

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: Byrne Street USO Club

Other names/site number: Beaux Twenty Club, UPAL's Petersburg Community Resiliency Hub, VDHR File #123-5054

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: 464 Byrne Street

City or town: Petersburg State: VA County: Independent City

Not For Publication:  N/A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     statewide   X   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  X   A     B   X   C     D

 Signature of certifying official/Title:	<u>7-19-2022</u> Date
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property <u>   </u> meets <u>   </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title : <span style="float: right;">State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</span>	

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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:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**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>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Civic: USO Club

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse, Civic

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD; BRICK; CONCRETE; ASPHALT;  
SYNTHETICS: Vinyl

### 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.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The former Byrne Street USO Club, now known as the Petersburg Community Resiliency Hub operated by United Parents Against Lead (UPAL), is located at 464 Byrne Street in The Heights neighborhood of Petersburg, Virginia. There is one building on the parcel, a 1942 United Service Organization (USO) Clubhouse, constructed under the direction of the U.S. War Department U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps. The clubhouse is a typical federal World War II-era recreation building with a high degree of integrity of both plan and materials. Designed and constructed according to standardized plans for USO buildings, the T-shaped frame building consists of two main blocks: a one-story, flat-roofed front block and one-and-one-half story, gable-roofed rear block. Though subtle, the building reflects influences of the International Style with its horizontal, low-slung massing, banks of windows on the façade, minimal ornamentation on the façade, and a large, open interior space with the ballroom. There are no other resources on the property.

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### Narrative Description

#### *Setting*

The Byrne Street USO Club building is located on the west side of the street within an urban area in the City of Petersburg. It is located in an area with mixed residential, commercial, and recreational use. Historically, the area in which the building is located was an African American neighborhood near the section of Petersburg known as “Halifax Triangle.” The location was ideal for a USO Club due to the neighborhood’s proximity to Camp Lee, an Army installation (present-day Fort Lee) in Prince George County, Virginia. Houses, mostly two-story frame buildings from

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the early-to-mid-twentieth century, flank the building to the immediate north and south, as well as to the east on the opposite side of the street.

The USO Club is set back only a few feet from Byrne Street. A public sidewalk runs parallel to the street between a small, grassy median and the lot's front border. A small, grassy backyard is located along the building's west and north elevations, with a small tree line separating the property from lots on Harding Street to the west.

Directly in front of the building, a shallow, semicircular, concrete driveway connects to Byrne Street at two points, in line with the building's northeast and southeast corners. Two short brick stacks frame the central entrance and walkway. The walkway runs perpendicular to the street and extends from the public sidewalk to the main entrance through the brick stacks. Along the south (side) elevation, a dirt driveway extends from the street to the rear corner of the building. The driveway is flanked by the meeting hall to the north and a chain link fence to the south, which separates the property from the neighboring lot. A low brick wall extends from the southeast corner of the building to the street in front, parallel with the dirt driveway located to the south of the wall.

### *Exterior*

The former Byrne Street USO Club is a one-story, three-bay former USO Club/recreation building built in 1942. It continued as a USO club until 1963. By 1965, it became the clubhouse of a private social and civic club for African Americans in Petersburg; thereby providing a third significant year for the building. The building is consistent with the form and character of other contemporary USO Club buildings and displays elements of the International style (see Figures 2 and 7). The building's T-shape form and interior layout reflect typical designs used in the construction of federal recreation buildings across the United States during the World War II period. The T form used on the building can be identified as a combination of the Type A and Type D forms used on USO Club buildings during the 1940s. Both the building plan and materials used on the former USO Club were standard and provided by the U.S. military. Originally, the building was a one-story, frame building but was enlarged in 1943 to provide more space following a period of growth at Camp Lee, and the increase in servicemen during World War II.

The T-shaped building consists of a one-story, rectangular block in the front and a one-and-a-half-story, centered rectangular rear block. The front portion of the building has a central mass that is three bays wide and two bays deep, flanked by wings on opposite sides that are both one bay wide and three bays deep. The rear portion runs perpendicular to the front block and is three bays wide and five bays deep; at the end of the rear block, two small, rear wings extend from the outer walls to provide space for the meeting hall's stage.

The building's structural system is wood frame, clad with wood drop siding on all elevations. A portion of the building's original wood drop siding underneath on the building's west (rear) elevation was photographed in March 2021. Vinyl siding was installed in late 2021 on most of the exterior walls, although a portion of Brick-Tex siding is still extant on the south (side) elevation. The building rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. On the front mass, the roof is flat and is covered with metal roofing. On the rear ell, the roof is gabled and is covered with asphalt

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shingles. An exterior-end brick chimney rests against the rear wall of the front mass south wing. A second, interior-end brick chimney pierces the roofline along the rear block's eastern wall.

