

Clm. VLR: 9-9-69 / 3-19-97 tomb
 Clm. NRHP: 11-17-69 / 11-11-71 tomb
 11-11-71 tomb NHT 4

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: City of Richmond	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
James Monroe Tomb

AND/OR HISTORIC:
James Monroe Tomb

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hollywood Cemetery, 412 S. Cherry Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE: **Virginia** CODE: COUNTY: CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Commonwealth of Virginia

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia** CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Capitol Square

CITY OR TOWN: **Richmond** STATE: **Virginia** CODE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1 acre**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1969** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

STATE: _____
COUNTY: _____
ENTRY NUMBER: _____
DATE: _____

010

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <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

(abridged from HABS Data)

The James Monroe Tomb is a rectangular (approx 13'x 9') cast iron "cage" which corners the simple granite sarcophagus of James Monroe. It is executed in the flamboyant Gothic Revival Style. A lancet-arched screen of the Cathedral window type is used on all four facades with two flanking subordinate lancet arches included on the two long fronts. The central arch uses a form of rose window tracery at the top with three round arched openings below. The screen motif is flanked by colonettes at the corners which support small tabernacles rising above the facades. The "roof" is an open tracery ogival curve canopy. The tomb is placed on a bluff overlooking the James River. A low stone wall, which rises in places no more than two-feet, incircles a circle around the tomb. The planting is limited to grass.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> | Education <input type="checkbox"/> | Political <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | | _____ |

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

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Designing tombs and monuments for the powerful and famous has produced some of the worlds most outstanding architecture and has been a challenge to the worlds most outstanding architects. The list runs from the grandeur of the Pyramides and the Taj Mahal to the more modest Wainwright tomb by Louis Sullivan. In the study of 19th-century American architecture the James Monroe Tomb in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia occupies an important place not because of its style which is Gothic Revival and not because of its architect, Albert Lybrock but because of its material. The James Monroe tomb is made of cast iron, cast by the firm of Wood and Perot in Philadelphia and erected in 1859. The delicate and flamboyant open Gothic tracery of the design was possible to achieve in cast iron in an outdoors tomb, in a manner not possible at this scale in stone. Though the James Monroe Tomb is a small scale masterpiece of cast iron architecture it did not leave the far reaching structural or stylistic influence of other cast iron achievements such as the dome of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C.

HISTORY (Abridged from HABS Data)

James Monroe, fifth President of the United States, died in New York City on July 4, 1831, and was buried in the New York City Marble Cemetery. In 1856 plans were proposed to erect a monument in memory of the late President in New York. At this time, Governor Henry A. Wise received a letter from the Governor of New York inquiring if Virginia, birthplace of Monroe, wished to have the body reinterred in the state. Two thousand dollars was voted by the Virginia State Legislature, and the body of Monroe was returned on the steamship "Jamestown", on loan from the Virginia Steamship Company, accompanied by the Seventh Regiment from New York. Impressive ceremonies were held in Richmond, highlighted by speeches from the Governors of New York and Virginia calling for national unity. The records of Hollywood Cemetery were burned in 1865, and as a result there are no specific records of Monroe's burial place and the monument.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

William B. O'Neal, Architecture in Virginia, (New York, 1968)
Historic American Buildings Survey, (HABS, Library of Congress, 1969)
 William M. E. Raschall, "President Monroe's Return to Virginia",
Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. 3, No. I (Summer, 1953).

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		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"
				37	32	06
				77	27	20

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:
W. B. Morton III, Architect

ORGANIZATION: Division of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service DATE: Aug. 14, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 - 19th Street, N.W.

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

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 _____

Title _____

Date _____

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	
City of Richmond	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

James Monroe Tomb

8. Statement of Significance (1)

The cast iron tomb was erected in 1859. It was designed by an Alsatian architect, Albert Lybrock, who had lived in Richmond since 1852. The tomb was cast by the firm of Wood and Perot of Philadelphia at a cost of \$1,682.

**James Monroe's Tomb (1858) File no. 127-221
Hollywood Cemetery, 412 South Cherry Street**

Virginians exhibited a tremendous resurgence of pride in their revolutionary-era statesmen during the mid-nineteenth century. The 1850's witnessed the planning and construction of a monument to George Washington and other revolutionary heroes in Capitol Square, and movements to obtain and preserve Washington's Pope Creek birth site, and Mount Vernon were undertaken. The reinterment of Monroe by the State of Virginia in Hollywood cemetery was a part of this patriotic nostalgia. Originally, Virginians had envisioned shrine to the three presidents there, Jefferson, Monroe and Madison, but it was not to the families wishes.¹³

