gerichten Studio of Columbus, Ohio.

A new brick school building, also designed by Ellwood and financed by Miss Arents, was built on a site immediately adjacent to the church. In 1904 a parish hall was built between the school and the church, financed entirely by Miss Arents. The church complex continued to grow in 1904 with the erection of a residence for the school faculty. The residence was designed by the Richmond firm of Noland and Baskerville. In 1909 Miss Arents offered the building to the Instructive Visiting Nurse Association, rent free for three years. The Association eventually purchased the building from the St. Andrew's Association in 1919.

In 1908 the last building of the complex, the Grace Arents Free Library Building, was erected after the plans of Noland and Baskerville. The building became the William Byrd Community House in 1947, when the City of Richmond built the Dooley Library. A library is still maintained in the building, now used primarily for social services.

Built within a seven-year period from 1901-1908, the structures within the St. Andrew's Church complex reflect a sense of stylistic eclecticism in American architecture. St. Andrew's Church represents a fairly late expression of the influences of John Ruskin on ecclesiastical architecture. The church, built for working-class parishioners, was stylistically suited for the liturgical methods promulgated by

(see continuation sheet # 5)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

the Oxford movement of the previous century. The St. Andrew's School follows the church in its Gothic expression. St. Andrew's Hall of 1904 breaks away from the Gothic idiom through the treatment of the doorway in the Neo-Jacobean style. Built in the same year, the faculty residence displays a modified Queen Anne influence. The last building of the complex, the Arents Free Library is an early and modified use of the Collegiate Gothic, popularized by the work of Ralph Adams Cram and his followers.

VDS/RCC

Notes

1. Scott, p. 210.
2. Mordecai, p. 294.
3. Bustard, p. 1.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
Verbal Boundary Description, cont'd

E side of alley between Linden and Cherry streets; thence extending approximately 100' N along said side of said alley; thence extending about 350' E to W side of alley between Laurel and Cherry streets; thence extending about 150' S along said side of said alley; thence extending about 150' E to W side of Laurel Street; thence extending about 100' S along said side of said street to point of origin.

Cumberland Street was moved to the south in recent years as a result of the building of the Richmond Downtown Expressway.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

(2) Parish Hall, School and William Byrd Community House (Library):
c/o Mr. McDonald Wellford, Jr., Secretary
St. Andrew's Association
1005 Travelers Building
1108 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

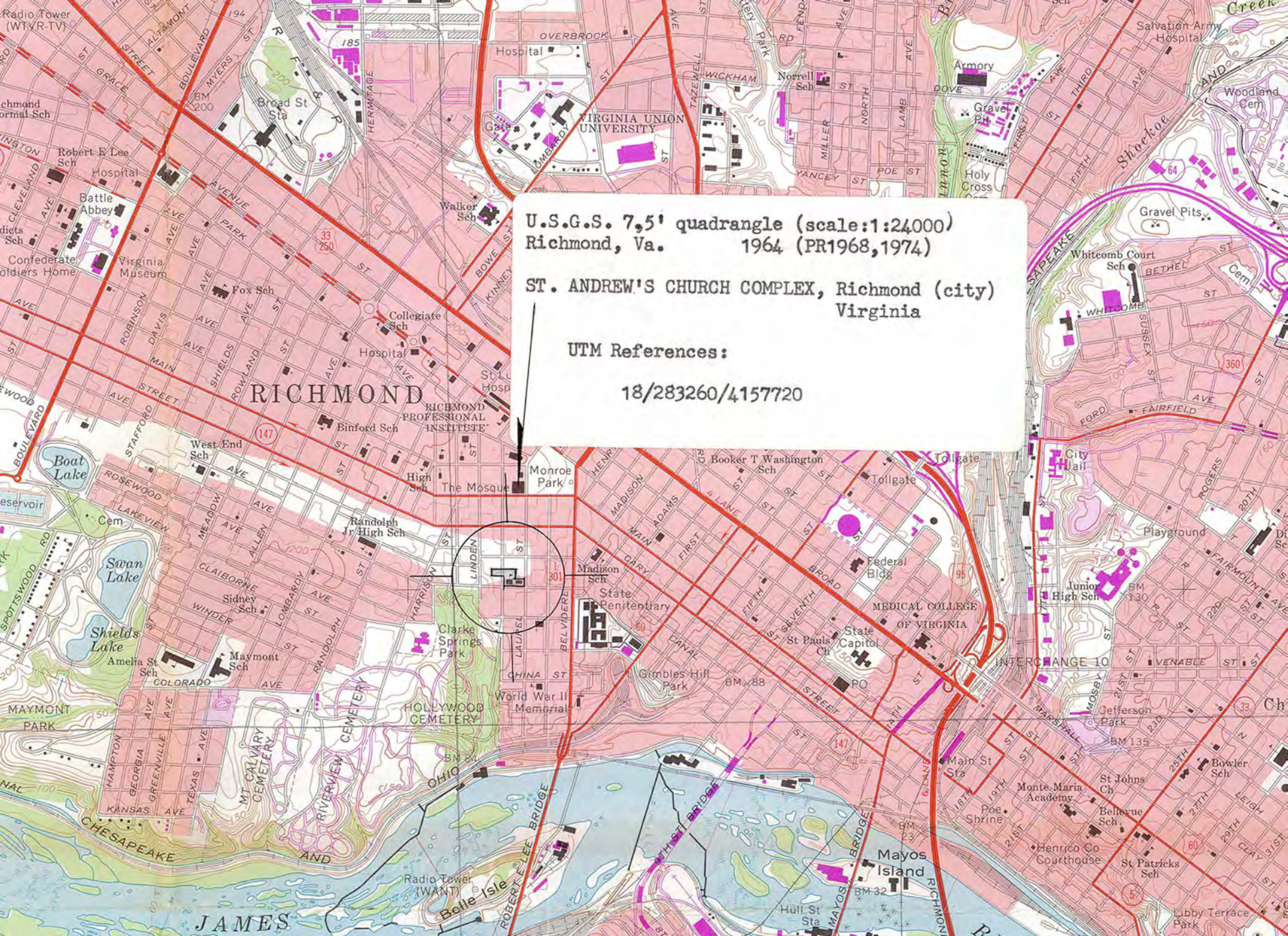
(3) Instructive Visiting Nurse Association (Building):
c/o President, Board of Directors
Instructive Visiting Nurse Association
223 S. Cherry Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Heart Attack Proves Fatal to Miss Arents." Richmond Times-Dispatch. Richmond, Virginia, June 21, 1926, p. 1.

Slonaker, Chester L. An Historical Overview of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Richmond and the Contributions of Miss Grace Arents. Richmond, Virginia September, 1977.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH COMPLEX
Richmond, Va. APR 26 1979
Source: Topographic Map of
Richmond, Va., ca. 1968
scale: 1"=200' 18/283260/4157720




U.S.G.S. 7,5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Richmond, Va. 1964 (PR1968,1974)

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH COMPLEX, Richmond (city)
Virginia

UTM References:

18/283260/4157720