On the building's primary façade (east elevation), the main entrance consists of double glass doors centered on a projecting single bay. This projecting bay is clad in vinyl siding. Three concrete stairs lead from the doors to the sidewalk below, with metal railings on opposite sides of the staircase. A covered walkway is situated directly below the roof eave and provides shelter over the doors. The walkway has a flat roof, covered with metal roofing, and is supported by square, metal posts on its sides. It terminates at the end of the walkway. Flanking the main doors on the central mass are four, grouped, six-over-nine, double-hung sash wood windows on each side. Along the primary façade, the roof's frieze spans from the roof eave to the top of the window frames and top of the door surround. The frieze is clad in vinyl siding with a shingle style pattern; although not historic, the material replicates the historic distinction made between the frieze and wall through use of different cladding. The front wings along the east elevation mirror the central mass in terms of design and materials. Each wing has three, grouped, six-over-six, double-hung sash wood windows. The building's rear ell extends above the front portion of the building, with two, boarded-up windows evenly spaced along the gable end.

The rear block of the building demonstrates changes made to the building over time. Along the south elevation, the building has three, long windows and a side entrance evenly spaced between the front wing and the rear wing. The windows are boarded up and now feature air conditioning vents. The side entrance consists of paired doors sheltered by a one-bay portico supported by square, wood posts. On the rear wing, a smaller, off-centered, boarded-up window is located close to the wing's southeast corner. Along the west elevation of the rear block, two sets of paired, wood windows (covered with wood boards) are evenly spaced on the first story with a louvered window centered above each set of windows. In the upper half-story, two vinyl, louvered windows are centered between the first story windows. On the north elevation, the placement of openings mirrors the south elevation, with three boarded-up windows and a side entrance between the front and rear wings. Air conditioning vents extend from the windows to the ground. A portico covers the side entrance and mirrors the portico on the south elevation.

A one-story, one-room addition is found along the north (side) elevation. Against the west (rear) wall of the building's front block, this addition has been covered with wood boards while the remainder has vinyl siding. The addition rests on a continuous concrete block foundation and has a flat roof. The addition has a central door on its west elevation, which has been covered with metal. The original stair that led up to the door has been removed. Along the north elevation, the addition has an off-centered door flanked by two wood windows; the windows and door have been boarded up. Replacement asphalt shingles cover the exterior wall below the windows. The addition currently serves as a storage room.

In terms of ornamentation, the former USO building retains simplified decorative elements that were typical for USO Club buildings from the World War II period. On the front portion of the building, the walls of the central mass are slightly higher than the walls of the two wings, reflecting a minimal Neoclassical influence. The main entrance also extends farther than the rest of the

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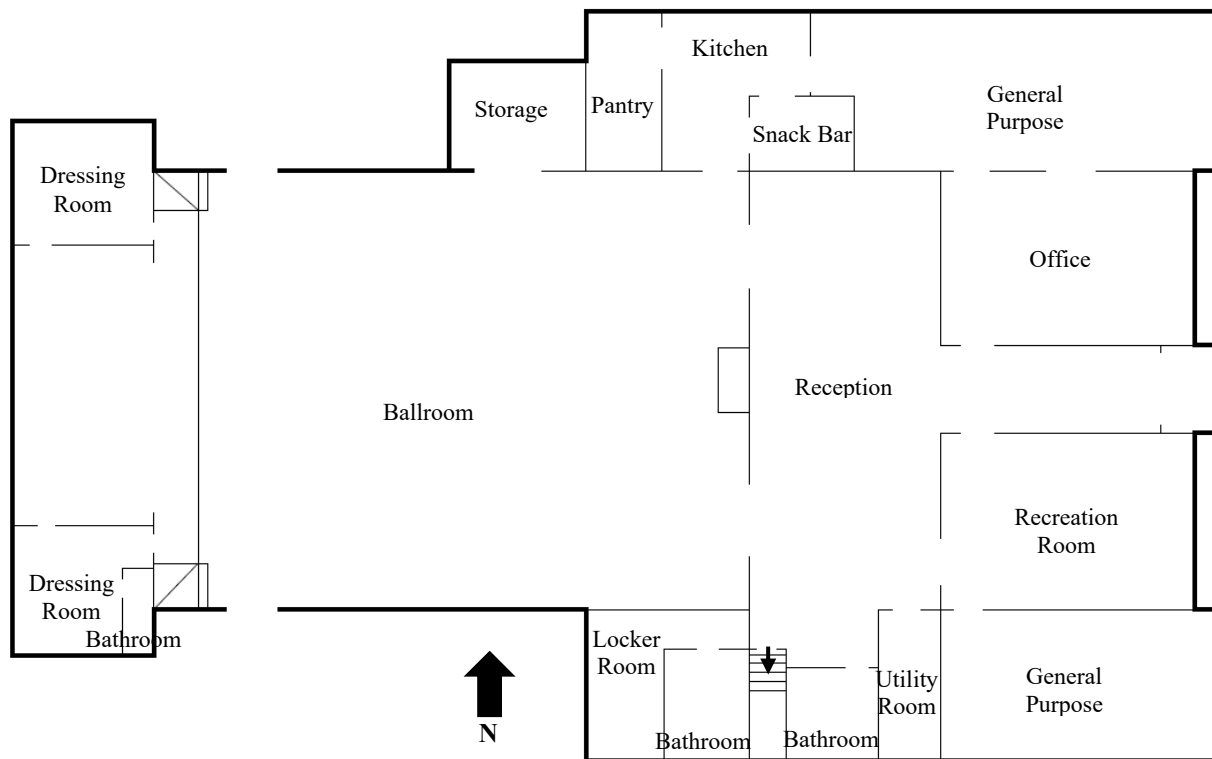
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building. As a result, emphasis is placed on the building's main entrance. Subtle International Style detailing is evident in the banks of windows along the front façade and lack of applied ornamentation. While fairly simple in design, the layout of the building itself became a recognizable feature of USO Club buildings. The specific placement of the two chimneys along with the two-story, rear block with a gabled roof fronted by a flat-roofed, one-story front mass and rear wings can be found on many other club buildings. The current design of the building closely resembles many other USO Club buildings built during the 1940s.

