

VDHR 3/8/6

NRHP 5/3/6

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 The Fraternal Order of Eagles Building

other names/site number VDHR #127-5885

2. Location

street and number 220 East Marshall Street

not for publication N/A

city or town Richmond

vicinity N/A

state Virginia

code VA

county Richmond (Independent City) code 760

zip code 23220

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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

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:

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

determined eligible for the

National Register

See continuation sheet.

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

determined not eligible for the

National Register

removed from the National

Register

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)	
		Contributing	Non-contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	0
			buildings
			sites
			structures
			objects
			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**  
N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**SOCIAL:** meeting hall

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**COMMERCE/TRADE:** business

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**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**DOMESTIC:** multiple dwelling

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**COMMERCE/TRADE:** business

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS:**

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Classical Revival/Neoclassical Revival

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**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation **BRICK**

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walls **BRICK**

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**STONE:** Granite

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roof **ASPHALT**

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other

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**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** **Areas of Significance**

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

(Enter categories from instructions)

- 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.

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

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**Period of Significance**

1914-1955

**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.

**Significant Dates**

1914

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Asbury and Whitehurst

**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 :

\_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** .14 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 18 284549 4158157      2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone    Easting    Northing      Zone    Easting    Northing

\_\_\_\_ 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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kimberly M. Chen  
organization Johannas Design Group      date 8 December 2005  
street and number 3313 West Cary Street      telephone 804-358.4993  
city or town Richmond      state VA      zip code 23221

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**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)

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

name George P. Emerson, 220 Marshall Street, LLC  
street and number 13281 Rivers Bend Boulevard, Suite 201      telephone 804-330-4614  
city or town Chester      state VA      zip code 23836

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**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.

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Fraternal Order of Eagles Building (127-5885)  
Richmond (Independent City), VA

**Summary Description:**

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Building is a three-story, brick building with a rectangular footprint. The building is set on a raised foundation and crowned with an overhanging cornice and decorative parapet. The primary elevations on Marshall and Third streets are constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern and the secondary west and north elevations are laid in a five-course American bond pattern. The Marshall Street elevation is divided into three bays, the Third Street elevation is six bays wide, and the west and north elevations are randomly organized by a fenestration pattern dictated by the interior spaces. The Marshall Street and Third Street elevations are further divided horizontally by changes in brick patterns and decorative elements. The Richmond architectural firm of Asbury and Whitehurst designed the building in the Neoclassical Revival style. The floor plan was designed to accommodate the specific functions of the fraternal order, including formal waiting areas and a grand hall on the first floor, and open assembly rooms on the second and third floors. The Neoclassical Revival style is translated on the interior in the form of square pillars, beamed ceilings, and decorative moldings. The "Eagles' Temple" sits at the northwest corner of Marshall and Third streets in an urbanized area. Brick sidewalks extend from the building's base to concrete curbs at the streets' edges. The building is located one block north of the Broad Street Commercial Historic District and one block south of the Jackson Ward Historic District. The building is isolated from the adjacent historic districts by new construction, including the recent expansion of the Richmond Convention Center to the east, and asphalt parking lots. In 2005, after sitting vacant for a number of years, the Fraternal Order of Eagles building was renovated into apartments with a commercial space in the basement.

**Detailed Description:**

Exterior

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building was constructed as an assembly building for a fraternal organization. It is sited on the northwest corner of Marshall and Third streets in downtown Richmond. It is located between the Broad Street and Jackson Ward commercial areas, once adjoining commercial districts that have been eroded over the years by demolition and new construction. Brick and concrete public sidewalks on the south and east sides, an alley to the north, and an asphalt parking lot to the west define the building's site.

The building is three stories in height with a raised basement. The facade (Marshall Street or south elevation) is organized into three bays and the east (Third Street) elevation has six bays. The north and west elevations are randomly organized by the fenestration requirements of the interior spaces. The windows on these two elevations are a mixture of nine-over-one, twelve-over-one, and two-over-

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two, double-hung wood sash. The north and west elevations are constructed of common brick in a five-course American bond pattern and are devoid of any decorative elements. The facade and east elevations are constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern. These two elevations are further divided horizontally by changes in brick patterns and decorative elements at the floor lines.

On the Marshall Street facade, the raised basement extends beyond the face of the building to form a raised terrace that fills the set-back between the building and the sidewalk. In the center of the terrace, at the public sidewalk, are two granite steps that lead to a mosaic landing with the letters "F. O. E." inset in the pattern. At the landing, the wall enclosing the terrace is pierced by an eight-light casement window with a decorative stone surround. There are two small semi-circular openings in the terrace wall at the break of the cheek wall at the steps. At the mosaic landing granite steps turn to the east and west and lead up to the terrace. The steps are enclosed on both sides by a stepped cheek wall constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern with a granite cap. A Flemish bond pillar with a granite cap separates the cheek wall from the wall enclosing the terrace. The enclosing wall is constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern with a decorative band of headers above and below a soldier course. Above the decorative band, the bricks are laid in a stretcher bond pattern with a header rowlock below the granite cap. The terrace leads to the primary entrance in the center bay of the first story. On the east elevation, the raised basement is constructed of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern with a soldier course at the window heads and a corbelled water table above. The water table is composed of soldier and header courses that graduate the thickness of the basement wall to the upper stories. Steps on the east side of the terrace lead to a light well and door to the basement. The light well, separated from the sidewalk by a granite curb, extends the full length of the east elevation except where it is interrupted by the central entrance. The basement wall is penetrated by paired and single, nine-over-one, double-hung wood sash windows.

