

**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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: The Virginia Home

Other names/site number: DHR ID# 127-6157

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1101 Hampton Street

City or town: Richmond State: VA County: N/A

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national X statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B C D

<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>Date</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>Signature of commenting official:</p>	<p>Date</p>
<p>Title :</p>	<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE: Hospital

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE: Hospital

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, TERRA COTTA, STONE: Limestone,
METAL: Copper

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Virginia Home is located in the Byrd Park neighborhood of the City of Richmond just outside of the William Byrd Park Historic District (VDHR 127-6067). Originally constructed in 1930 on the western half of the block bound by Hampton, Powhatan, S. Meadow, and Appomattox streets, Baskervill and Lambert designed a five- and six-story building with an irregular T-form and a centered seven-story tower. As the need to help permanently disabled Virginians grew, the facility increased in size with alterations and additions in 1970, 1984, 1993, and 2004 completed by Baskervill & Son. The Virginia Home now has 123,565 square feet of space in an irregular H-form building. Despite later additions, The Virginia Home's Art Deco style continues to shine through and the building retains integrity.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Virginia Home sits grandly alongside Swan Lake in the Byrd Park neighborhood of the City of Richmond. Occupying a city block bound by Hampton, Powhatan, S. Meadow, and Appomattox streets, the primary façade of The Virginia Home faces park land that is filled with majestic trees as it gradually slopes towards the lake (Photo 1). To the north, east, and south single-family homes

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and a parking lot surround The Virginia Home. Aside from the parking lot at Powhatan and S. Meadow streets, which was put into place in the late twentieth century, the larger setting of The Virginia Home remains much as it has been historically.

The irregular H-form of The Virginia Home, while set back from Hampton Street, fills the majority of the parcel. An historic brick wall partially encloses the western half of the block (Photo 5). A horseshoe driveway enters the property at a break in the wall on Hampton Street and curves to a porte-cochère at the front of the building. Mature trees and shrubs in the front lawn bring the natural elements of Byrd Park to The Virginia Home. At the southern void of the H-form building, the previously mentioned brick wall turns north and separates a private garden from an incomplete continuation of the alley between Hampton and S. Meadow streets. The garden features brick walkways, a reflecting pool with a figurine, a grass lawn, mature trees and shrubs, flower beds, and picnic tables and benches for residents and visitors to enjoy (Photo 6). A shorter driveway on the opposite side of the building is more utilitarian in nature and accesses loading bays and a dumpster area. Trees and shrubbery along S. Meadow Street partially mask the newer eastern half of the building.

Exterior

Though The Virginia Home now has an irregular H-form structure of varying heights, its original design remains evident. This is particularly true at the southern void of the H with its architect-designed garden, as well as on the primary, western façade. Here The Virginia Home features a five-story, seventeen-bay brick elevation that steps up twice to a centered seven-story tower and projects forward slightly with each step (Photo 2). The brick is laid in a five-course common bond. Each bay has a one-over-one double-hung sash window, below which sits a vent. The bays are separated by brick pilasters with ornamental cream-colored terra cotta capitals exemplifying the Art Deco style with their clusters of stylized palm leaves. Though there are many interpretations for the use of palm designs in architecture, one that fits well with The Virginia Home is its insinuation that palm trees flourish together as a community better than they do in isolation, just as people, regardless of ability, thrive as a community.

On the façade, simple concrete and metal coping tops the walls and hides the flat roof. The seventh floor of the centered tower received further ornamentation with additional, larger pilasters, a zig-zag design below the large, stylized cluster of palms, and a terra cotta stringcourse (Photo 3 and 4). A stylized rosette sits at the center bay. The tower's parapet wall, hiding mechanical equipment on the roof, is adorned with terra cotta coping featuring repetitive half-round molding.

While a 2004 six-story tower projects below the original tower, its design was sensitive to the original façade. The three-bay brick tower has fixed windows, below which are cream-colored limestone panels, and are separated by limestone pilasters. On each floor of the western façade the pilasters are adorned by stylized rosettes; the pilasters are capped by large, stylized clusters of palms with a zig-zag pattern below. A decorative metal grill stretches across the centered windows on each floor. Unlike the original design, a cove cornice protrudes from the parapet wall.

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The ground floor of the primary elevation projects from the façade and is covered with a flat roof. While the end bays are clad in brick and feature fixed windows, those leading to the tower are clad in limestone with fluted, stylized pilasters between casement and fixed windows. This section also has a terrace featuring a colonnade with stylized, squared fluted Ionic columns of limestone that support the roof. This terrace is a variation of the original one that had been enclosed in 1970. The columns rise above the roof line and are separated there by decorative metal grills. The main entrance is at the tower and is protected by a porte-cochère similar in design to the terrace.

The original Virginia Home had an irregular T-form that was created by a five-story T wing which housed residents' rooms and a one-story kitchen at the northern end of the rear elevation. The spacing of bays and ornamentation on the façade is replicated on the north, east, and south elevations of the original building, though, interestingly not on the T wing. Both the T wing and kitchen block were left unadorned.

The year 1970 saw the first major addition and alterations to The Virginia Home when the kitchen block was enlarged and the T wing was extended to the east. Stairwells were also added to the north and south elevations of the core building.

In 1984, a one-story chapel was placed at the southern end of the building. The brick addition mimics the original building's design with its shallow brick pilasters separating windows of dalle de verre. A brick trabeated fascia caps the walls. The apse is covered by a shallow pitched standing seam copper half decagon roof which joins the shallow pitched gable roof of the remainder of the chapel. The half decagon roof continues the design of the half decagon standing seam copper awnings protecting entrances into the garden from The Virginia Home; these awnings were also a later addition. It is possible that the figurine at the reflecting pond was also added at this time. On the front façade, the terrace was enclosed and a new one put into place, thereby pushing out the first floor from the façade.

The late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries saw dramatic increases to the building as improvements were made to accommodate more residents and provide them with additional much needed resources. This work included building larger spaces for physical therapy, occupational therapy, and recreational therapy departments, a therapy swimming pool, a gymnasium, a garage, a workshop for wheelchair repair, and a wider hallway on the first floor to access these new facilities (Photo 7). The therapy pool and gymnasium are tall one-story blocks with a clerestory or fixed windows to provide additional natural light into the large spaces. The physical therapy department was housed in a two-story block; the second story of this block had space for an in-house dentist and salon. A new elevator tower was also built at the end of the 1970 T wing to aid in the movement of residents (Photo 8).

Though large, these additions were sympathetically designed and are not visible from Hampton Street. They are made of brick, with bays separated by brick pilasters and with limestone detailing, though all with a slightly more modern flare. The three blocks are covered by a standing seam metal barrel shell roof while remaining portions of the additions are protected by a flat roof.

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Interior

Visitors to The Virginia Home enter a lobby from the main entrance through sliding glass doors (Photo 9). Squared posts covered with limestone and featuring stylized trabeated fascias, support coffered ceilings with acoustical tiles. Throughout the building, adjustments have been made to accommodate the extensive use of wheelchairs throughout the facility and protect materials, such as the pipe railing encircling the posts. South of the lobby, residents have access to a community room, library, and chapel (Photo 10 and 11). To its north are resident and staff dining rooms (Photo 12).

The hallway extending from the lobby into the original T wing has been enclosed from that location and now houses offices. Meanwhile, a wider, more accessible hallway is to the north of the T and leads to the kitchen, additional offices, and the late twentieth and early twenty-first century additions (Photo 13 and 14).