Monroe, who had been living with his daughter due to frail health, died and was buried in New York City in 1831. The initial idea to pay tribute to James Monroe in 1858, the hundredth anniversary of his birth, came from a native Virginian residing in New York named Alexander Jones. He suggested to City officials that New York city erect a monument to the former president. Before proceeding further, Jones wrote Virginia governor Henry A. Wise in March 1858 to determine if the commonwealth had any plan to honor Monroe. As a result, Governor Wise of Virginia quickly decided to make plans for honoring the former Virginian statesman.¹⁴

On April 6, 1858 the General Assembly passed a resolution appropriating to the governor two thousand dollars for the removal of the remains of James Monroe from the public burying ground in New York City to Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, and for his interment there. The family approved of the request, and Jones and New York City officials graciously acceded to Virginia's wishes. Monroe's body was moved to this final resting place upon the centennial of his birth in 1858, a cooperative effort by citizens of New York and Virginia.¹⁵

After the reburial ceremonies, Governor Wise considered the design for the tomb. He selected a Gothic Revival based on tomb designs found in European cathedrals by Albert Lybrock, an Alsatian living in Richmond. He commissioned the Philadelphia company of Wood and Perot, the low bidder, to execute the cast-iron structure. The tomb was assembled by Asa Snyder, a Richmond ironworker. The twelve-foot tall structure was erected in Hollywood Cemetery late in 1859.¹⁶

The cast iron tomb of James Monroe is the most notable work of Richmond architect Albert Lybrock, who is also attributed with the design of Morson's Row discussed above. The architectural rendering of this tomb was made by the German architect Oswald Heinrich, who taught architectural drawing in Richmond in the mid-nineteenth century.¹⁷

The Tomb of President James Monroe is the centerpiece of John Notman's picturesque landscape design for Hollywood Cemetery, and is sited on top of the tallest hill of the

¹³Mary H. Mitchell, *Hollywood Cemetery: The History of a Southern Shrine*. (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1985): p. 35-36.

¹⁴Mitchell, p. 35-36.

¹⁵Mitchell, p. 35-36.

¹⁶Robert P. Winthrop, *Architecture in Downtown Richmond*, Richmond, Historic Richmond Foundation, 1982, p.18.

¹⁷Robert P. Winthrop, *Architecture in Downtown Richmond*, Richmond, Historic Richmond Foundation, 1982, p.18.

gently rolling landscape, overlooking the James River, with Richmond in the distance. Originally, Virginians had envisioned shrine to the three presidents there, Jefferson, Monroe and Madison, but the families did not wish it. The tomb is a tour de force of Gothic Revival design and cast iron artisanship. A simple granite sarcophagus is enclosed by a cast iron screen based on Gothic window tracery, surmounted by an ogee dome of delicate iron open work. The tomb is rectangular, anchored on each of its corners with a column carrying an aedicule on top of a plinth. The wider elevations have tripartite iron window tracery screens, while the narrower, end elevations have single window tracery screens. A balustrade crowns the tomb, and the ogee dome rises behind it, and is topped by a finial. The Monroe tomb stands out as the only Gothic Revival monument within a landscape overwhelmingly made up of fashionable late nineteenth century classical obelisks.

Hollywood Cemetery was the first private cemetery in Richmond. The site was purchased by 25 gentlemen and a stock company was formed on August 3, 1847. Strongly objected to at first, it became popular after 1856. Originally named Mt. Vernon, it was renamed Hollywood Cemetery in 1848 because of the admiration John Notman, its architect, had for its holly trees. Notman, a Scotsman trained in Edinburgh, had settled in Philadelphia in 1834 and had worked on Laurel Hill Cemetery there in 1836. At Hollywood he utilized the magnificent site to achieve a great variety of views with his planning of the roads, which follow the contours of the hilly land wherever possible, in an effort to achieve the romantic picturesque effects so popular at the time. Notman's cemetery, with its views over the city, its elaborate iron fences, its winding roads, its lush foliage and its monuments is one of the best of the designs of the picturesque school left in the Commonwealth.¹⁸

James Monroe's Tomb is on the Virginia Landmarks Register, and the National Register of Historic Places.

Published Sources

Calder Loth, ed. *The Virginia Landmarks Register*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1986.

William B. O'Neal. *Architecture in Virginia*. New York: Walker & Company, Inc., 1968.

Robert P. Winthrop. *Architecture in Downtown Richmond*. Richmond: Historic Richmond Foundation, 1982.

Mary H. Mitchell. *Hollywood Cemetery: The History of a Southern Shrine*. Richmond: The Virginia State Library, 1985.