The first story, on the facade and the east elevation, is treated as a rusticated base constructed of brick laid in decorative bands composed of four stretcher courses and a recessed header course. The first and second stories are separated by a cast-stone belt course. The primary entrance is located on Marshall Street and is approached by a series of steps on the east and west and the open terrace. The centered entrance has a wooden Doric-order surround with an arched pediment. Freestanding fluted columns and engaged fluted pilasters support the entablature and pediment. The entablature has a paneled frieze and a "Wall of Troy" dentil band. The recessed entry is set in a paneled vestibule with a mosaic floor bearing the logo of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. The entry doors are double-leaf wooden doors with full beveled lights. There are crossettes with roundel moldings that are set into the corners of the glass and a five-light transom above. Aluminum storefront doors with a transom have been installed in front of the entry doors. Flanking the entrance, on the west are French doors with an eight-light transom, and on the east there is a six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash window. The original architectural drawings show a second set of French doors at this location. The secondary entrance, centered in the east elevation, is situated between

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the basement and the first story and has two granite steps leading to the door. This secondary entrance has a projecting brick architrave that is detailed with a cast-stone surround and stepped brick pilasters at the corners that have cast-stone bases and capitals. These pilasters support a brick entablature with a cast-stone cornice and parapet. A mesh security gate has been installed in front of the wooden double-leaf doors, which match those at the primary entrance. There is a five-light transom above. The east elevation is broken by six symmetrically placed punched openings. Two small openings with fixed glass flank the entrance. The remaining four openings are glazed with six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows. All of the openings have cast-stone sills.

On the facade and the east elevation, the second and third stories are constructed in a Flemish bond pattern with a continuous soldier course at the spring line of the arched windows on the second story. Elongated corbelled brick architraves with arched heads frame the second-story window openings. The arches have cast-stone bases that rest on the cast-stone belt course, impost blocks and keystones. The tympanums above and the aprons below the windows have decorative brickwork that is inset with geometric cast-stone shapes. The center window on the facade has a cast-stone tympanum with a bas-relief sculpture. Cast-stone diamonds are set into the brick below the spring line of the arches between the second story windows and between the building's corners and the windows. Cast-stone roundels are set between the second-story windows in line with the heads of the arches. On the east elevation the three central roundels bear the letters – F, O, and E. The third-story windows have cast-stone sills that are supported by brackets. There are twelve-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows with eight-light transoms on the second story, and twelve-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows on the third story. A corbelled cast-stone band and double soldier course are set below the projecting metal cornice, which has modillions and dentils. Above the metal cornice is a stepped parapet with geometric cast-stone insets and cast-stone coping. The parapet on three sides of the building conceals a shed roof.

Interior

The interior of the Fraternal Order of Eagles building was divided into ceremonial and support spaces on all levels. A gracious stair is centered on the west wall and extends from the first to the third story. The primary and intermediate newel posts are square with raised panels, molded bands and decorative caps. The open stringer is decorated with raised panels. The balustrade is composed of square pickets and a molded handrail. An open stair with a similar balustrade is tucked under the main stair and leads to the basement. There is a secondary service stair in the northwest corner. The interior finishes are consistent on all levels – wood floors, plaster walls, and beamed ceilings in the ceremonial spaces. Most of the door and window architraves have decorative entablatures with dentil molding. A few of the door architraves have crossettes at the corners and some of the windows have cased openings with no decorative moldings.

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The basement is a well-lighted finished space divided into an assembly room and service spaces, including storage and mechanical rooms along the north wall, and restrooms along the west wall. Known as the Rathskellar, with a mahogany bar that extended the full length of the room and pool tables, the basement at the FOE was a popular gathering spot for local politicians. During prohibition it was a safe "speak easy" with private lockers where patrons could keep their liquor. The basement is accessed from the exterior by a stair to the right of the terrace and by a door and interior stair in the northwest corner; and from the interior by a stair centrally located on the west wall. The footprint of the basement is larger than that of the other floors because it includes additional floor space under the terrace above.

The first floor is entered through a reception hall on the Marshall Street side of the building that opens into a waiting room to the west, a large stair hall to the north, and a library to the east. The secondary entrance from Third Street opens into an entrance hall that is flanked by a coatroom and the ladies' reception room. There are an office, restrooms, and a service stair in the northwest corner and a large octagonal boardroom in the northeast corner. Both entrances flow into a large central lobby with the main stair located on the western wall. The ceiling is articulated into structural bays by beams that are decorated with crown molding and supported by brackets. Picture molding and chair rails line the public room walls and all the walls have crown molding and baseboards. The windows and door openings have decorative Colonial Revival-style wooden architraves with dentiled entablatures.

On the second floor, two-thirds of the space, the eastern side, contains an auditorium with a stage and two stage rooms. The remainder of the floor, the western one-third, has storage rooms and restrooms. The auditorium was used for meetings but was more popularly the site of lavish dinners and dances. In the auditorium, the five southern bays make up the seating area where the ceiling is articulated by beams that are decorated with crown molding and supported at the wall by brackets. The stage, located at the north end of the room has a bowed face and is raised three steps from floor level. The stage opening has a plaster frame with curved corners and is flanked by pilasters. There is decorative flush-panel wainscoting with a wooden chair rail in the auditorium and primary stair hall. The doors throughout have five horizontal panels and have decorative Colonial Revival-style wooden door architraves with dentiled entablatures.