*Interior*

The interior of the building retains much of its original configuration and historic character. The layout of the clubhouse was typical of World War II-era USO Club buildings. T-shaped buildings had a central lobby, lounges, a staff office, a kitchen, bathrooms, and showers in the front and a ballroom or auditorium to the rear of the lobby and wings. Furnishings were also standard for all federal recreation buildings. Housed within the front block and wings of this building are day-to-day rooms including the office, recreation room, general purpose rooms, snack bar, kitchen, pantry, storage room, bathrooms and a locker room. The rear block of the building contains the ballroom and stage, flanked by dressing rooms.



Floor plan of the Byrne Street USO Club (Not to Scale)

At the main entrance, one enters a small, front vestibule that leads into a central hallway extending into a reception area. A fireplace is centered on the western wall of the reception area. From the

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central hallway, doors lead into a recreation room on the south and an office on the north side of the hall. General-purpose rooms adjoin the office and recreation room. Along the northern wing are a general purpose room, a kitchen and pantry, a storage room, and a snack bar which partially opens into the reception area. Along the southern wing are a second general purpose room, a utility room, men and women's bathrooms, a locker room, and a stairway to the building's basement where the boiler is located.

In the reception hall, two evenly spaced double doors flanking the fireplace on the western wall lead into the ballroom in the rear block of the building. The large, open ballroom appears more expansive due to the vaulted ceiling featuring exposed trusses. Each wall has simple chair rail and crown molding from which the trusses spring forth. A stage is centered on the western wall, accessed by steps at either end. On either side of the stage is a dressing room; the southern one with a bathroom. The stage itself is flanked by two murals. A larger mural faces the stage from the eastern wall where it is centered between the entrances into the space. Both the kitchen and storage room in the north wing are accessible from the ballroom. Two doors, near the stage, on the north and south walls open to the exterior.

The building's current interior is reflective of design trends that were popular during the early-to-mid-twentieth century. The interior largely retains a high degree of historic integrity. Some original finishes have been replaced as the building has remained in use over time. In the majority of the front rooms, the walls are covered with original wood paneling and the original wood doors remain in place. Both the recreation room and women's bathroom do not have wood paneling and are instead painted a vibrant pink. In the hallway, the original flooring has also been replaced with modern, vinyl flooring. The building retains its tile flooring in the reception hall and wings, except for the office, recreation room, and general-purpose room, where carpet has been installed over the original flooring. The ballroom also retains its original wood flooring and its original wood trusses that support the ceiling.