The second through fifth floors are all similar in layout with corridors featuring the original distinctive multicolored six-inch by six-inch glazed floor tiles. To protect the walls, the tile continues slightly up the wall and is then capped by wood (Photo 15). Elevators at the cross of the T wing allow residents and workers to access the centered nursing station, bathrooms with large showers designed to accommodate wheelchairs (Photo 16), and the residents' rooms lining the main block and wing of the building. A stairwell sits behind one of these elevators. Additionally, the 1970 stairwell additions are at either end of the main block, and a twenty-first century elevator tower and stairwell are located at the end of the T wing. The modern, light-filled day room is located within the newer tower on each level.

The truncated sixth floor differs in that the space is largely used as offices. A stairwell at this level then accesses the seventh floor which was likely used for nurses' rooms and is now used as storage (Photo 17). Given the limited use of the seventh floor, it continues to retain most of its original materials though notably, given the less public and resident use of the space, it lacks the glazed tile found elsewhere. The seventh floor, however, does retain the plaster ceilings while elsewhere the ceilings now consist of acoustical tiles (Photo 18).

Secondary Resources

Garden – Contributing site

In the southern void of the H-form building, is the previously mentioned garden designed by Baskervill and Lambert with its brick walkways, small reflecting pool, grass lawn, mature trees and shrubs, flower beds, and picnic tables and benches. The figurine at the reflecting pool appears to have been a later, impermanent addition to the landscape and is not considered a contributing element in the garden.

Integrity

The Virginia Home's location and setting in the Byrd Park neighborhood of Richmond remains unchanged. Little modification to the residential neighborhood and Byrd Park has occurred since The Virginia Home was first built. The architect-designed landscape features also retain integrity.

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This includes the historic brick wall that partially encloses the grounds, brick walkways, and garden with its reflecting pool.

While the overall exterior physical integrity of The Virginia Home has been diminished by renovation campaigns over the hospital's history, its use of Baskervill and Lambert and, later, Baskervill & Son have created a cohesive building that highlights the building's original Art Deco design while providing a modern flare. The 2004 tower addition is clearly visible on the primary façade, however, the large rear additions of that time period are largely obscured from view from Hampton Street by the building itself and vegetation. Aside from where the new tower was built, the brick with terra cotta detailing on the original block remains intact and additions are respectful of the color scheme of these materials with their use of brick and limestone.

Like its exterior, the interior of The Virginia Home exemplifies the alterations and additions undertaken as the facility grew to meet demand. As such there are a myriad of building materials, many of which are original to the 1930 construction. The public corridors continue to retain the original multicolored glazed floor tiles. The historic steel stairs remain intact. The primary north-south and east-west corridors remain intact, as are most of the original restrooms and residents' rooms which retain historic door trim and historic closets. Likewise, as the design and materials of the building have been altered over time, its workmanship and feeling has also depreciated.

The Virginia Home was built in 1930 to house and care for permanently disabled Virginians. The use of the building remains unchanged since its construction and the additions over the years have allowed the facility to provide more aid to those in need. The building continues to reflect its association with the care of its residents.

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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.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH/MEDICINE

Period of Significance

1930 – 1970

Significant Dates

1930

1970

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Baskervill and Lambert Architects

Baskervill & Son

Doyle & Russell (Builder)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Virginia Home for the Incurables began in 1894 as Mary Tinsley Greenhow's quest to fill a void in care for permanently disabled Virginians. At that time, the only places for long-term care of such individuals were almshouses which had a tradition of harsh conditions, little sanitation and safety, and minimal care.¹ Greenhow's dream created a safe haven for a specific neglected population and even into the twentieth century it is the only institution of its kind in Virginia.² The Virginia Home remains unique in that it provides its "residents with secure, lifelong care and assistance so they can experience active and meaningful lives."³ Throughout its history, the group adapted to the needs of its residents, increased numbers of applicants, changes in medical philosophy, and changes in funding by building larger facilities. The Virginia Home at 1101 Hampton Street is the organization's third facility and it grew as necessary to serve its residents while maintaining an architecturally cohesive and useful building. As such, The Virginia Home is significant under Criterion A under Health and Medicine and its period of significance extends from the initial construction of the facility in 1930 to its last, historic, addition in 1970. In addition to the ever-present need for the facility by disabled residents of the state, the timing of this renovation and addition was also likely in response to the passing of Medicare and Medicaid Act in 1965. As the only such facility within the Commonwealth of Virginia, The Virginia Home has statewide significance.⁴

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History

Dating back to medieval times, the care of the elderly and people with disabilities fell to families or by care at almshouses, or poorhouses. These institutions, often run by religious orders, provided a centralized place for the care of a broad range of people in need: elderly, people with mental and/or physical disabilities, orphans, widows, people without financial means, and people with infectious diseases.⁵ This form of care transferred to the colonies and the United States as local

¹ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Health and Medicine Division; Board on Health Care Services; Committee on the Quality of Care in Nursing Homes, "The National Imperative to Improve Nursing Home Quality: Honoring Our Commitment to Residents, Families, and Staff," *Evolution and Landscape of Nursing Home Care in the United States*. (Washington D.C.: National Academies Press, 2022): 2.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK584647/>.

² "Virginia Home For Incurables Fills One Of Greatest Needs," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. October 18, 1929.
www.newspapers.com; Doug Vaughan, email correspondence with author, March 5, 2026.

³ *The Virginia Home...a very special and unique place*. Pamphlet, pre-2003. Document on file, Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

⁴ Doug Vaughan, email correspondence with the author, March 5, 2026.

⁵ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, "The National Imperative."

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governments opened such establishments. However, over time the almshouse in general became synonymous with “failure and despair.”⁶

Richmond’s first almshouse appears to have been built in the early nineteenth century and was replaced in 1859 (VDHR 127-0353) to help accommodate the city’s growing poor population. In Richmond, following its use as a Confederate hospital during the Civil War, the needs of the almshouse far surpassed the attention and monetary support given to it during Reconstruction and it remained in disrepair throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century.⁷ It was in this setting of neglect and need that The Virginia Home came to be in 1894 under the leadership of Mary Tinsley Greenhow.

Born January 4, 1845 to Samuel C. Greenhow, City Treasurer of Richmond, and Mary Tinsley Johnson, of Orange County and Richmond, Mary Tinsley Greenhow (1845-1929) had a charmed childhood.⁸ As a teenager, however, her life took a turn when she was thrown from her horse and severely injured her back – an injury from which she would never fully recover.⁹ For the first three years after the accident, Greenhow was well cared for at home by her parents and sisters. Given her family’s wealth, she began to wonder about those of less fortunate means.¹⁰ From this moment, Greenhow devoted her life to the care of those permanently disabled.¹¹

She began by working with Rebekah Peterkin, the founder of Sheltering Arms Hospital (VDHR 127-0017). Though the institution certainly had an important and giving mandate, Greenhow wished to create a space that would serve people like her, who had permanent disabilities. Mary Tinsley Greenhow funded her endeavor by making and selling fancy mats for women’s dressing tables and receiving contributions from “public spirited citizens” and with \$300 she began an institution – the first of its kind in the state – that continues to serve disabled residents of Virginia.¹²

On March 1, 1894, Virginia’s General Assembly granted a charter for The Virginia Home of Incurables to “provide and maintain within this state a comfortable and permanent home for indigent” citizens of Virginia “afflicted with an incurable physical disability or disease not malignantly contagious and to provide such inmates with proper medical treatment and attendance.”¹³ As Robert Butler, the founding father of modern geriatrics, described, “A long-term care institution should be homelike – not sterile, antiseptic or reminiscent of a motel. It should be

⁶ Foundation Aiding The Elderly (FATE). “The History of Nursing Homes.” <https://www.4fate.org/history.pdf>. December 16, 2025.