The third floor follows the same division as the second floor. The primary space, having roughly the same dimensions as the auditorium below, was used for meetings and rituals. The room was once lined with risers. The restrooms, storage rooms, and stairwells follow the same plan as the second floor. The principal distinguishing feature of the meeting room is vertical paneled wainscoting and a chair rail. The panels are devised by applying molded wood trim to the plaster walls. The doors throughout are five-panel and have a decorative Colonial Revival-style wooden architrave with a

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dentiled entablature.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles sold the building in the late 1980s and it was used as office space for a period of time. The building then sat vacant for almost ten years and the risers and other ceremonial features were removed. The building was purchased in 2004 and has been renovated and adapted for eleven apartments and a commercial space in the basement. The exterior of the building has been unaltered and retains a high level of integrity. The renovation of the interior resulted in the reconfiguration of the secondary spaces, the removal of the secondary stair, and the subdivision of the larger primary spaces. The division of the spaces was achieved by respecting the major walls and circulation spaces. Where spaces were divided the new walls were inserted so that the volume of the former spaces is still evident. The interior finishes including the primary stair, wood floors, columns, beams, wainscoting, and door and window architraves were retained. While the former auditorium and meeting space were subdivided the interior still retains a high level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits were utilized for the rehabilitation of the Fraternal Order of Eagles building.

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Fraternal Order of Eagles Building (127-5885)  
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**Statement of Significance**

The Neoclassical Revival-style building at 220 East Marshall Street was erected in 1914 for the Richmond Chapter of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. The Fraternal Order of Eagles, a national organization “dedicated to the ideas of democracy and brotherhood” was founded in 1898.<sup>1</sup> The Richmond chapter was established on 22 March 1903 and called “Dixie Aerie No. 338”. The Dixie Aerie occupied the clubhouse on East Marshall Street from 1914 until the mid 1980s. The three-story, Flemish bond brick building is a well-articulated example of Neoclassical Revival styling and is representative of the work of Asbury and Whitehurst. Asbury and Whitehurst, while only associated for eight years, were highly regarded designers of residential structures. The F.O.E. is one of the few non-residential buildings associated with their practice. They were locally recognized for the quality and innovation of their designs. The Fraternal Order of Eagles building is of local significance and is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. It is eligible under criterion A because it was the local headquarters of a fraternal organization and is representative of the broad role of such organizations in the provision of mutual aid before the advent of welfare. The building also meets criterion C because of the quality of its architectural features and its association with the local architectural firm of Asbury and Whitehurst.

**Historic Background**

Fraternal Order of Eagles

Six theater owners in Seattle, Washington founded the Fraternal Order of Eagles on 6 February 1898.<sup>2</sup> Initially the theater owners met to discuss a musicians’ strike. After resolving that issue they recognized the need for an organization based on the principles of democracy and brotherhood. To this end they formed an organization called “The Seattle Order of Good Things.”<sup>3</sup> The first meetings were held at various local theaters and “after the business was settled a keg of beer was rolled out and all enjoyed a few hours of social activities.”<sup>4</sup> As membership grew, the organization chose a Bald Eagle as their official emblem and renamed the organization The Fraternal Order of Eagles. The eagle was selected because it represents the virtues of liberty, truth, justice, and equality. The emblem of the organization depicts an eagle holding the scales of justice in its beak – ever ready to defend equality. Continuing the theme of the eagle, the term aerie was selected to identify the individual groups as opposed to a club or lodge. An aerie is defined as the lofty nest of an eagle or other bird of prey. In April 1898, a Grand Aerie was formed, a constitution written, and a president elected. Their constitution asked its members to “make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness, and hope.”<sup>5</sup> Like many early fraternal organizations, members of the Eagles received free medical attention, but this organization was unique because medical care was extended to immediate family members, as well. In addition, members received weekly payments in case of sickness and funeral benefits. These were valuable services in a time

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before public welfare or medical, disability, and life insurance. “More importantly, they formed a powerful voice that advocated various types of reform that would benefit the average working person.”<sup>6</sup> The Fraternal Order of Eagles was instrumental in the passage of the Workman’s Compensation Act, Mother and Old Age pensions, Social Security laws, the “Jobs After 40” bill, and Medicare. In 1904, one of the officers from the South Bend Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Frank E. Hering, made a public plea for a national day to celebrate and honor mothers.<sup>7</sup> In 1914, the U. S. Congress passed legislation which President Woodrow Wilson signed making the second Sunday in May a national holiday -- Mother’s Day. The F.O.E. is still engaged in fighting to liberalize social benefits and combating disease through their sponsorship of a number of charitable organizations.

Most of the earlier members of the F.O.E. were actors, playwrights, and stagehands, and “as they went on tour they carried the story of the new order with them across the United States and Canada.”<sup>8</sup> Within the first ten years, the organization had “1,800 lodges scattered throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico, boasting a membership roll that exceeded 350,000.”<sup>9</sup> The Seattle Aerie No. 1 became the largest aerie in the nation. In 1924, they built a large meeting hall for themselves, Eagles Auditorium, which is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places and commemorates Seattle’s role in the history of the Eagles. Many social and political leaders have been members of the Eagles, including seven Presidents of the United States -- Theodore R. Roosevelt, Warren G. Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan.<sup>10</sup> But the true strength of the Eagles is a fraternal organization founded for and by the common man.