Many original decorative features are still found in the building today. Molded window and door frames add ornamentation to the building. The building's original crown molding is visible in places such as the recreation room, pantry, and women's bathroom where the current dropped ceiling is not in place. Further, the floor-to-ceiling wood paneling was a popular interior feature used on walls during the mid-twentieth. The ceiling of the women's bathroom has a decorative pattern and the stalls in the room are topped with decorative lattice from the tops of the walls to the ceiling. In the men's bathroom, a portion of the walls are covered with tile. Paint colors used throughout the building are reflective of what was popular at the time the building was constructed, such as brown, orange, and a cool blue. The ballroom is more ornate than the remainder of the rooms. A chair rail divides the walls in half, with decorative wallpaper found on the upper half of the walls and painted drywall on the bottom half. Wood paneling covers the back wall of the ballroom above the stage. The outer portion of the floor is covered with wood floorboards, while the center of the room has vinyl tile flooring.

Finishes from the mid-twentieth century can also be found in the building today, such as chandeliers and light fixtures in the hallway, reception hall, ballroom, dressing rooms, and



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women's bathroom. The bathrooms and dressing rooms also have mid-twentieth century fixtures and mirrors, along with original lockers found in the men's locker room. Original shelving remains intact in the pantry. Mailboxes that were used when the building was a USO Club are still present along the wall in the general-purpose room adjoining the recreation room. An early phone booth is located in the lobby. In the ballroom, large murals, likely dating from the early years of the Beaux Twenty Club, remain in place the east and west walls. Throughout the building, items such as pool sticks, a piano, and dishware are still present from when the building was used as a club. The building retains many of its finishes and the interior reflects common design trends for federal recreation buildings built during World War II.

### *Integrity*

With each iteration of the USO Club, in full operation as a USO Club during and shortly after World War II, at its reactivation of a USO Club in 1948, and with its transformation from a USO Club to a private club in the early 1960s, slight, typically cosmetic, alterations were made to the building. Portions of the wood siding were covered with Brick-Tex asphalt siding at an unknown date. Vinyl siding was installed in 2021, except for a central bay on the south (side) elevation that still has asphalt siding, and is more similar to the original wood in appearance. The building's front doors were replaced, and rear windows and doors that were no longer in use were boarded up. Modern HVAC units were also installed. Lastly, a side addition was constructed around the same time to provide additional storage space. On the building's interior, no known changes have been made to the original floor plan, and many of the building's original furnishings and interior finishes from the World War II period remain intact today. In 2020-2021, UPAL rehabilitated the former USO Club by making structural and utility repairs as necessary to keep the significant building stabilized and useful for future generations. Excluding minor repairs made over time, the building has retained its historic use as a recreational space and exhibits a high level of integrity as a result. The seven aspects of integrity include location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The location of the building remains unchanged from its construction as a USO Club in 1942. The design of the original building was slightly altered shortly after its construction, in 1943, when it was enlarged to account for increased population and use during World War II. However, this form remains largely unaltered from the mid-twentieth century. Likewise, the setting of the building within African American neighborhood, The Heights, remained unchanged. Though some exterior and interior materials on the building have been covered over time, they remain beneath newer layers waiting to be exposed once more. On the exterior, this includes the vinyl and Brick-Tex siding that have been added over the original wood siding and the façade's frieze. Both the vinyl and Brick-Tex siding are removable, which limits the impact it has on the building's integrity of materials. Many character-defining interior features, such as the mailboxes, lockers, phone booth, and murals, are intact and visible, which adds to the historical integrity of the building's design, workmanship, and materials. Built as a USO Club the building continues to reflect the workmanship typical of a World War II federal government recreation building often constructed with speed and simplicity. As such, the location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship each contribute to the feeling and association with civic duty, entertainment, and social service that the UPAL continues to retain and convey.

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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.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE: Black

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1942-1972

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1948

c.1965

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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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.)

UPAL's Petersburg Community Resiliency Hub was constructed in 1942 as the Byrne Street USO Club, a United Service Organization (USO) facility for African American troops during the Jim Crow era of segregation, which included the U.S. military. The club provided a means for Black servicemen to socialize safely, as well as provide aid to troops and their families. Unlike most USO facilities that ceased operation following the end of World War II, this club was reactivated in 1948 and remained in use, becoming a focal point within the African American community of the City of Petersburg, Virginia. When the club's military association ended in the 1960s, the building became home to the Beaux Twenty Club, ca. 1965, a private organization formed by Black businessmen in the community, including the first African American Mayor of Petersburg, and in Virginia, Hermanze E. Fauntleroy, Jr.<sup>1</sup> The Byrne Street USO Club is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation and Ethnic Heritage: Black for the significant role that it played as a segregated USO facility during World War II and for its continued use following the war as an African American social club in the City of Petersburg. Further, few federal recreation buildings from the World War II period remain in use today. For example, former USO Clubs previously listed in the NRHP include the East Sixth Street USO Building in Hattiesburg, Mississippi (listed 2004) which now serves as an African American Military History Museum, the Hawthorne USO Building in Hawthorne, Nevada (listed 2005) which now serves as a convention center, and the DeRidder USO Building in DeRidder, Louisiana (listed 1992) which now serves as a War Memorial Civic Center. Unlike these examples, the Byrne Street USO has witnessed nearly continuous use from its construction to the present in serving the African American community of the Petersburg region, making it locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History. The Byrne Street USO Club's architectural design also is an example of a typical federal recreation building operated as a USO Club during the World War II era. The building is significant for its association with standardized construction techniques developed by the U.S. War Department during World War II. Further, the building is reflective of architectural developments made by the architectural firm, Kahn and Jacobs, which greatly influenced building design during and after the war and further popularized the International Style. The building's setting and design also reflect the impact of racial segregation on the United States military during the period. Although in poor condition, the exterior and interior of the building both exhibit a high level of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. As a result, the building is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Because of its continual use, the period of significance begins with the building's construction in 1942 and ends in 1972 as its historic use as a social club continued into the 2010s but Criteria Consideration G is not applicable.

