



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 127-8296

1. General Property Information

Property name: Bienvenue

Property address: 6 Tapoan Rd.
City or Town: Richmond
Zip code: 23226

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Richmond

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building X Site _____ Structure _____ Object _____

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: .68 acre lot

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban X Suburban _____ Town _____ Village _____ Hamlet _____ Rural _____

Briefly describe the property’s overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Bienvenue sits on a 0.68-acre level lot, just two houses from the historic district. The grounds include a brick privacy wall, a fountain, and a brick patio overlooking professionally landscaped gardens. The home is marked by a portico entry designed by renowned landscape architect Charles Gillette.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): The residence is a premier example of colonial architecture, featuring a classic brick-and-slate exterior. Its historical integrity is underscored by the preservation of original materials during its relocation, with each brick reportedly moved individually to rebuild the structure. It features oversized "Jefferson" windows containing original wavy glass, providing significant historical texture to the facade. The home maintains many of its original windows and wood doors along with their original hardware.

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: The home is marked by a portico entry designed by renowned landscape architect Charles Gillette. The home itself was built from 1801 to 1803 in Western Hanover.

If the builder is known, please list here: _____

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1801 – 1803 in Western Hanover County. In its current location, 1937.

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Bienvenue, located at **6 Tapoan Road** in Richmond, Virginia, is a remarkable historic residence that exemplifies early 19th-century craftsmanship merged with early 20th-century preservation efforts. Originally constructed in **1803 in Hanover County**, the home was meticulously disassembled and reconstructed at its current site in **1937**.

The residence is a premier example of **Colonial architecture**, featuring a classic brick-and-slate exterior. Its historical integrity is underscored by the preservation of original materials during its relocation, with each brick reportedly moved individually to rebuild the structure.

- The home is marked by a portico entry designed by renowned landscape architect **Charles Gillette**. It features oversized "Jefferson" windows containing original wavy glass, providing significant historical texture to the facade.
- The interior is characterized by 9½-foot ceilings and a soaring "Queen's Rise" turned staircase in the front hall. Architectural hallmarks include period millwork, wide heart pine floors, and six wood-burning masonry fireplaces distributed throughout the formal living areas and bedrooms.
- The property sits on a 0.68-acre level lot near the University of Richmond. The grounds include a brick privacy wall, a fountain, and a brick patio overlooking professionally landscaped gardens.

The home's relocation in 1937 aligns with a broader Richmond-area trend of preserving significant early Virginia structures by moving them to burgeoning suburban neighborhoods like the Three Chopt/CCV area. This practice was famously shared by other local landmarks that are on the register such as Agecroft Hall and Virginia House, which were also moved and reconstructed during the same era.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

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4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

In 1799, Samuel Mosby was assessed with 172 acres in Hanover County. By 1807, Mosby had acquired over 1,500 acres, including land formerly owned by the Dandridge and Hughes families. Between the years of 1801 and 1803, Mosby constructed a large brick home which he named Bienvenue, on his property in western Hanover County.

An insurance policy describes the house, which was valued at \$6,000 in 1815, as a two-story brick dwelling covered with wood. The drawing on the insurance policy states that an addition was added to the rear of the house in 1815, possibly to accommodate Mosby's family of ten children. The policy also describes the dependencies which included a large barn, stable, kitchen and a frame spinning house.

The 1820 census showed that Mosby needed 44 slaves to maintain his large estate.

The property was conveyed to John Williamson Bowles after 1820. Bowles died prior to 1877 and his estate inventory of a large amount of household furnishings, including 12 windsor chairs, was sold. His widow, Jane H. Bowles kept one spinning wheel, cupboard, bed, table, stove, six chairs, horse, cow, wagon and two hogs.

Lucian M. Cochrane had worked for John Bowles since February 1869. In May of 1880, Cochrane purchased Bienvenue Farm and 210 ½ acres from M.J. Bowles. Jane Bowles retained 64 acres and had life rights or dower interest.