Fraternal societies and their members have played an important role in the establishment of national laws and social growth in the United States. Most societies were founded on an ideal of mutual aid and “dedicated themselves to the advancement of mutualism, self-reliance, business training, thrift, leadership skills, self-government, self-control, and good moral character.”<sup>11</sup> While societies differed in their methods and goals, the majority operated in a decentralized lodge system, had some type of ritual, and offered payments in times of sickness and death. The Fraternal Order of Eagles was one of the first organizations to offer free medical care and was one of the few to extend that benefit to immediate family members. A lodge would often enter into a contract with a general practitioner to provide medical services on a flat fee basis. This system of “lodge practice” was particularly strong in urban areas. “By 1910, the (medical) profession had launched all-out war against fraternal medical services, and local medical societies imposed manifold sanctions against doctors who accepted these contracts. One highly effective method of enforcement was to pressure hospitals to close their doors to members of offending lodges.”<sup>12</sup> In response a number of organizations began to operate hospitals. In the early years, the Eagles were successful in lobbying for the Mother’s Pension Law (1908), Workmen’s Compensation Laws (1911), and America’s first Old Age Pension Law (1923).<sup>13</sup> It is interesting to note that the loss of medical benefits and the expansion of government-sponsored social services that the Eagles lobbied for contributed to a decline in membership. In 1915, the

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magazine of the Fraternal Order of Eagles observed, "the State is doing or planning to do for the wage-earners what our Order was a pioneer in doing 18 years ago. All this is lessening the popular appeal of our benefit features. With that appeal weakened or gone, we shall have lost a strong argument for joining the Order, for no fraternity can depend entirely on its recreational features to attract members."<sup>14</sup> To increase waning membership, Ladies Auxiliaries were created in 1926, thus opening the all male organization to women. Women were not fully incorporated into the Eagles until 1951 with the formation of the Grand Auxiliary. The organization and its leadership continued to be responsible for generating ideas and leading the fight for the passage of other important legislation including the Social Security Act (1935), Jobs After 40 (1965), and Medicare (1965). According to the September 2005 membership report there were 1,692 Aeries and Auxiliaries in the United States and Canada with 6,788 members. Today, the Eagles continue to stand by their slogan of "people helping people" by raising money for hospitals, schools, and aid for victims of national disasters.

Dixie Aerie No. 338 was established in Richmond on 22 March 1903 with 101 charter members.<sup>15</sup> The first "worthy president" of the chapter was John B. Bliley, one of the many Bliley brothers whose nearby establishment grew to become one of the city's best known funeral homes. The Eagles initially leased space at Fourth and West Broad streets before they contracted with the architectural firm of Asbury and Whitehurst to design their clubhouse on East Marshall Street.<sup>16</sup> The cornerstone was laid on 21 March 1914 and Governor Henry C. Stuart participated in the ceremony. To be a member of the Dixie Aerie, you had to be a Caucasian male between the ages of twenty-one and fifty and once inducted you were given a free medical examination by the Aerie physician. A glance at membership applications from 1911 showed that the Dixie Aerie was composed of electricians, merchants, machinists, police officers, a Russian butcher, and a bar tender. But, like other Aeries across the United States, the Dixie Aerie's membership included people from all strata of society including several Governors -- John S. Battle, William M. Tuck, and J. Lindsey Almond, Jr., -- and Lieutenant Governor, Fred Gresham Pollard. According to Mr. Liskie, a former Chairman of the Trustees for Dixie Aerie 338, it was the "social club for politicians and attracted many famous and influential members."<sup>17</sup> According to the organization's 1947 letterhead, the fraternity met every first and third Thursday of the month at eight o'clock pm.<sup>18</sup> The Board of Trustees met on Monday nights and the Auxiliary met every Wednesday evening. The Eagles leased the building to other organizations for meetings and parties and every Saturday night they hosted dinner-dances. The dances were so popular that women in gowns and men in tuxedos would be lined up around the block. To get in you had to have a red poker chip with 338 on the back and once the dance floor was filled to capacity, about 200 people, you had to wait for someone to leave before you could get in.<sup>19</sup> In addition to the charities supported by the national organization, the Dixie Aerie worked closely with the surrounding Jackson Ward neighborhood. At Easter, in cooperation with the Bliley Funeral Home, they passed out eggs to the neighborhood children and at Christmas they hosted a big party for the community. They sponsored neighborhood ball teams, gave to the churches and held bingo games where food, not money, was given as prizes.<sup>20</sup>

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During its hey-day in the 1920s and 1930s, the Dixie Aerie had between 3,100 and 3,200 members. By the 1980s, membership in the Dixie Aerie had dwindled to 26. No longer able to sustain itself the membership split between the Hanover Aerie # 3808 and the Lakeside Aerie # 4211. The Hanover Aerie closed in the late 1980; the Lakeside Aerie is still in existence with sixteen members. The Dixie Aerie sold the building in the late 1980s.