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

**Historical Background**

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Petersburg was initially founded in 1748 as an important center of trade due to its location at the fall line and head of navigation of the Appomattox River. The city became renowned as a commercial center for processing cotton, tobacco, and metal, and shipping products out of the region. Because of the availability of jobs as a primarily industrial and commercial center in an otherwise largely agricultural region, the city quickly attracted many free black residents. By the dawn of the Civil War, Petersburg was the second largest city in Virginia, and half of the population was black. Of the black residents, one-third were free, the highest percentage of free African Americans in any city in the South and the largest number of free blacks in the Mid-Atlantic.

By the early twentieth century Petersburg's black community remained dispersed around the city in such residential neighborhoods as Pocahontas Island, Gillfield, and Delectable Heights (now The Heights). Delectable Heights sat above the lowlands of the City of Petersburg and was annexed to the city in 1816. Although lots were laid out in the neighborhood before the 1830s, it remained sparsely populated.<sup>2</sup> However, during the Antebellum Period Delectable Heights slowly became home to a small community of free black property owners. This growth would continue and in the early twentieth century it experienced most of its development.<sup>3</sup> At one time, The Heights was a cohesive community of middle-class professionals where homeownership and economic stability was the norm.<sup>4</sup>

Immediately north of this neighborhood was Halifax Triangle, a black neighborhood that was a collective of houses, businesses, churches, schools, and other institutions. The Halifax Triangle and Downtown Commercial Historic District (DHR file no. 123-5494) was listed in the National Register in 2019. Over time, Halifax Triangle continued to evolve through the first half of the twentieth century, and grew stronger and more unified as a result of restrictive policies created by Jim Crow laws and “separate but equal” ordinances. Likewise, The Heights remained a strong African American community. Given its strong position within the African American community, The Heights was chosen as the location for an African American USO Club.

With the potential of the United States entering World War II drawing ever closer, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the United Service Organization (USO) for National Defense on February 4, 1941 in order to maintain morale and increase recreation services among U.S. uniformed military personnel. The resulting USO would be under the charge of six civilian service organizations – Salvation Army, Jewish Welfare Board (JWB), National Catholic Community Service (NCCS), Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA), Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), and National Traveler’s Aid Association. Though the USO would be under civilian charge, the military would provide building supplies, locations, and labor for the construction of USO buildings. The types of USO services offered included: Clubs, Lounges and Traveler’s Aid Service, Mobile and Maneuvers Service, Home Hospitality, Service to War Workers, Service to women in the Armed Forces, Service to African-American military personnel, Service to Merchant Seamen, Service to members of the armed forces of US Allies while temporarily Stateside, Overseas Service, and Camp Shows Inc.<sup>5</sup>

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Within the Western Hemisphere, USO Clubs were established in more than 3,000 communities. Depending on the needs and clientele of some communities, multiple clubs were created.<sup>6</sup> Just as discrimination and segregation were rampant in the United States at the time, it was also widespread in the USO. Hubert T. Delany, the first black board member of the USO Board of Directors, immediately began advocating for black soldiers. He reiterated the USO's official policy that regardless of the color of a soldier's skin, "...all buildings erected by or for USO should be open to all men in uniform."<sup>7</sup> He also called for diversity of entertainment and accessibility to that talent, as well as the employment of Black administrative staff. However, his vision of integrating USO Clubs would not come to fruition during World War II and it was common to see multiple USO Clubs in the same town. "In 1943, more than 180 of the 1,326 USO operations were designated for African Americans" either because of local regulations or increased tensions.<sup>8</sup> Such was the case in Petersburg, Virginia, the closest city to Camp Lee.