The home known as Bienvenue passed through several generations of the Cochrane family until in 1937, Calvin C. Cochrane sold the house to Mrs. Margare Spencer Robertson of Richmond. Bienvenue was disassembled and rebuilt near the University of Richmond campus in Richmond, Virginia.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- Hanover County Land Tax Records, Virginia State Library
- Mutual Assurance Insurance Policy Index, Virginia State Library
- Hanover County Will Book 4, p. 622
- Hanover County Deed Book 12, p. 393
- Hanover County Deed Book 106, P. 30
- Old Homes of Hanover County

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: X _____ Public\Local _____ Public\State _____ Public\Federal _____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Nicole L. Brenner and W. Ross Grogg, IV

organization: _____

street & number: 4702 Stuart Avenue

city or town: Richmond state: Virginia zip code: 23226

e-mail: NicoleLBrenner@gmail.com, William.Grogg@gmail.com telephone: (703)946-2518, (845)489-2169

Legal Owner's Signature: _____

Date: 3/25/26

• • *Signature required for processing all applications.* • •

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: _____

organization: _____

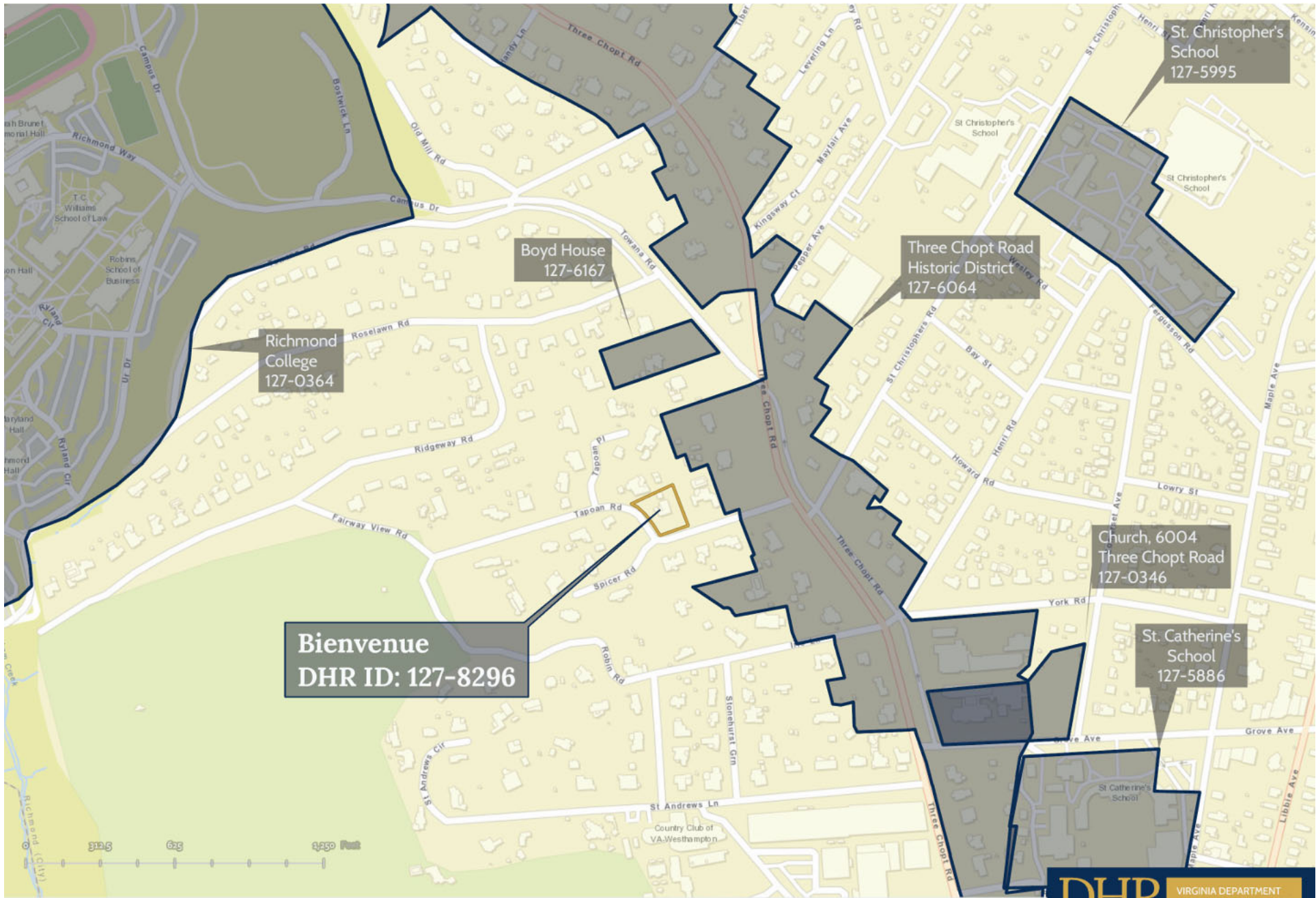
street & number: _____

city or town: _____ state: _____ zip code: _____

e-mail: _____ telephone: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!