Architects

The Richmond architectural firm of Asbury and Whitehurst designed the Fraternal Order of Eagles Building in 1913. According to the building permit, the cost of the project was estimated to be \$27,400 and Joseph Heye was identified as the contractor.<sup>21</sup> Partners Otis K. Asbury and Herbert C. Whitehurst were associated from 1911 to 1919 with offices at 110 North Seventh Street, in Richmond, Virginia. Asbury, born in Charlotte, North Carolina, was the son of a North Carolina architect. He began practicing in Richmond in 1905. In 1906, Asbury was working as a draftsman for Richmond architect, Charles K. Bryant, and in 1908, he was employed by C. K. Howell and Company, another Richmond architectural firm.<sup>22</sup> Herbert C. Whitehurst was the son of William J. Whitehurst, an owner of Whitehurst and Owens, one of the leading manufacturers of doors, windows, sash, blinds, and interior finishes.<sup>23</sup> Little is known of Whitehurst's architectural career before or after his association with Asbury. After the partnership ended in 1919, Asbury continued to practice architecture in Richmond and was responsible for designing a number of houses and apartment buildings in Richmond. He also designed buildings elsewhere in Virginia and North Carolina including a 1919 addition to the Imperial Tobacco Company building in Wilson, North Carolina where he collaborated with architect, C. C. Davis.<sup>24</sup> In 1946, Asbury moved his architectural practice to Charlotte, North Carolina but remained registered in Virginia until 1959, the year he died.<sup>25</sup>

While Asbury and Whitehurst were associated, they designed apartment buildings and houses in Richmond's Fan District and on Monument Avenue. The Fraternal Order of Eagles building appears to be the only commercial building designed by the firm or by Otis K. Asbury independently. In that regard it is a unique example of their work. However, it shares much in design and scale with their residential architecture. "Due to his training, it is likely that Asbury was the creative force in the partnership while Whitehurst handled its business affairs."<sup>26</sup> Otis K. Asbury was known for his skillful dwellings in a variety of historical styles, including Tudor, Mediterranean, Colonial and Classical Revival. He was "one of the few architects whose designs show[ed] individuality" and his work "revolutionize[ed] the types of architecture for residential work here in Richmond."<sup>27</sup> The majority of Asbury and Whitehurst's buildings were designed in the Neoclassical Revival style. In 1912, they designed a Neoclassical Revival-style house, 2704 Monument Avenue, for Whitehurst's father. In 1914, they designed a small Neoclassical Revival dwelling for Henry C. Riely at 1518 Park Avenue and the following year they designed a transitional Neoclassical Revival dwelling with Mediterranean influences for C. B. Lathrop at 1514 Park Avenue. These three houses share architectural features

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with the Fraternal Order of Eagles Building, including arched-pediment entrances, decorative cornices, French doors, and multi-light upper sashes. Asbury and Whitehurst and Otis Asbury independently designed a number of houses and apartments in the Tudor style, including a 1914 house for Marie Milnes Whitehurst, at 1529 West Avenue and two apartment buildings – The Gladstone at 1828-30 Park Avenue and The Gloucester at 1818-1820 Park Avenue -- both designed and completed in 1914.<sup>28</sup> The firm also designed in the Mediterranean and Arts and Crafts styles.<sup>29</sup>

The Fraternal Order of Eagles building has a commanding presence on the southwest corner of Third and Marshall streets. The building's Neoclassical Revival styling is in strong contrast to the surrounding modern buildings. The emblems that adorn the building are permanent reminders of the role of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in the United States but more importantly of the order's contribution to the surrounding Jackson Ward community.

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<http://ltgov.virginia.gov/pastltgov.cfm>

<http://www.state.va.us/home/vagov/governors.html>

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/NR/travel/seattle/s16.htm>

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Fraternal Order of Eagles Building (127-5885)  
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**Geographical Data**

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Fraternal Order of Eagles building is described as City of Richmond tax parcel N0000038017.

Boundary Justification

The size of the parcel associated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles building has not changed over time and is currently described as City of Richmond tax parcel N0000038017.

**Photographic Index**

The following information is the same for all photographs:

**Property:** Fraternal Order of Eagles Building  
**Location:** 220 East Marshall Street, Richmond, Virginia  
**Photographer:** Kimberly M. Chen  
**Date:** 23 March 2004  
**Negatives File:** Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia  
**Negative Number:** 22547

- 1 of 18: Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, looking SW
- 2 of 18: Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, looking NE
- 3 of 18: Board Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, looking NE
- 4 of 18: Grand Stair, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, looking SW
- 5 of 18: Reception Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, looking N
- 6 of 18: Reception Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, looking NW
- 7 of 18: Marshall Street Entrance
- 8 of 18: Marshall Street Entrance, mosaic floor
- 9 of 18: Marshall Street Entrance, architrave
- 10 of 18: SE corner, date stone
- 11 of 18: Third Street Entrance
- 12 of 18: Third Street Entrance, detail
- 13 of 18: Third Street, NE corner looking SW
- 14 of 18: Third Street, East Elevation
- 15 of 18: Marshall and Third Streets, SE corner looking NW
- 16 of 18: Marshall Street, South Elevation
- 17 of 18: Marshall Street, SW corner looking NE
- 18 of 18: Alley, West Elevation

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.cephasministry.com/masonry\\_moose\\_elks\\_and\\_eagles.html](http://www.cephasministry.com/masonry_moose_elks_and_eagles.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.foe.com/history/history.html> , 1.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.foe.com/history/history.html> , 1.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.foe.com/history/history.html> , 1.

<sup>5</sup> National Register of Historic Places nomination for Eagles Auditorium Building in Seattle, Washington. Listed 7-14-1983.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.cr.nps.gov/NR/travel/seattle/s16.htm> , 1.

<sup>7</sup> [www.foe.com/history/mothers.html](http://www.foe.com/history/mothers.html)

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.foe.com/history/history.html> , 1.