¹⁸William B. O'Neal, *Architecture in Virginia*, p. 33.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Virginia	
COUNTY	City of Richmond	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: James Monroe Tomb
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Hollywood Cemetery, 412 S. Cherry Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE: Virginia CODE COUNTY: City of Richmond CODE

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7.5' Series Richmond, Va. Quadrangle

SCALE: 1: 24,000

DATE: 1964, photorevised 1968

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE		
COUNTY		
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

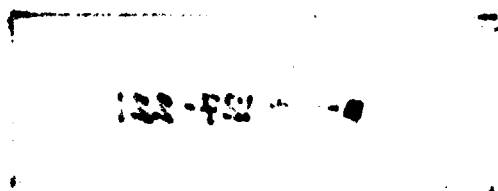
STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:
DATE OF PHOTO:
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

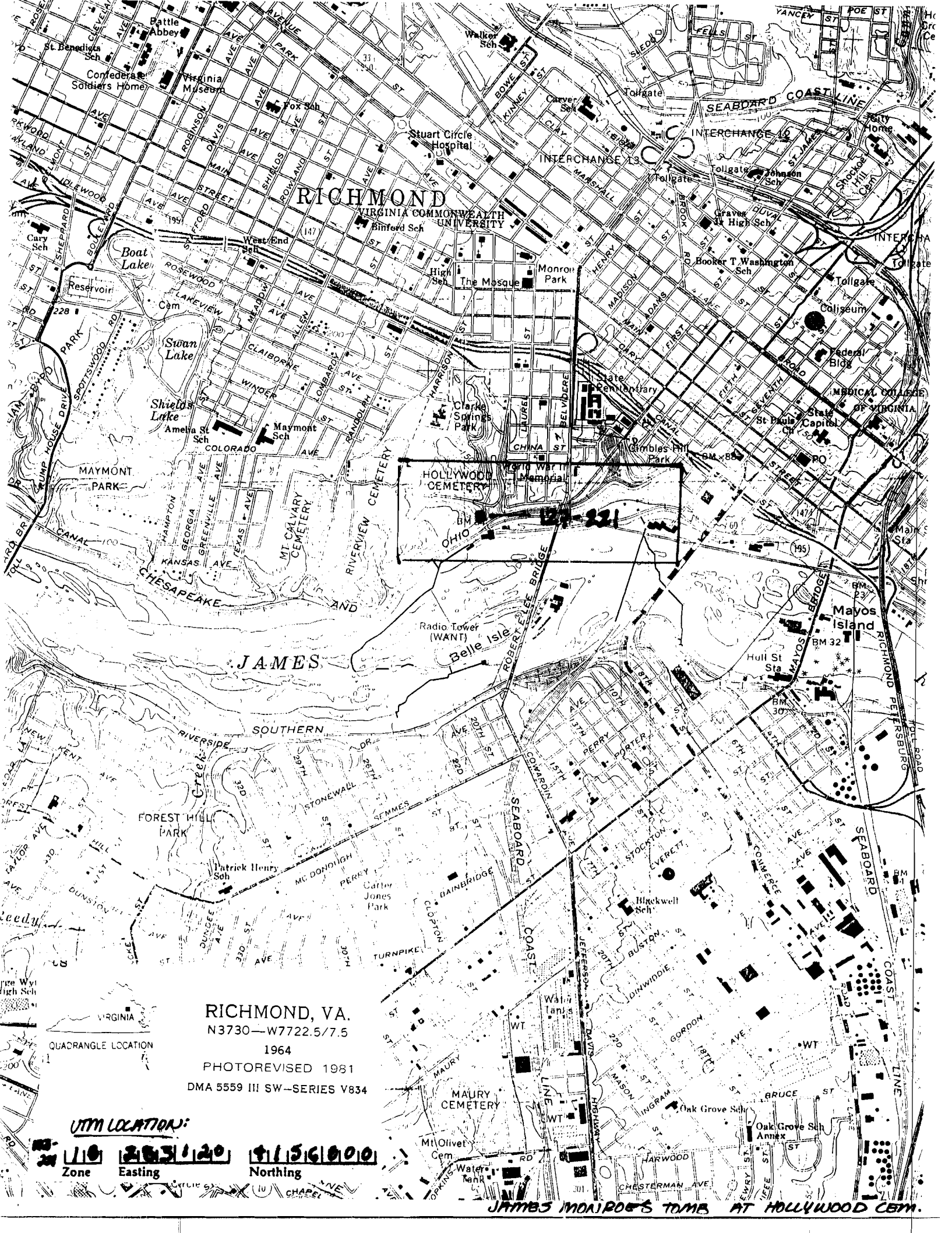
4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.



HOLLYWOOD CEMETERY WITH
JAMES MONROE'S TOMB
127221

Land and Community Associates
January 1990



RICHMOND

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

HOLLYWOOD CEMETERY

OHIO

231

RICHMOND, VA.

N3730—W7722.5/7.5

1964

PHOTOREVISED 1981

DMA 5559 III SW—SERIES V834

UTM LOCATION:

Zone **18** Easting **263120** Northing **9156000**

JAMES MONROE'S TOMB AT HOLLYWOOD CEM.