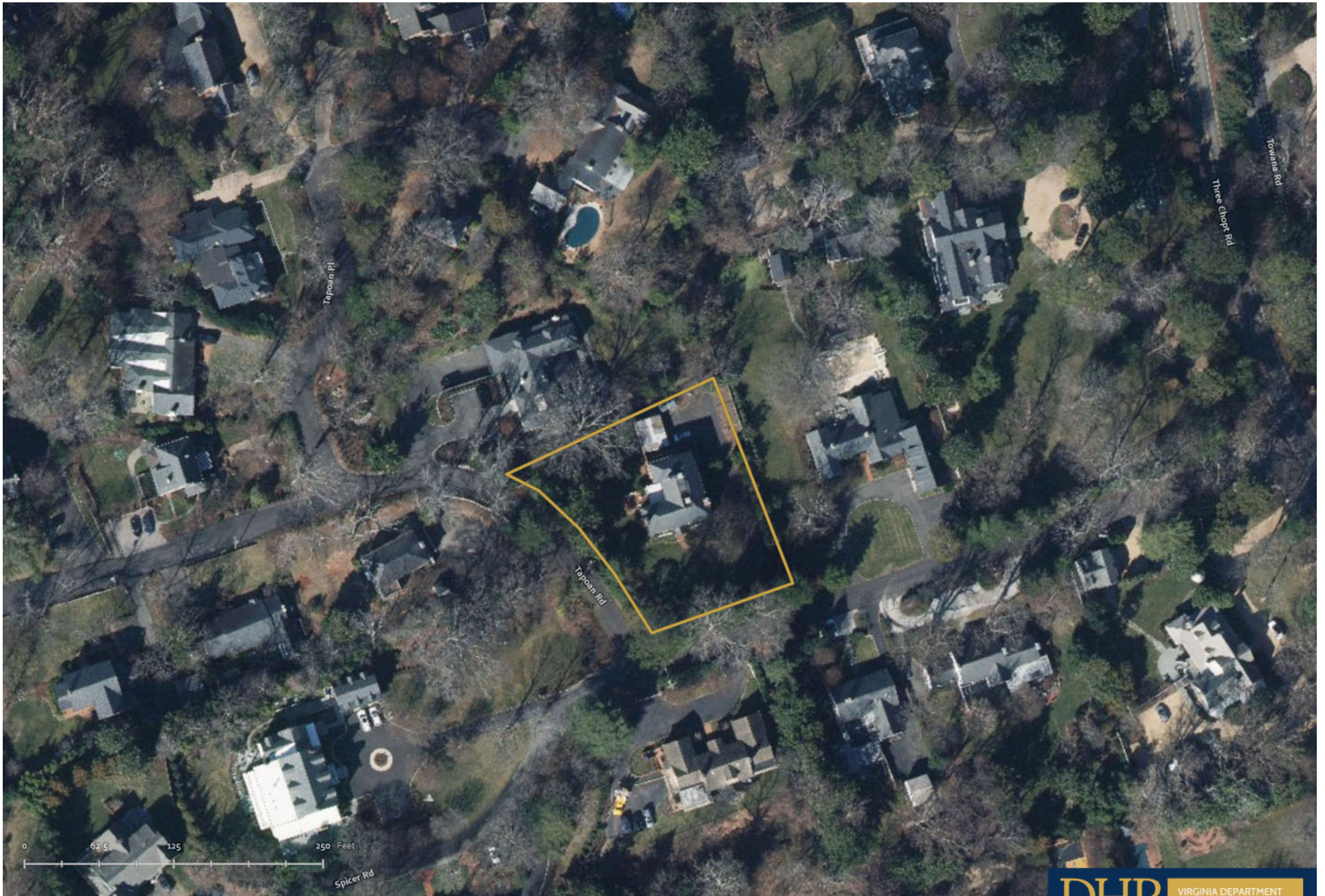


Bienvenue
City of Richmond, Virginia
DHR ID: 127-8296

- 127-8296
- VLR/NRHP/NHL Listed



Created By: D. Bascone, 4/8/2026
 Sources: VDHR 2026, ESRI 2026, VDOT 2026, VGIN 2026
 Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.



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DHR VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF HISTORIC RESOURCES



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