⁷ Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff and Carden C. McGehee, Jr., “The Almshouse,” National Register of Historic Places Inventory – Nomination Form (1981).

⁸ Florence Boston Decker, Fleetwood Garner, and Audrey Dean. *The Virginia Home for Incurables 1894-1958*. 1958; “Mary Tinsley Greenhow and The Virginia Home for Incurables,” *Meriwether Connections*. XXXIII, no.4(Oct-Dec. 2014), 10.

⁹ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 1.

¹⁰ “The Virginia Home is Result of One Woman’s Dream,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, October 26, 1994, www.genealogybank.com.

¹¹ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 2.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 1; “The Virginia Home is Result.”

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a lively place with many ties to the larger community.”¹⁴ This is certainly the type of environment that Greenhow endeavored to create.

With her meager capital, Greenhow rented a three-story dwelling at 1315 Ross Street in Richmond on December 18, 1894. Located behind the Governor’s Mansion, the site is now beneath a parking lot. The project began as a family endeavor with her sisters and a nephew contributing their time and skills.¹⁵ Mary Greenhow personally supervised the running of The Virginia Home and when a board was formed to operate it, she served as its president until 1904.¹⁶ The Board of Trustees was formed of women from various denominations and walks of life; they were aided, when needed, by an Advisory Board of men.¹⁷ Given the small accommodations, The Virginia Home quickly reached capacity at eight residents and the Board realized the need for a “large house as soon as possible, where the homeless and helpless doomed to a life of suffering could be sheltered, and their last day made comfortable.”¹⁸ Given the cultural climate of the day, however, unfortunately The Virginia Home only served White residents.¹⁹

New fundraising sources were tapped to aid in The Virginia Home’s operation and as new applications continued to come in, the Board of Trustees began looking for another property in a less congested area of the city. In 1897, a parcel was purchased at West Broad and Robinson streets in what was then Henrico County, now in the Fan neighborhood of Richmond. Aubrey and Gilbert Hunt designed this large, five-story brick home with a wrap-around porch, and it was open to residents November 10, 1898 (Figure 1).²⁰

¹⁴ Muriel R. Gillick, “The Evolution of the Nursing Home,” *Old and Sick in America: The Journey Through the Health Care System*. (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2017), 179.

¹⁵ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 2-3.

¹⁶ “The Virginia Home is Result.”

¹⁷ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 3.

¹⁸ *Report for 1903 Virginia Home for Incurables Richmond – Virginia*. (Richmond, VA: Taylor & Taylor, 1904).

¹⁹ A newspaper notice in *Richmond Afro American* points out that The Virginia Home has been open only to “white citizens of Virginia.” Like other institutions, it was likely only with increasing pressure during the Civil Rights movement that Black residents were admitted. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 1; “Want a Lifetime [sic] of Care for \$200? Then Read This,” *Richmond Afro American*, October 25, 1947, www.newspaperarchive.com.

²⁰ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 4.

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Figure 1: The Virginia Home for Incurables at Broad and Robinson streets circa 1900. Source: VCU Libraries

With this larger facility, the number of residents quickly rose to 20 until admissions were halted so that the Board could search for a better source of funding. For one source of fundraising, The Virginia Home, like other nonprofit organizations, began a Tag Day and they used this method over the years when the financial strain of operations grew.²¹ Given that The Virginia Home catered to people throughout the state, over time Tag Days for the home were instituted in different cities. However, with the high number of charities requesting money from Richmond's citizens, in 1924, the city's Council for Social Agencies replaced Tag Days with a Community Chest which would be shared by all of the charities.²² Despite the loss of its Tag Day, donations continued to pour into The Virginia Home and, when in need, the Board approached the Community Chest. Additionally, because The Virginia Home served citizens throughout the state, in 1914 the Virginia General Assembly began contributing to the budget.²³

In addition to Tag Days, the Community Chest, and Virginia General Assembly, private endowments were instituted; the first was through a donation by Peter Mayo. Others gave private donations in the form of "Memorial Rooms" by which a person would donate money for the

²¹ A Tag Day was a day when charitable organizations collected funds in the street, and the donors are given tags to show that they have contributed. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 4, 10.; *Victoria Red Cross During World War I*, <https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/victoriaredcrossworldwar1/community-events/tag-days/>.

²² The Community Chest became known as the Richmond Community and, later, the Richmond Area Community Chest. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 11.

²³ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 4, 10-11.

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furnishing of a room in memory of a loved one. This grew to the “Endowed Room” and “General Fund Room.” Additionally, over time, people donated properties to The Virginia Home which could then be sold and the profits added to The Virginia Home’s coffer. Early in the history of The Virginia Home, auxiliary groups also aided in funding.²⁴

With new revenue streams, residents were once more admitted into The Virginia Home. As enrollment increased, its building was enlarged with the addition of wings in 1921 and 1925 for a maximum capacity of 59 residents.²⁵ However, the W. Broad Street building became an inadequate facility for The Virginia Home. Its use as a care facility was deemed insufficient for its high value location along Broad Street and the structure itself lacked important fire safety measures.²⁶

With a large gift from Dr. Alexander Spiers George’s estate in the late 1920s, The Virginia Home Board now saw its vision of increasing its capacity for patients as a possibility.²⁷ The Virginia Home purchased the western half of the block bound by Powhatan, S. Meadow, Appomattox, and Hampton streets in 1929 overlooking Swan Lake in Byrd Park.²⁸ The construction of Byrd Park had begun in 1874, and its tranquility, amenities, lake views, and mature trees became a major draw for residential development along its surrounding blocks in the 1910s and 1920s.²⁹ The area became part of the City of Richmond in 1906.

With the land secured, The Virginia Home set forth in creating a new facility and choosing an architect. With a hefty resume of institutional buildings, Richmond architects Baskervill and Lambert were selected to design the new, modern building. Established in 1897 as Noland and Baskervill, a partnership between architect William Churchill Noland (1865-1951) and electrical engineer Henry Baskervill (1867-1930), the firm became Baskervill and Lambert in 1918 with the retirement of Noland and partnership with Alfred G. Lambert. The firm gained an early reputation among Richmond’s elite with their design of prominent grand homes and worked with medical and educational institutions.³⁰

Baskervill and Lambert created a grand, stepped five- to six-story, seventeen-bay masonry building featuring a seven-story, three-bay centered tower, two elevators, sun parlors on each floor, a broad porch along the front of the building with views overlooking Swan Lake, tiled kitchen and pantries, individual rooms with running water and hidden radiators, and a room dedicated to the

²⁴ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*.

²⁵ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 4-5.

²⁶ Elizabeth Copeland, “Richmond’s Contribution to Virginia Home for Incurables Invaluable,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, December 18, 1932, www.newspapers.com.

²⁷ Dr. A. Spiers George also donated money for the construction of the Home for Needy Confederate Women on N. Sheppard Street. Copeland “Richmond’s Contribution”; Library of Virginia, A Guide to the Home for Needy Confederate Women Records, 1862-1997, <https://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaxtf/view?docId=lva/vi00280.xml>.

²⁸ “Incurables to Get New Home in Byrd Park,” *The Richmond News Leader*, September 21, 1929, www.newspapers.com.

²⁹ Debra A. McClane, “William Byrd Park,” National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, August 28, 2015, 7.

³⁰ The firm became Bakervill & Son in 1932. Virginia Museum of History & Culture, “Baskervill & Son,” <https://virginiahistory.org/research/research-resources/finding-aids/baskervill-son-richmond-va>.

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new Occupational Therapy Department (Figure 2 through Figure 4). Additionally, a separate two-story building for “servants’ quarters” was built at the rear of the parcel.³¹ Richmond-based general contracting company Doyle and Russell constructed the facility at an estimated cost of \$300,000. Headed by Hobart E. Doyle and John W. Russell, the company worked on many large-scale buildings within Richmond and beyond, including the Pentagon in Northern Virginia.