In June 1917, a National Army Cantonment was created three miles east of Petersburg. This became Camp Lee. After having been closed following World War I, the potential for a Second World War led to its reactivation in 1941. By the end that year, Camp Lee was the center of both basic and advanced training of Quartermaster personnel.<sup>9</sup> Camp Lee grew immensely during World War II; more than 300,000 Quartermaster soldiers were trained there during the war.<sup>10</sup> Like many military installations, Camp Lee had its own entertainment and religious venues for its soldiers, however, nothing could replace the value of the personal contact with civilians.<sup>11</sup> Thousands of black soldiers lived and trained at Camp Lee during World War II.<sup>12</sup> Like much of the nation, segregation was ingrained at the camp and officer's clubs and recreational facilities were kept separate.<sup>13</sup> This segregation was also reflected in the presence of multiple USO Clubs in Petersburg. There was a Wythe Street USO operated by the NCCS, the Tabb Street USO operated by the JWB, the Adams Street USO operated by the YWCA (which was closed by 1942), and the Union Street USO operated by the YMCA.<sup>14</sup> Black servicemen had the Byrne Street USO.

As the number of African Americans soldiers in nearby Camp Lee increased, Warren Cochran was sent from New York to ascertain "the scope of recreational and morale services" they would be requiring and set in motion the beginning of the Byrne Street USO. Cochran was counselled by numerous local civic minded citizens. In October 1941, this initial work resulted in the lease, without the exchange of funds, of a temporary USO facility at the Rectory of the St. Stephens P.E. Church at 226 Halifax St., in the Halifax Triangle neighborhood of Petersburg. On November 5, 1941, Mr. Prince Robinson, a local businessman, invited a small group of representative citizens to assemble at the YMCA building on North Union Street for the purpose of founding the USO Council. Representing the Byrne Street operation were Dr. Luther H. Foster, President of Virginia State College and Dr. W.F. Clarke, a physician and Fraternal Leader. Sarah Vaughan and Carrie Sharpe represented the Harding Street black women's operation.<sup>15</sup>

The initial meeting of the Board of Managers on December 30, 1941, at the temporary USO, began with a statement by Executive Director, Warren R. Cochran. This stated the basic purpose of the Army and Navy branch of the YMCA which was "to aid in the development and maintenance of Christian standards of living, conduct and life purpose among young men in the defense forces,

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and in the spirit of Jesus, to provide services for these young men, who, by the nature of their life and duties, constitute a group with particular and vital needs that they alone cannot meet.”<sup>16</sup>

Warren R. Cochrane served as the Byrne Street USO’s first Director. Early key individuals included local African American residents and professionals such as Dr. John L. Lockett, Chairman-Instructor, Virginia State College; Mr. Charles F. Sparks, Vice-Chairman, Postman; Mr. Hermanze Edwin Fauntleroy, Secretary-Instructor, Virginia State College; Mr. Robert H. Cooley, Lawyer; Mrs. Marguerite Hulbert, Housewife; Dr. J.B. Darden, Physician; Dr. W.F. Clarke, Physician; Mr. C.M. Colson, Instructor, Virginia State College; Rev. C.L. Evans, Minister; Dr. Luther H. Foster, President, Virginia State College; Dr. J.M. Gandy, Ex-President, Virginia State College; Dr. W.B. Greene, Physician; Mr. R.L. Hurtt, Merchant; Dr. W.M. Logan, Dentist; Rev. Odell G. Harris, Minister; Mr. McDonald Powell, Labor Leader; Mrs. Mary V. Jones, Housewife; Mr. Thomas Jackson, Fraternal Leader; Rev. A.C. Bell, Minister; Dr. Clayton Robbins, Physician. Each of these Committee members reflected the “varied integers of community life.” Of particular note was Hermanze Edwin Fauntleroy. A local resident of the City of Petersburg, Fauntleroy would continue his education at Virginia State College where he graduated with a Bachelors in Science and a Master’s in Education and Supervision. He was elected to the Petersburg City Council where he served for 20 years before becoming the first African American Mayor of Petersburg, as well as in the State of Virginia. He was a local civil rights leader as well as charter member of the Beaux-Twenty Club.<sup>17</sup>

Soon after the formation of the committee for the Byrne Street USO, female organizations at Byrne Street USO began at the behest of Mrs. Vivian B. Scott.<sup>18</sup>