<sup>9</sup> National Register of Historic Places nomination for Eagles Auditorium Building in Seattle, Washington. Listed 7-14-1983.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.foe.com/history/uspres.html> , 1-2.

<sup>11</sup> David T. Beito, " From Mutual Aid to Welfare State: How Fraternal Societies Fought Poverty and Taught Character" Policy Research and Analysis. 1.

<sup>12</sup> David T. Beito, "Poor Before Welfare" The National Review: The Independent Institute. 3.

<sup>13</sup> [www.foe.com/history/history.html](http://www.foe.com/history/history.html)

<sup>14</sup> Beito, "Poor Before Welfare" 3.

<sup>15</sup> Henshaw Realty Inc.: Welcome to 220 East Marshall Street, the Historic Building of the Fraternal Order of Eagles (Richmond, Virginia: N. P.) , 3.

<sup>16</sup> Mary Harding Saddler with Peter McDearmon Witt, Department of Historic Resources Preliminary Information Form for The Fraternal Order of Eagles Building, 4.

<sup>17</sup> Interview Dick Liskie.

<sup>18</sup> Henshaw Realty Inc., 3.

<sup>19</sup> Interview Dick Liskie.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Richmond City Building Permit # 3541, 1913.

<sup>22</sup> John Wells and Robert Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary (New South Architectural Press: Richmond, Virginia, 1997), 11.

<sup>23</sup> Drew St. J. Carneal, Richmond's Fan District (Richmond, Virginia: Historic Richmond foundation, 1996), 159, 196.

<sup>24</sup> [www.wilsonnc.org/Departments/DevelopmentServices/HistoricPreservation/ArchitectsandMajorContributors.asp](http://www.wilsonnc.org/Departments/DevelopmentServices/HistoricPreservation/ArchitectsandMajorContributors.asp)

<sup>25</sup> Wells and Dalton, 11.

<sup>26</sup> Carneal, 196.

<sup>27</sup> Clarence E. Weaver, Sketches of Richmond, Virginia U.S.A.: Who's Who and What's What (Richmond, Virginia: Central Publishing Co, 1924), 152.

<sup>28</sup> Carneal, 197.

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Richmond (Independent City), VA

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<sup>29</sup> Partial list of buildings designed by Asbury and Whitehurst and Otis K. Asbury

- Apartments - Permit Number: 3749, Three Story Apartment Building, Address: N. side Park Ave. between Davis and Addison Sts., 1914, Control Number: 402  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: John T. Wilson and Co., Inc.; Commissioned by: Ellen J. Dance; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 3630, Apartment House - 1818 - 1820 Park Ave., Address: 1818 - 1820 Park Ave., 1914, Control Number: 414  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, #110 N. Seventh Street, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: Moore and Harry; Commissioned by: W. Ashby Jones, Sr.; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 3743, Three Story Apartment House, Address: N. side Park Ave. between Meadow St. and Allen Ave., 1914, Control Number: 408  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: Wise Granite Construction Co.; Commissioned by: Mrs. E. B. Allen; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 3750, Three Story Apartment Building, Address: E. side Davis Ave. between Monument and Park Aves., 1914, Control Number: 399  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: John T. Wilson and Co., Inc.; Commissioned by: Ellen J. Dance; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 4667, Apartment House, Address: S/S West Ave between Boyd and Lombardy St., 1915, Control Number: 373  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers; Contractor: Asbury and Whitehurst, Supt.; Commissioned by: Stuart Apartments, Inc.; Notes: 3 story over basement brick Tudor-style apartment building (Stuart Hall) embellished with half-timber insets.
- Apartments - Permit Number: N/A, Ingleside Apartment, Address: E. side Davis Ave. between ----- and Monument Ave., 1916, Control Number: 1201  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: W. J. Gilman; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 5767, Apartment Building for W. J. Gilman, Address: Sheppard St. between Monument Ave. and Grace St., 1917, Control Number: 290  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers, 110 North Seventh Street, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: W. J. Gilman; Commissioned by: W. J. Gilman; Notes:
- Apartments - Permit Number: 6137, Apartment Building, Address: S/S Grace St. between Boulevard and Sheppard St., 1918, Control Number: 1314

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Drawn by: Asbury and Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: W. D. Gilman; Commissioned by: W. D. Gilman; Notes:

- Apartments - Permit Number: 09662, Apartment House for Mrs. Clifford Smith, Address: 139 South Colonial Ave., 1922, Control Number: 747

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect; Contractor: R. M. Anderson; Commissioned by: Mrs. Bertha L. Smith; Notes: Two-story brick apartment building with first floor arcaded portico.

- Apartments - Permit Number: 13039, 13040, Apartment Building and Garage, Address: 2502 Monument Ave., 1924, Control Number: 1091

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: A. F. Perrin; Commissioned by: Greentree and Raab; Notes: Two-story stucco apartment building with tile roof. Double arcades center the facade. The plan shows four identical apartments.

- Fraternal - Permit Number: 3541, Eagles' Temple, Address: NW corner of Third and Marshall St., 1913, Control Number: 138

Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers; Contractor: Joseph Heye; Commissioned by: Dixie Aerie # 338 Fraternal Order of Eagles; Notes: 3-story over basement brick, steel, and stone Neoclassical Revival structure with meeting rooms, library, service rooms, and auditorium.