Continuing the thread from The Virginia Home on W. Broad Street, the cornerstone laid there in 1898 was moved to the new location and re-laid on December 16, 1931.³² When the new building opened, a newspaper article hailed that “the five-story building which embodies the most modern ideas in institution construction” was now open for the care of those in need.³³ Baskervill and Lambert extended the beauty of their design from the building to the landscape with a brick wall enclosure, small reflecting pool, and brick walkways.³⁴

The importance of The Virginia Home within Richmond and throughout the Commonwealth was exemplified by the various details of it that were contributed by individuals and organizations. Mr. and Mrs. S.S. Rosendorf donated the bronze tablet bearing the name of the home. Mr. John R. Williams, of the Buckingham Slate Company, donated the flagstones used in various sections of the grounds. Though Baskervill and Lambert designed portions of the landscape, the James River Garden Club planned the garden and planted evergreens, flowers, and berry-bearing shrubs which would need comparatively little care and a fund given by T.W. Wood aided in the maintenance of the landscape.³⁵ In addition to an appropriation from the State, The Virginia Home continued to have an endowment and receive individual gifts either broadly or to be used to fund and maintain specific rooms.³⁶

³¹ The separate quarters was demolished with the first addition to The Virginia Home. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 6, 34; “Plans On File For Incurables Home In City,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, June 27, 1930, www.newspapers.com.

³² The cornerstone was removed in 2019 when the time capsule behind it was removed. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 5; Holly Prestidge, “Time capsule reveal kicks off celebration of facility’s history,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, January 17, 2019, www.newspapers.com.

³³ “Virginia Home For Incurables Opens Monday,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, August 9, 1931, www.newspapers.com.

³⁴ “Plan Garden for Home for Incurables,” *News Leader* (Richmond), August 6, 1931, www.newspapers.com.

³⁵ The Windsor Farm Garden Club took over responsibility of the garden in 1954 and continued its maintenance until 1966. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 6; “Plan Garden”; “Our Secret Garden.” The Virginia Home Archives.

³⁶ Copeland, “Richmond’s Contribution.”

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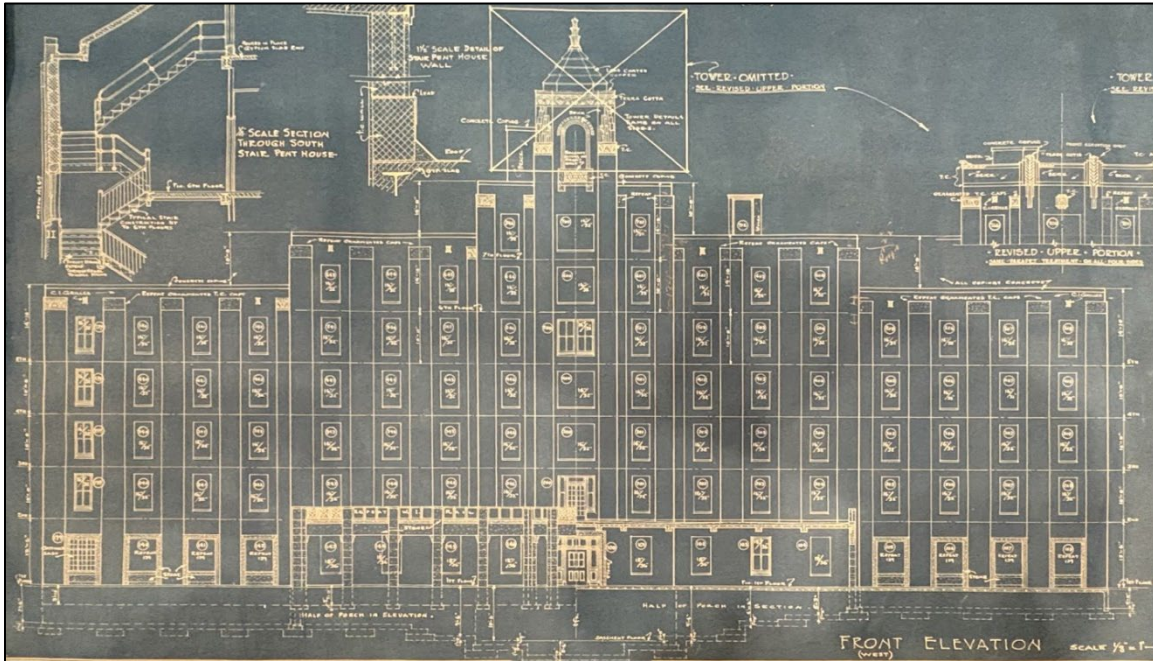


Figure 2: Baskerville and Lambert's design of The Virginia Home façade.³⁷ Source: Virginia Museum of History & Culture

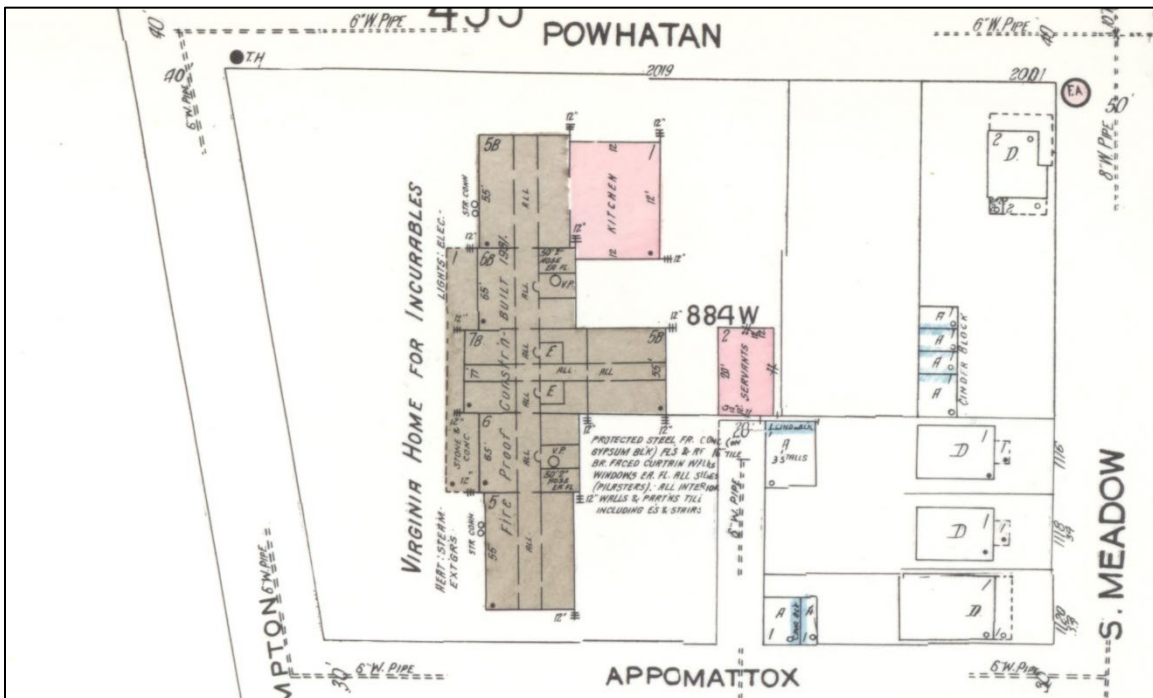


Figure 3: Detail of 1952 Sanborn Map depicting The Virginia Home for Incurables. Source: Library of Congress

³⁷ The top of the tower depicted on Baskerville and Lambert's plan of the façade, and singled out with a box, was omitted from the final design.

