

VLR: 11-5-68
NRHP: 6-11-69

127-121

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Bell Tower				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Bell Tower				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Capitol Square				
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond				
STATE: Virginia		CODE: 45	COUNTY: (in cit.)	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>		Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>
				Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
				ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>
				Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Headquarters for</u> <u>First Virginia</u> <u>Regiment</u>
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNERS NAME: Commonwealth of Virginia				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond				
STATE: Virginia		CODE: 45	Virginia	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Henrico County Clerk's Office				
STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street at 22nd Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond		STATE: Virginia	CODE: 45	Virginia
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 14.12 acres				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 08	Richmond (in cit.)

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)
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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bell Tower in Capitol Square is a simple yet pleasing Federal-style composition. It is a square, three-story brick structure with one bay on each of its sides. Above the first floor on each side, the tower features a wide recessed arch in which is set a rectangular window with a round window above. Crowning the tower is a simple cornice and a domed, arcaded octagonal belvedere, surrounded by a wooden balustrade, which houses the bell. Except for some repointing of the brickwork and the replacement of the balustrade, the Bell Tower has remained relatively unchanged since it was first erected.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. 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) 1824

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The Capitol Square Bell Tower was erected in 1824 by Levi Swain to replace an earlier wooden one. It was originally built as a guardhouse for the Public Guard as well as a signal tower for emergencies and meetings. On April 21, 1861 the bell rang to report the Federal gunboat "Pawnee" approaching the city, and again on February 7, 1864 it sounded the alarm for Dahlgren's Raid. The present bell in the tower dates from 1933.

The Bell Tower is a pleasing design in itself, and its particular location in Capitol Square makes it an effective focal point for the end of Franklin Street.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dulaney, Paul S., The Architecture of Historic Richmond, University Press of Virginia, 1968.
 Mordecai, Samuel, Richmond in Bygone Days, 1860 edition.
 O'Neal, William B., Architecture in Virginia, Virginia Museum, 1968.

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 ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 32 ' 21 "	77 ° 26 ' 12 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
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: April 23, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

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 Edw. P. Alexander per form.
 Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Comm.

Date May 20, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert Allen Covatta
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date JUN 11 1969

ATTEST:
William J. Murtagh
 Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 11 1969

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

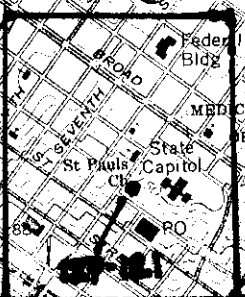
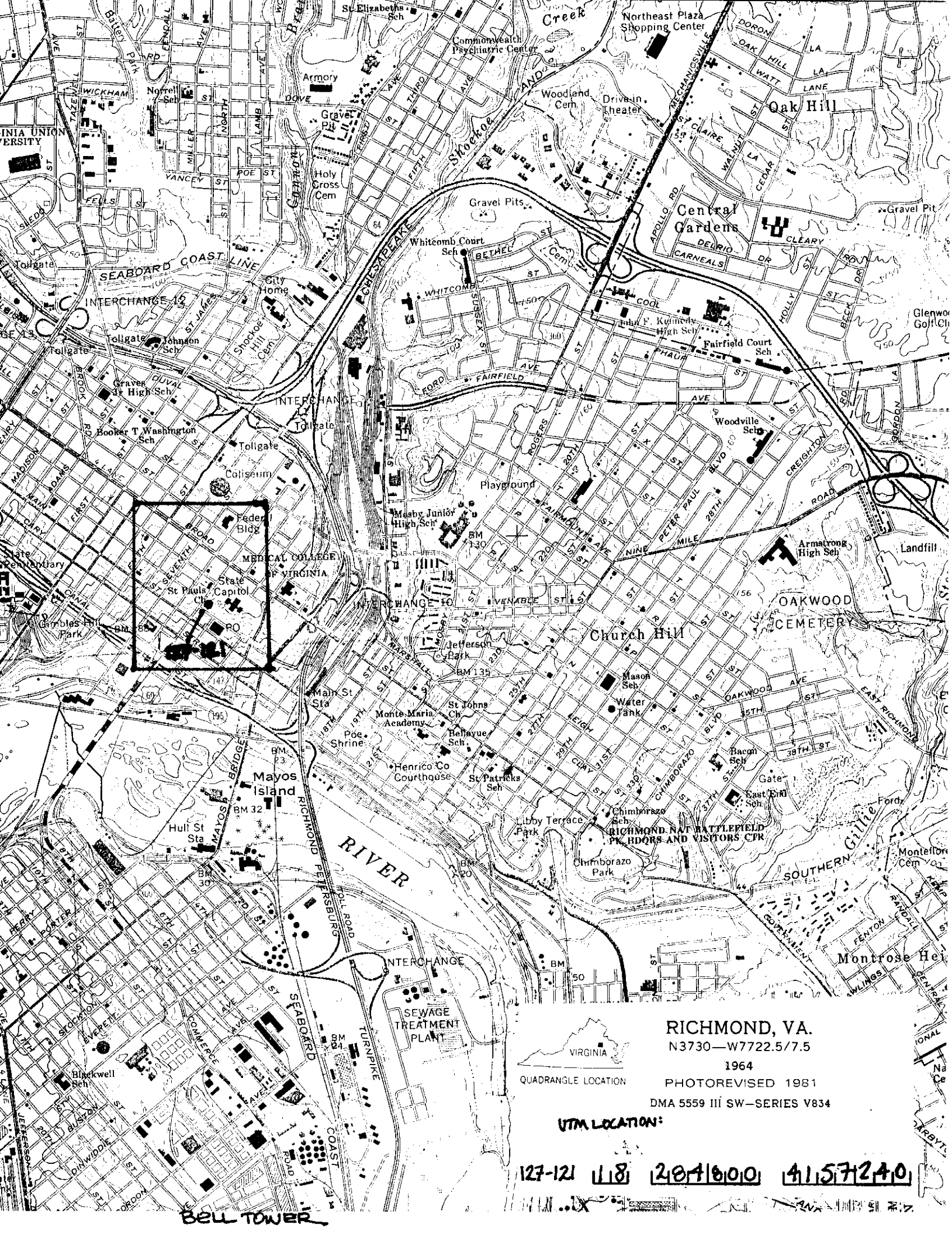
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #127-121
 1968 State
 Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
 Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45



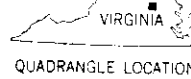
RICHMOND, VA.

N3730—W7722.5/7.5

1964

PHOTOREVISED 1981

DMA 5559 III SW—SERIES V834



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

UTM LOCATION:

127-121 118 204600 4157240

BELL TOWER