Under the Supervision of the Quartermaster Corp, the Byrne Street USO Club building was constructed (see Figure 1). The location chosen was at 464 Byrne Street, in the center of the African American neighborhood, The Heights, and near another African American neighborhood, Halifax Triangle. The site was chosen for its proximity to the Camp Lee Bus terminal and African American businesses, as well as the desirable influence of the residential neighborhood environment. “The service men of Camp Lee, three miles distance, and Camp Pickett, thirty-eight miles away, as well as transient servicemen, sailors and marines of other installations were provided a real haven of wholesome influence.”<sup>19</sup> The Byrne Street USO Club, under the agency of the YMCA, was formally dedicated on December 15, 1942. The early success of the Byrne Street USO and increased military presence in Petersburg, quickly resulted in the need for increased space. The building was enlarged and rededicated in 1943.<sup>20</sup>

***Criterion A: Significance for its Role as a Military USO Installation and as an African American Social Club in Petersburg***

The building is locally significant for the NRHP under Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage: African American, Social History, and Entertainment/Recreation as an African-American USO Club that continued its use as an African American social club after World War II. According to Amina Luqman-Dawson, “African Americans in Petersburg comprise a single community that is bound together by a rich history of supporting one another to ensure the success of the whole, of

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triumph in the face of adversity, and of daring for a better tomorrow.”<sup>21</sup> The Byrne Street USO Club exemplifies these qualities.

During World War II, the Byrne Street USO became “steeped in tradition and its multiple services and program offerings an obsession in the lives of the 670,223 servicemen who have, through its club, shared the gratuities of the American people.”<sup>22</sup> The Byrne Street USO shared noteworthy programs with servicemen and civilians in the community including music and scholarly presentations (see Figures 3-6). Through the medium of pageants, recitals, and other musical groupings, students of Virginia State College and the local public schools thrilled the souls of thousands of members of the armed forces. The Byrne Street USO also sponsored radio broadcasts involving air-worthy military and civilian talent, colorful military parades and competitive sports activities within and outside of the portals of the Club. The USO-Travelers Aid helped servicemen’s wives and families in the arduous task of finding local housing. Finally, spiritual and religious counselling was provided to servicemen. “Our service has unquestionably been a significant contribution to the war effort in the City of Petersburg through the providing of sorely needed recreational and social opportunities for Negro troops.”<sup>23</sup>

Though originally established for servicemen, services provided by the Byrne Street USO would be expanded. On December 1, 1945, the Harding Street USO Club, which had operated as a Women’s Division under the designation of the YWCA, closed its doors and merged its services with the Byrne Street USO Club. This converted the Byrne Street USO from a single agency operation (YMCA) to joint agency operation, with the responsibility for operation being vested in the YMCA.<sup>24</sup>

With the end of World War II, reductions in military personnel resulted in the closing of the USO-Travelers Aid Service with offices in Union Street USO Club and an intake center in the Byrne Street USO Club.<sup>25</sup> The Byrne Street USO was set to close its doors on December 31, 1947.<sup>26</sup> However, in 1948 it became the first African American unit to be formally reactivated under a new program, providing a second significant date for the resource.<sup>27</sup>

The building and the furnishings were taken over by the Virginia State College (now Virginia State University) as of January 15, 1948. Dr. L.H. Foster, president of the College and a member of the Byrne Street USO Operating Committee, ensured that provisions were made for the men in uniform from Camp Lee. In planning for use after the war, Foster stated that adult education classes would be held there, the community would be able to use the building, and that the Boy Scouts would become a part of it, as well as, possibly, the YMCA.<sup>28</sup> In April 1950, the Petersburg City Council approved the use of the Byrne Street USO by the Byrne Street Armed Services Club on weekends, rent free.<sup>29</sup>

The Byrne Street USO continued to hold dances, musical performances, and community meetings and presentations. In 1961, the USO celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the community turned out to “honor the organization which for the past 20 years has been serving their sons and daughters in the Armed Forces at home and abroad.”<sup>30</sup> According to Dr. C.M. Colson, chairman of the operating committee, the Byrne Street USO Club was a vital part of the local community life – “It



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has brought together the people of the community in a wholehearted effort for the welfare of the armed forces. Through the untiring and selfless work of the USO volunteers, through their devotion to duty and the high ideals of service, the USO Club has accomplished immeasurable good.”<sup>31</sup> The building at 464 Byrne Street continued to be used as a USO, at least partially, until 1963.

According to reports of the Byrne Street USO Club, prior to its founding in 1941, Petersburg African Americans were “devoid of an organized recreational outlet or social agency.”<sup>32</sup> However, civic organizations have a long history in the nation and were an essential part of Petersburg’s African American history.<sup>33</sup> Many clubs began informally as groups of people who would get together to socialize. They became more official when members went outside of the home and held dances, parades, and picnics. Clubs ranged in purpose from those that provided purely a social outlet to professional clubs to charity clubs, though almost all worked to improve the condition of the black community.<sup>34</sup> Among Petersburg’s African American organizations was one that would come to reside at 464 Byrne Street.