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Figure 4: 1930s photograph of The Virginia Home for Incurables. Source: The Virginia Home Archives

Doors opened at the new Virginia Home for Incurables on August 10, 1931.³⁸ A newspaper article described The Virginia Home as “beautiful in as simple and as comfortable a way as possible. It cares for 90 patients, with a capacity of 100, and is thought to be the largest hospital under one roof in the State. At any rate, it is the only institution of its kind in Virginia.”³⁹ By 1946, The Virginia Home had cared for 535 people in its 52 years of existence. While this number does not seem like many given “the time, effort, and money expended for them,” the vast majority of these residents spent the remainder of their lives – at that time up to 42 years – “under one roof, receiving food, medical care, clothing, all other necessities and many pleasures.”⁴⁰

In response to changes in perception and advances in medical research leading to new medications and therapies, by the early 1960s, The Virginia Home for Incurables wished to change its name to one where the connotation was not one of a lack of hope in which the stigma of an unpleasant name adversely affects the patients and public psychologically.⁴¹ It became The Virginia Home.

³⁸ With the now vacant home on Broad Street and deepening Depression, The Virginia Home opened the doors of that building to indigent families – “Inmates for the building are selected only after they have been thoroughly investigated as to their need, and if they become self-sustaining they forfeit the right to their place there and give way to a needier family.” This continued for several years before the building inspector felt the risk of fire was too great and the worst of the Great Depression was lessening. Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 26; “The Virginia Home is Result of One Woman’s Dream.”

³⁹ Copeland, “Richmond’s Contribution.”

⁴⁰ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 28.

⁴¹ “A New Name for The Home for Incurables,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, May 27, 1963, www.newspapers.com.

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The Virginia Home reached capacity of 100 residents in 1942 and with a clear eye towards the future, the organization began acquiring adjacent parcels on the remainder of the block as early as 1958, which would allow for expansion of the facility.⁴² Improvements to the operation of The Virginia Home were made following the passage of the Medicare and Medicaid Act in 1965, changes to the medical industry, and increasing normalization of physical, occupational, and recreational therapies. As these therapies developed, more space was necessary for the programs in The Virginia Home.⁴³

Like its original construction, all renovations and improvements at The Virginia Home were funded through fundraising and in 1970, the size of the facility increased.⁴⁴ It awarded the \$1.7 million contract to Doyle and Russell Construction Co. once more. Additions were planned for the physical and occupational therapy facilities and the kitchen, as well as a new elevator and eight new rooms, increasing resident capacity to 113.⁴⁵ Funds for these and future improvements came from private and foundation donations.

Renovations of The Virginia Home continued into the 1980s and 1990s. In the 1980s, the chapel wing was added to the southern elevation; the existing portico was enclosed thereby doubling the size of the dining room and lobby, and a new porch was created; and new furnishings for the severely disabled residents were added.⁴⁶ During the 1993 renovation, the front porch was enclosed (though it was later reopened), and rear additions were constructed to house a swimming pool, gymnasium, occupational therapy department, garage, workshop, and storage facilities. The work was undertaken by the contractors Taylor and Parrish.⁴⁷

A major fundraising campaign began in the early 2000s to help fund a major renovation and expansion effort at The Virginia Home in an effort to reduce a seven-year waiting list for admission and provide more space for physical and recreational therapy and other programs.⁴⁸ The \$15 million 2004 renovation expanded residents' rooms, therapy departments and medical and dental offices.⁴⁹ The renovation also altered the central tower on the primary façade. Despite the renovations and enlargements, the decision by The Virginia Home to exclusively use Baskerville as the architect for all major building campaigns since 1930 has resulted in a cohesive building evolution that respects the original Art Deco design.

⁴² Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 6.

⁴³ Betty Pettinger, "Virginia Home Thrives on Gifts, Effort From Many," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, January 11, 1981, www.newspapers.com.

⁴⁴ Decker et al., *The Virginia Home for Incurables*, 18.

⁴⁵ "Virginia Home Contract Slated," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, September 18, 1970, www.newspapers.com; "The Virginia Home is Result of One Woman's Dream."

⁴⁶ Pettinger, "Virginia Home Thrives."

⁴⁷ "Virginia Home addition underway," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, August 22, 1993, www.newspapers.com.

⁴⁸ "The Virginia Home receives challenge gift from area couple," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, December 6, 2001, www.newspapers.com.

⁴⁹ Copeland, "Richmond's Contribution."

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When The Virginia Home for Incurables opened in 1894, its primary purpose was for the physical care of its residents. Changes in the medical field and society and personal outlook of those disabled, particularly after the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, have transformed residents of The Virginia Home to be “as independent and contributive to society as they can be.”⁵⁰ With their operation towards the compassionate and professional long-term care of people with irreversible physical disabilities since 1894, in 2014 the Virginia General Assembly commended and celebrated their 120th anniversary of service.⁵¹ Though in 2025 The Virginia Home continues its operations at 1101 Hampton Street, after 96 years their residents will be moved to a new, larger facility in Hanover County. The existing Virginia Home will remain residential as it transforms into an apartment building.⁵²

Criterion A: Health/Medicine

The Virginia Home is significant at the state level under Criterion A in the area of Health/Medicine due to its unique mandate of providing long-term care to severely disabled residents. Requirements for the residents have historically been to be an adult, over the age of 18; have a physical disability that was not caused by a curable or terminal disease; and have no substance abuse issues or significant mental illness.⁵³ Another requirement was that the applicant be a resident of Virginia which suddenly presented a long-sought care option to those in need in the far reaches of the state and it remains the only such facility in Virginia. Examples of similar organizations on the east coast include the Inglis House in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and the Boston Home in Boston, Massachusetts.⁵⁴

While the typical nursing home is intended for the elderly and terminally ill and rehabilitation hospitals care for their clientele in the short term, The Virginia Home serves those that are permanently disabled but otherwise healthy and for whom living at home or independently is not practical.⁵⁵ Medical technology and therapies may have changed over time, however, the essential goal of The Virginia Home remained the same – to “provide a degree of professional care in a loving and homelike setting so that each resident, as an individual, can have as full and happy a life as possible.”⁵⁶

As noted in a 1932 newspaper article: “Although the Virginia Home for Incurables extends its work to the State, as is intimated in the title, it is without doubt, as it stands today, an asset to the City of Richmond and must be thought of not only as such, but as another testament of Richmond’s service to the State, which makes her in many more ways than one the Capital City.”⁵⁷

⁵⁰ Pettinger, “Virginia Home Thrives.”

⁵¹ House Joint Resolution No. 228, 2014 Session, <https://legacylis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?141+ful+HJ228ER+pdf>.

⁵² Jackie DiBartolomeo, “Richmond Bizsense: Groundbreaking,” *The Virginia Home*, November 19, 2025, <https://thevirginiahome.org/press/richmond-bizsense-groundbreaking/>.

⁵³ Tom Campbell, “The Virginia Home marks 100 years of service in state,” *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, February 28, 1994.

⁵⁴ Vaughan, March 5, 2026.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ “The Virginia Home is Result of One Woman’s Dream.”

⁵⁷ Copeland, “Richmond’s Contribution.”