- Municipal - Permit Number: 18471, Apartment House for Mr. C. F. Sauer, Address: 3608 Monument Ave., 1927, Control Number: 1361

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: C. F. Sauer; Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 3494, Residence for Mr. W. C. Camp, Address: 2504 Monument Ave., 1913, Control Number: 137

Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers, 110 N. Seventh Street, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: H. S. Richardson; Commissioned by: W. C. Camp; Notes: 2-story over basement Colonial Revival residence. Excellent details of interior stairway and woodwork. First floor plan = reception hall, reception room, living room, dining room, dramatic turned staircase, kitchen, butler's pantry, storage room, and powder room. Second floor plan = 3 bedrooms, sewing room, packing room, 2 full baths, servant's room/bath.

- Residence - Permit Number: 3430, Residence for Mr. C. B. Richardson, Address: 2234 Monument Ave., 1913, Control Number: 136

Drawn by: Asbury and Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, 110 N. Seventh Street, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: H. S. Richardson; Commissioned by: C. B. Richardson; Notes: 2 story over basement, brick, Colonial Revival residence. Front elevation shows a 1-story porch with Doric columns on limestone pedestals. First floor door and windows have Palladian over lights. Hipped, tile roof. First floor = reception hall, living room, dining room, den, kitchen, laundry, and powder room. Second floor = 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, sewing room, linen room, and packing room.

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- Residence - Permit Number: 3792, Residence for E. Hutzler, Esq., 2034 Monument Ave., Address: 2036 [2034?] Monument Ave., 1914, Control Number: 417  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects & Engineers, #110 N. Seventh Street, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: Virginia Carolina Construction Co.; Commissioned by: E. Hulzer; Notes: There is a discrepancy between the address listed on the drawings and specifications and that given by the city for this project.
- Residence - Permit Number: 4316, Residence and Apartment for Mr. W. J. Gilman, Address: S/S Grace St. between Boulevard and Deep Run, 1915, Control Number: 639  
  
Drawn by: Asbury and Whitehurst; Contractor: W. J. Gilman; Commissioned by: W. J. Gilman; Notes: Two-story over raised basement stucco residence/apartment building. The front elevation shows a steeply pitched side gable, slate roof that covers the second story. A central entrance cuts into the roof and is topped by a double sash window. Elements of the Arts and Crafts and Colonial Revival modes are incorporated into the exterior composition.
- Residence - Permit Number: 4164, Residence for Mr. C. B. Lathrop, Address: 1514 Park Ave., 1915, Control Number: 361  
  
Drawn by: Asbury & Whitehurst, Architects and Engineers, 110 N. Seventh Street, Richmond; Contractor: Geo. D. Priddy; Commissioned by: C. B. Lathrop; Notes: Detached house noted for its hooded entry, double-side gables covered by steep red tile roofs and contrasting stucco wall covering.
- Residence - Permit Number: 6274, Residence for Mr. C. W. Lathrop, William Byrd Terrace, Address: W/S Westover Ave. - William Byrd Park, 1918 Control Number: 1293  
  
Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, No. 110 North Seventh St., Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: C. B. Lathrop; Commissioned by: C. W. Lathrop; Notes:
- Residence - Permit Number: 8837, Residence and Garage Byrd Park, Richmond, VA, Address: 704 Westover Ave., 1921, Control Number: 522  
  
Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: R. D. Watkins, Contractor; Commissioned by: R. D. Watkins; Notes: Two-story brick and limestone mansion with tiled hip roof and a one story porch extension on each side. The elevation shows French windows flanking a central entry topped with a limestone arch centered with a coat of arms. The architect, Asbury, designed several upscale residences on Monument Avenue. He was active in Richmond from 1905-1959.
- Residence - Permit Number: 8113, Residence and Garage for Mrs. O. E. Garner, Address: 3301 Monument Ave., 1921, Control Number: 578  
  
Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: O. C. Peers; Commissioned by: Mrs. O. E. Garner; Notes: Two story brick Colonial Revival house with two story extension set back from the main block.
- Residence - Permit Number: 10395, Residence for Lewis Kaufman, Address: 804 Westover Rd., 1922, Control Number: 797

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Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: Lewis Kaufman; Commissioned by: Lewis Kaufman; Notes: Plans and elevations for a substantial residence executed in stucco with a tile roof of various intersecting gables.

- Residence - Permit Number: 11583, Residence for Mary E. McCarty, Address: 1220 W. Franklin St., 1923, Control Number: 873

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: Mary E. McCarty; Commissioned by: Mary E. McCarty; Notes: Two-story, brick, Colonial Revival house with side entrance covered by a porch supported by Doric Columns. The back elevation shows double porches with wood balustrades.

- Residence - Permit Number: N/A, Residence N. E. Corner Spotswood Road & Brandon Lane, Address: NE corner Spotswood Rd. & Brandon Lane., 1923, Control Number: 1433

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: NA; Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 10934, Residence - N.W. Corner Westover Road & Brandon Lane, Address: 710 Westover Rd., 1923, Control Number: 1424

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: Owner; Commissioned by: R. D. Watkins; Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 13802, Residence for Mr. W. B. Andrews, Address: 2607 Monument Ave., 1924, Control Number: 907

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: W. B. Andrews; Commissioned by: W. B. And Julia P. Andrews; Notes: Two-story brick Tudorbean-style house with slate roof and half-timber details.

