

VLR: 11-5-68
 NRHP: 4-16-69
 NHL: 11-11-71

127-112

Form 10-300
 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
 Kent-Valentine House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
 Kent-Valentine House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
 12 E. Franklin Street

CITY OR TOWN:
 Richmond

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.) CODE: 760

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
 Mrs. Theodore M. Curtis, Mrs. Wilfred Goodwin, Mr. G. G. Valentine, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
 12 E. Franklin Street

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
 Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
 Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kent-Valentine House is a three-story, stuccoed brick mansion with a two-story wing at the rear of the west side. The five-bay Franklin Street facade (south) is dominated by a two-story, three-bay portico with Roman Ionic columns and ballustrade. The ironwork between the columns remains from the previous porch and its "lattice" motif is unique in the city. The side wing has a similar one-story porch. The low-hipped roof has four interior end chimneys and a bracketed cornice. The first floor windows are floor length while the almost square third floor windows are of the "attic" type. The long outbuilding in the rear of the yard is obviously the result of several periods of construction and includes a servants' quarters and carriage house.

The central hall and two east rooms reflect the 1904 alterations and enlargements in the Colonial Revival style. The central hall has a triple flight of stairs with the hand rail ending in a curved volute at the newel and being ramped in the short flight between the first and second landings. The broad entrance to the east rooms from the hall is framed by Corinthian columns and pilasters supporting a plain architrave and frieze, the latter complete with triglyphs. The mantel in the southeast room has a marble surround framed by a architrave with crossettes and a decorated frieze and shelf above. This and every other mantel on the first floor has a gilt-framed mirror on the overmantle. The northeast room is rather plain except for a marble mantel with a three-centered arched opening and carved leaf decoration. The western double parlour retains its 1845 Gothic theme being divided by sliding doors and framed by clustered columns supporting a three-centered arch and pierced spandrels. Both marble mantels use the clustered colonnettes with a modified Tudor arch.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1845, 1904

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Documented evidence indicates that Horace Kent of Richmond had his home built in 1845 from plans by Isaiah Rogers of Boston. Rogers, who was known for his revolutionary hotel designs and who designed the now demolished Exchange Hotel and Exchange Bank in Richmond, was described by Talbot Hamlin as "one of the most remarkable designers of the entire Greek Revival movement". The diary of Rogers indicates that a Mr. Kent requested plans in 1841 as well as in 1844, that apparently the 1841 plans were rejected, and that Rogers was in that period designing a Gothic Revival house for E. Reddington Mudge in Swampscott, Massachusetts, suggesting an interior much like the western double parlour at the Kent-Valentine House. The former was destroyed and thus the latter is the only identified residential structure standing designed by Rogers.

Granville G. Valentine purchased the house in 1904 and proceeded to make considerable alterations. The one-story iron porch which had extended the full length of the front and around the west corner was removed when the present portico was built, and the iron was retained only between the columns. The three-story bay was expanded to five bays. The interior was altered to the Colonial Revival tastes except for the double parlour. The Kent-Valentine House with its quarter-block, park-like setting, occupies an important point on the northwest corner of First and Franklin Streets across First Street from Linden Row, a magnificent range of eight Greek Revival townhouses. Together, these two architectural units form an important visual element in the fast disappearing historic character of Franklin Street.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rogers, Isaiah (unpublished notes on his diary), Valentine Museum Research Library.

Scott, Mary Wingfield, Old Richmond Neighborhoods, Richmond, 1950.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37° 32' 37"	77° 26' 35"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Staff
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: August 10, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116, Ninth Street Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name: Dr. Edward P. Alexander

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date: 10-10-70

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

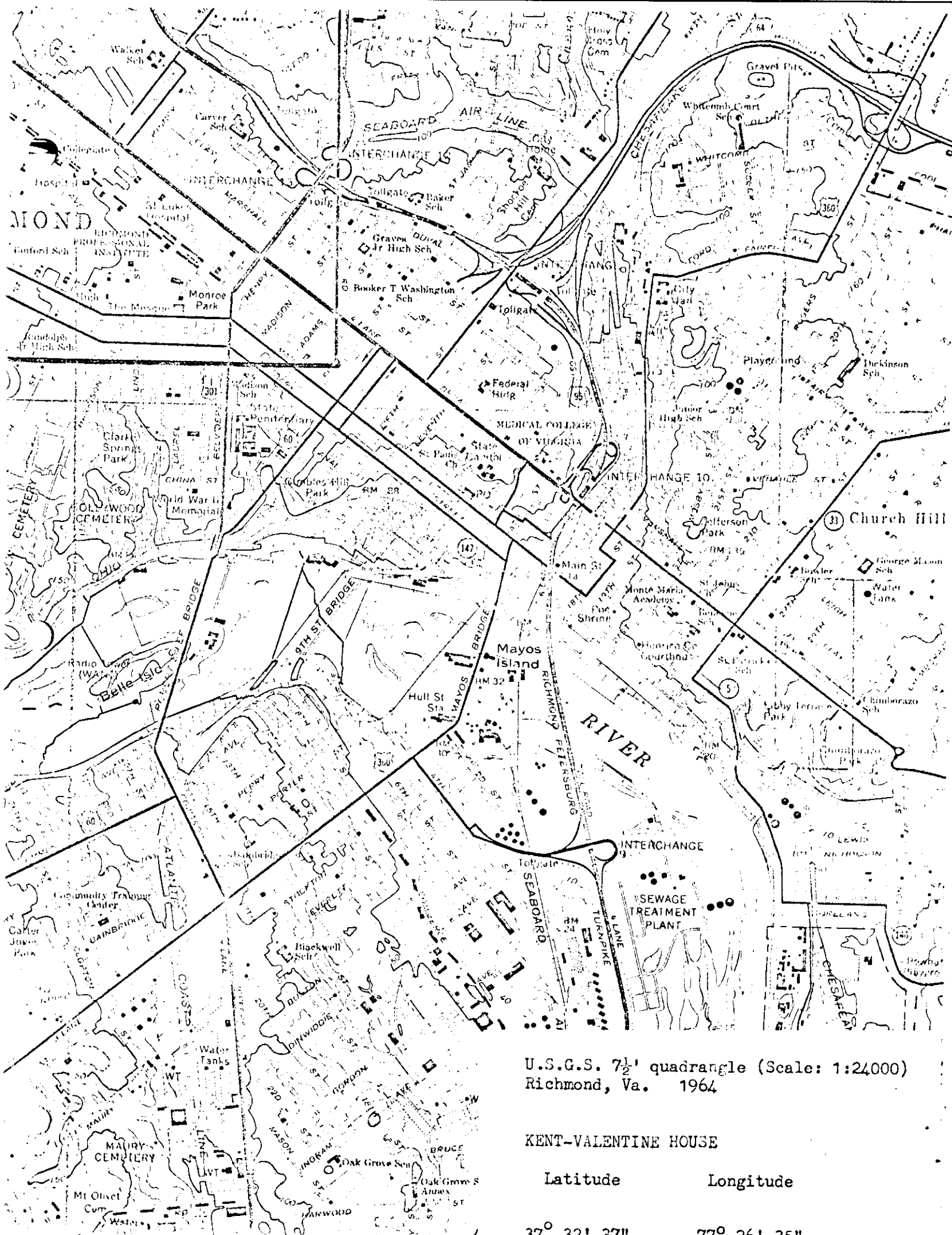
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1957 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. Code: 08



U.S.G.S. 7 1/2' quadrangle (Scale: 1:24,000)
 Richmond, Va. 1964

KENT-VALENTINE HOUSE

Latitude Longitude

37° 32' 37" 77° 26' 35"