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: The Virginia Home, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 127-6157

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.89

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37°32'26.10"N Longitude: 77°28'17.10"W
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:
2. Zone: Easting: Northing:
3. Zone: Easting: Northing:
4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Virginia Home is located in the Byrd Park neighborhood of the City of Richmond. The boundary is formed by a single tax parcel (W0000884006) that is bound by Hampton Street to the west, Powhatan Street to the north, S. Meadow Street to the east, and Appomattox Street to the south. The continuation of an alley between Hampton and S. Meadow streets extends partially into the parcel from the south. The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the attached Location Map and Sketch Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the original parcels purchased for The Virginia Home in 1929 and 1930 and the five parcels purchased in 1958, 1969, 1978, and 1979 as the facility expanded. This encompasses the majority of the block bound by Hampton, Powhatan, S. Meadow, and Appomattox streets. Though an alley extends into the block from the south and is used by The Virginia Home, it is under separate ownership (as streets and alleys in the city are) and it therefore not included within the boundaries of The Virginia Home. The boundary includes The Virginia Home and its historic garden.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Dara Friedberg and Anna White (Research Historians)
organization: Dutton + Associates, a Timmons Group company
street & number: 1001 Boulders Parkway, Suite 100
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23225
e-mail: dfriedberg@dutton-associates.com
telephone: 804-897-1960
date: March 2026

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: The Virginia Home

City or Vicinity: Richmond

County: N/A

State: Virginia

Photographer: Anna White (unless otherwise stated)

Date Photographed: January 22, 2026 (unless otherwise stated)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 18. Setting of The Virginia Home from Byrd Park, view northeast.

2 of 18. Front of The Virginia Home, view east.

3 of 18. Detail of tower ornamentation, view northeast.

4 of 18. Detail of ornamentation, view north.

5 of 18. Historic brick wall along Appomattox Street, view east.

6 of 18. Garden and chapel addition, view southwest.

7 of 18. Late twentieth and early twenty-first century additions, view southwest.

8 of 18. Rear of The Virginia Home with the T wing and kitchen block, view southwest.

9 of 18. First floor lobby, view west.

10 of 18. First floor community room, view south.

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11 of 18. First floor chapel, view southeast.

12 of 18. First floor dining room, view north.

13 of 18. First floor kitchen, view east.

14 of 18. First floor hallway leading to therapy swimming pool and gymnasium, view south.

15 of 18. Second floor hallway of T wing, view west.

16 of 18. Second floor restroom, view southeast.

17 of 18. Stairwell to seventh floor, view southeast.

18 of 18. Seventh floor hallway, view west.

Embedded Images Photo Log

Figure 1: The Virginia Home for Incurables at Broad and Robinson streets circa 1900. Cook, Huestis P. Virginia Home for Incurables, W. Broad and Robinson streets, Richmond, Virginia. VCU Libraries, Social Welfare History Project Image Portal.

Figure 2: Baskerville and Lambert's design of The Virginia Home façade. Baskervill & Lambert, Virginia Home for Incurables. 1930. Baskervill & Son (Richmond, VA) projects. Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

Figure 3: 1952 Sanborn Map. Library of Congress
Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Richmond, Independent Cities, Virginia. Sanborn Map Company, Vol. 4. Republished 1952, 1952. Map. https://www.loc.gov/item/sanborn09064_019/.

Figure 4: 1930s photograph of The Virginia Home for Incurables.
The Virginia Home for Incurables, 1930s. The Virginia Home Archives.

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

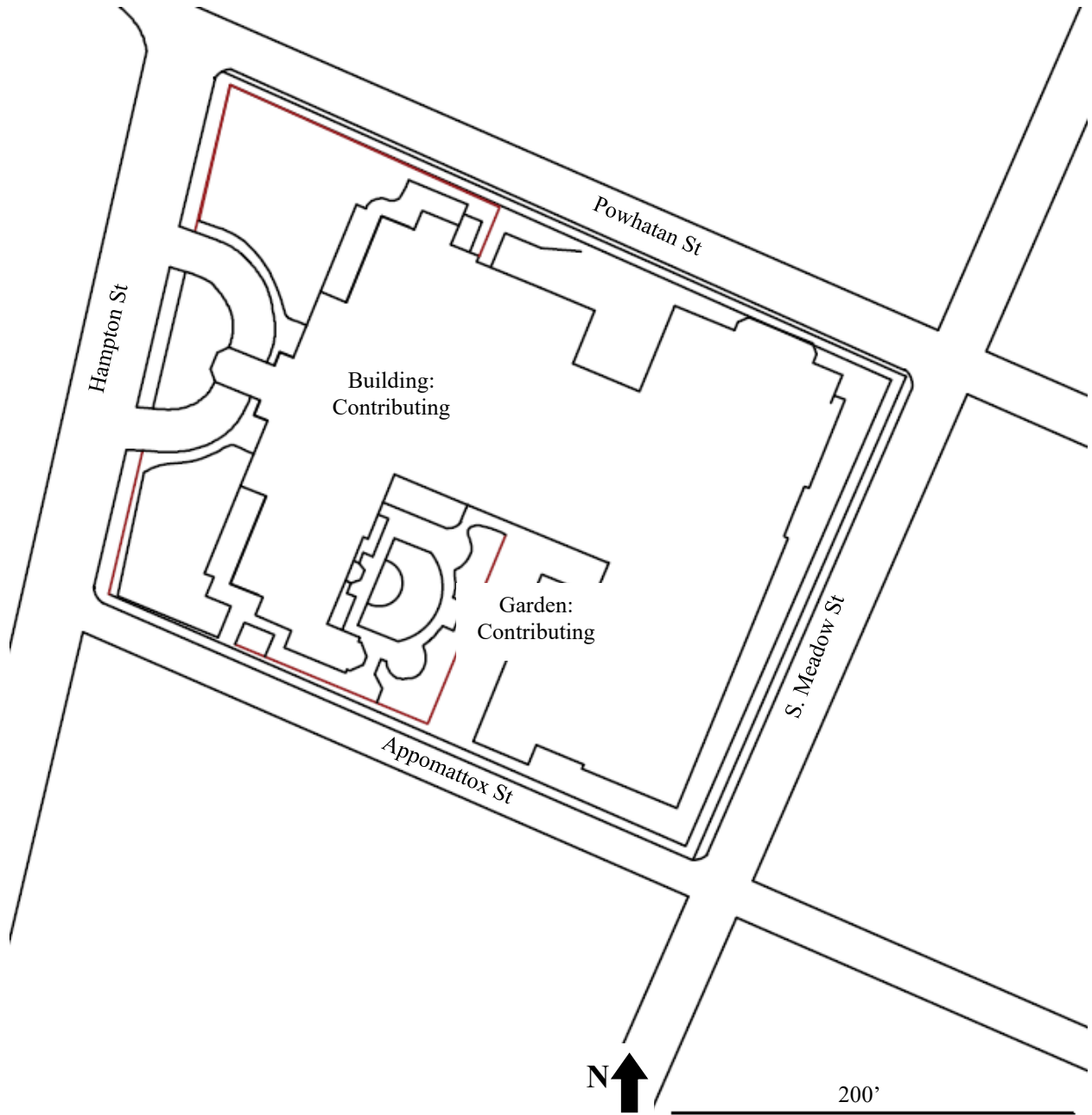
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