- Residence - Permit Number: 12918, Residence 3300 Block, Kensington Ave., Address: 3320 Kensington Ave., 1924, Control Number: 1102

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: Hoffman and Goodman; Commissioned by: Hoffman & Goodman; Notes: Two-story, stucco house with tile roof. The facade features an arcaded entrance into a modified tower, which holds the stairway.

- Residence - Permit Number: 14213, Residence for W. M. Bodie, Address: 3200 Patterson Ave., 1924, Control Number: 986

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury; Contractor: Ellis and Black; Commissioned by: W. M. Bodie; Notes: Two-story brick house with a steeply pitched slate roof and double-window dormer shown on the front facade. The full front porch is formed by a series of round arches to give an arcaded effect.

- Residence - Permit Number: 14334, 14335, Dwelling and Garage, Address: 2909 Oaklane Ave. (?), 1925, Control Number: 1166

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: Owner; Commissioned by: C. H. -----; Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 15252, 15253, Residence and Garage at Byrd Parkway, Address: 2908 Parklane Ave., 1925, Control Number: 1404

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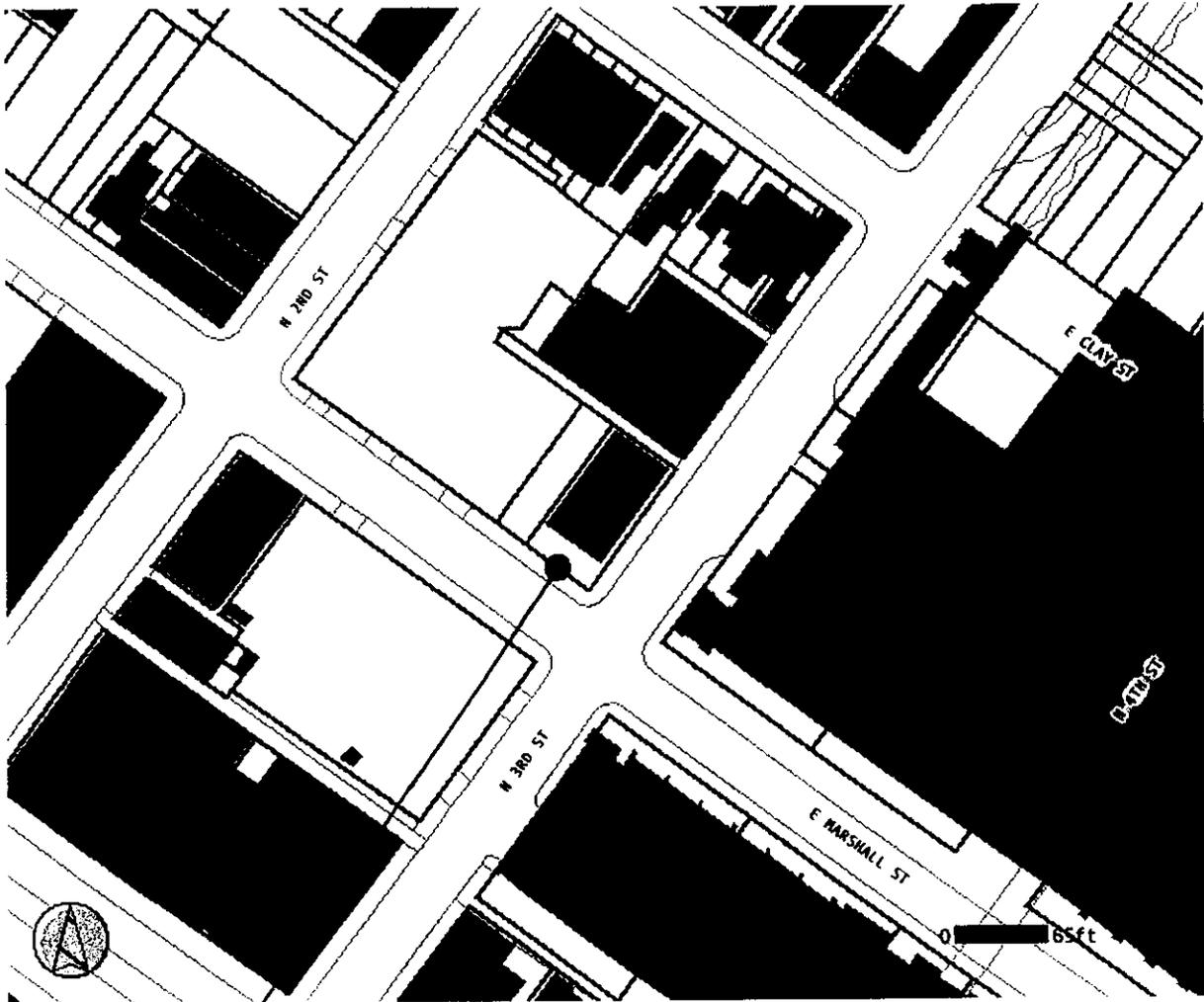
Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: Owner; Commissioned by: Roger Gregory;  
Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 15274, Residence for Mr. Straus, Address: 3204 Monument Ave., 1925, Control Number: 1409

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: R. L. Wallerstein; Commissioned by: A. L. Straus; Notes:

- Residence - Permit Number: 24996, Residence, Address: 4116 W. Franklin St., 1939, Control Number: 2081

Drawn by: Otis K. Asbury, Architect, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: J. A. McIntosh; Notes:



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220 East Marshall Street  
Richmond, VA**



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GREEN PINES  
 5555 W 2E