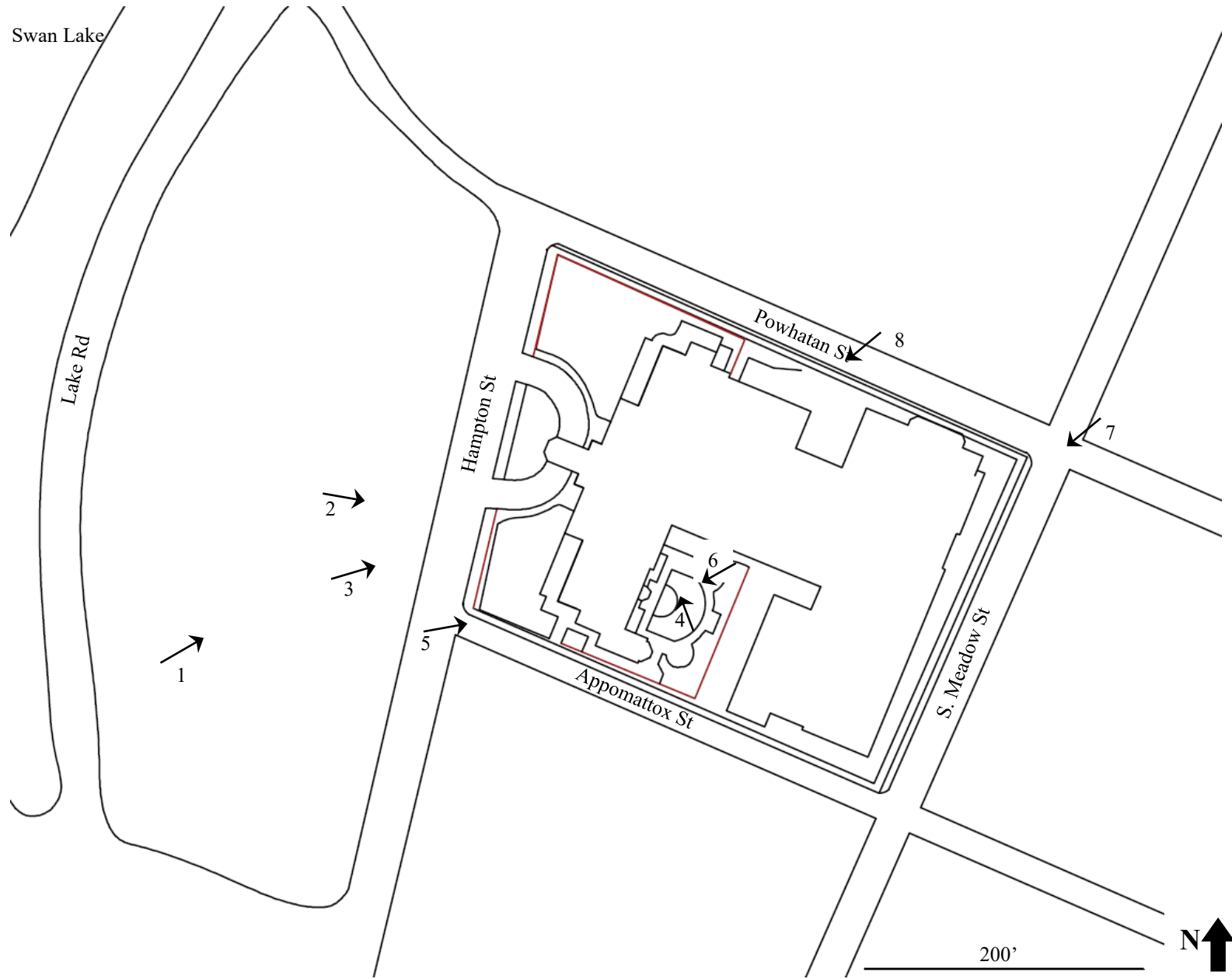
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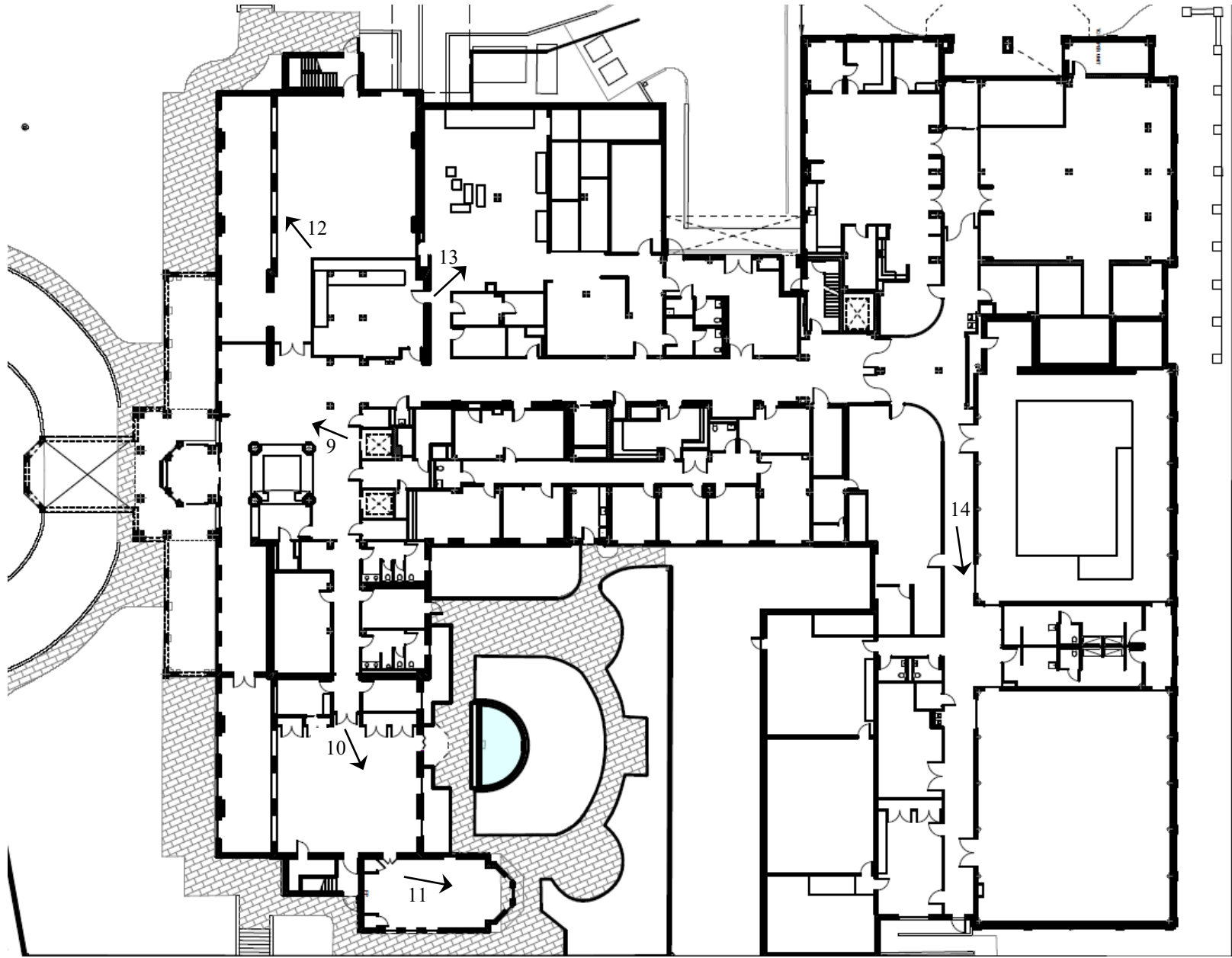
The Virginia Home, Richmond, VA, 2026 - VDHR #127-6157
Location Map
Map Source: Richmond Parcel Map
Latitude: 37°32'26.10"N Longitude: 77°28'17.10"W



**The Virginia Home
City of Richmond, VA
VDHR #127-6157
Sketch Map**

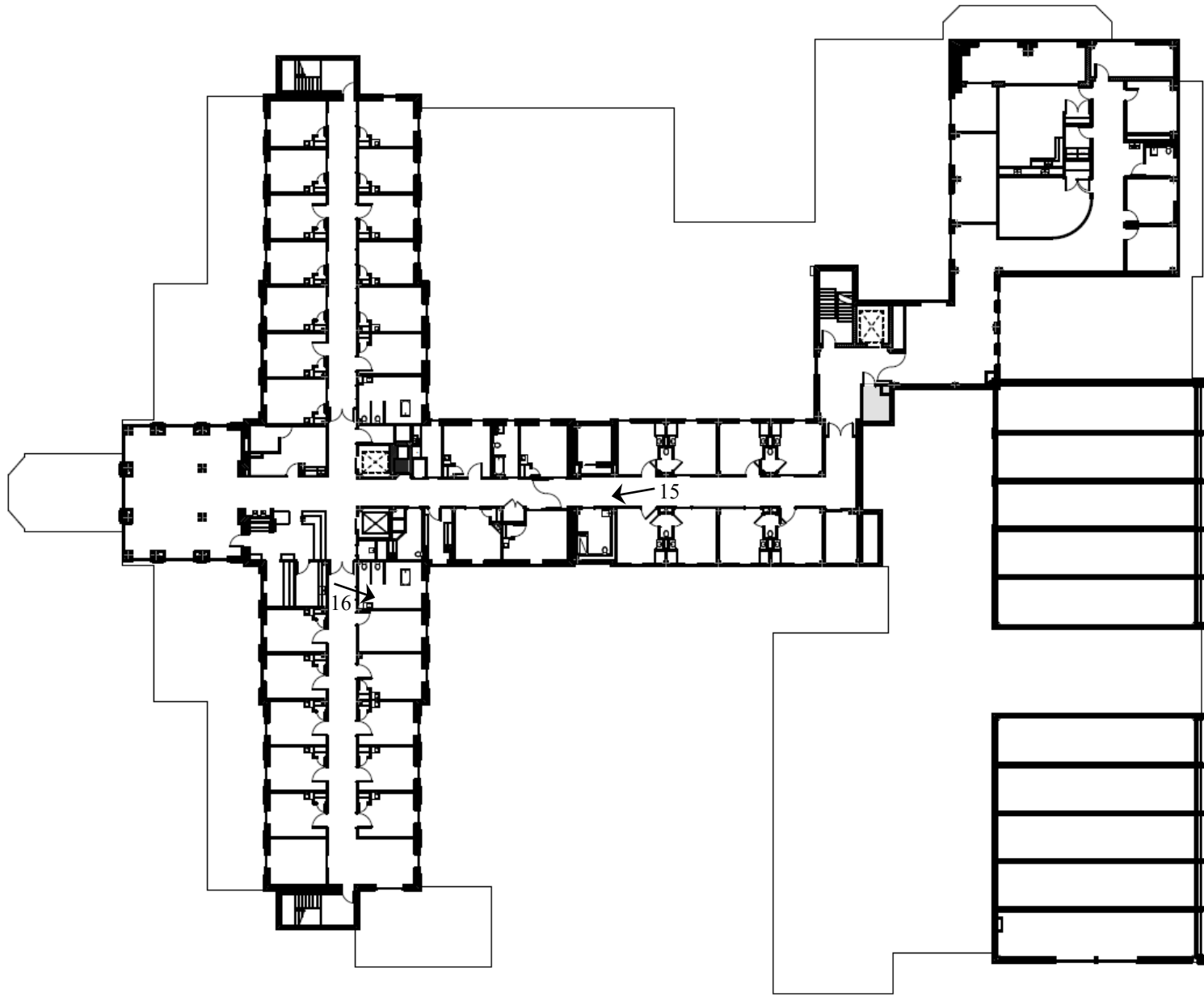


The Virginia Home
City of Richmond, VA
VDHR #127-6157
(Red line in western half of block is historic brick wall)



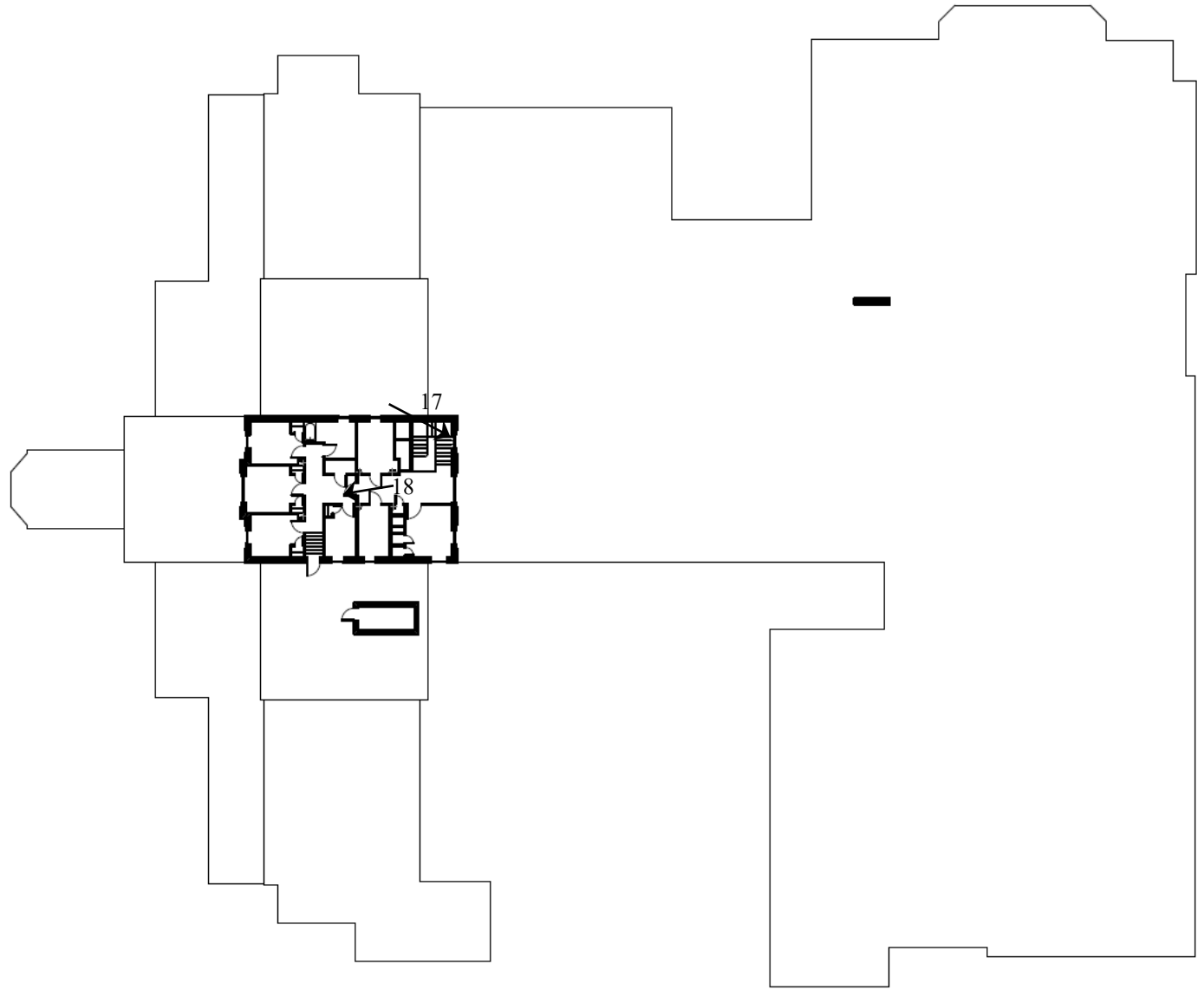
The Virginia Home
City of Richmond, VA
VDHR #127-6157
First Floor

N
Not to Scale



The Virginia Home
City of Richmond, VA
VDHR #127-6157
Second Floor

N 
Not to Scale



The Virginia Home
City of Richmond, VA
VDHR #127-6157
Seventh Floor

N 
Not to Scale



