In 1938, Club Twenty, Inc. was formed by a group of 20 local African American professionals, including H.E. Fauntleroy. Among its planned events, which were catered more towards the interests of older men, were barbeques, presentations, and trips. In 1964, the club merged with the Beaux Social Club, Inc. The Beaux Social Club formed in 1959 to provide a social and civic space for younger men (Luqman-Dawson 2008:106).<sup>35</sup> In 1965, Club Twenty, Inc. and the Beaux Social Club merged to form the Beaux Twenty Club, Inc., a male civic, service, and social organization.<sup>36</sup> The Beaux Twenty Club took up residence at 464 Byrne Street in the former USO Club. Following its inception, the Wives of Beaux-Twenty became an integral part of the Beaux Twenty Club providing opportunities to focus on the needs of the young ladies in the community.<sup>37</sup> The Beaux Twenty Club and Wives of Beaux Twenty continued the tradition begun by the USO of using the building at 464 Byrne Street as a place of social gathering for Petersburg’s African American community and a place of civic support in the form of tutelage in communication, finances, and cultural awareness among other areas.<sup>38</sup> Over the years, the Beaux Twenty Club was composed of renowned and distinguished African American professional men. Together with their wives, who were celebrated in their own right, they provided a social outlet that was cultured and elegant while also catering to the affluent as well as the not so affluent African American community.<sup>39</sup> The building at 464 Byrne Street continued to be used by the Beaux Twenty Club until c. 2018, and is significant for its association with this organization as well as the former USO club.

### ***Criterion C: Significance as an example federal recreation building***

The Byrne Street USO Club is locally significant under Criterion C as an example of a typical federal recreation building that operated as a USO Club during the World War II era. It is significant for its association with standardized construction techniques developed by the U.S. War Department during World War II. All USO Clubs constructed in the United States were similar in design and are important for their recognizable architecture, as many or all have the same design featuring the T shape and ballroom space and feature International Style elements. The building’s setting and design also reflect the impact of racial segregation on the United States military during

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the period. Although in poor condition, the exterior and interior of the building both exhibit a high level of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

Funding for construction of USO buildings was provided through the National Defense Housing Act of 1940. More commonly known as the Lanham Act, it provided appropriations for both small and large recreation buildings.<sup>40</sup> Of the permanent buildings and facilities constructed by the U.S. War Department during the war, recreation buildings fell under the category of “personnel support,” which includes properties associated with the daily living requirements of military personnel. Recreation facilities, including USO Clubs, were included because they were deemed necessary by the War Department due to the impact that socialization and rest had on morale.<sup>41</sup> The military appropriated a significant amount of money to the construction of recreation buildings. In regard to USO Clubs specifically, by March of 1944 there were 3,035 USO Clubs and lounges in the United States.<sup>42</sup>

Supervising this massive project was the Division of Defense Public Works of the Federal Security Administration (FSA), established in July 1941. Most of the planning and construction of these buildings was delegated to the Office of the Constructing Quartermaster Department (CQD) of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps (later called the Area Engineer) at the Army base closest to the community where the building was to be located, in this case, Camp Lee. This office conducted the site survey, prepared specifications and blueprints, oversaw the selection of a contractor through competitive bidding, and supervised construction.<sup>43</sup> Their guidelines focused on making construction fast, simple, and easy; building plans, materials, and even interior furnishings were standardized and delivered to building sites.<sup>44</sup>

Plans for small USO buildings were borrowed from a variety of sources, including the military, the Works Progress Administration, and other federal agencies. Larger structures were based on the designs of the architectural firm, Kahn and Jacobs, of New York.<sup>45</sup> Ely Jacques Kahn, Robert Allan Jacobs, and André Remondet developed templates for three large recreation centers, known in ascending order of size and complexity as the Type A, Type B, and Type C. Each Type was influenced by the International Style and their flexible designs featured a large auditorium or “social hall” with projecting lobbies and flanking wings that could easily be modified to adapt the structures to their surroundings.<sup>46</sup> Standard building plans were modified slightly for each building, which resulted in subtle variations between the three types of USO buildings designed by Kahn and Jacobs.

The Type A building was the smallest and most compact of the three types. With this design the auditorium was located directly behind the lobby and its wings, which contained the lounges, staff offices, showers, rest rooms, and kitchen. The larger Types B and C buildings had L-shaped forms which allowed visitors to enter the building at the lobby or the auditorium.<sup>47</sup> A fourth type, D, was created as a smaller version of the Type A building with a smaller lobby and wings farther back along the auditorium. This modified design was likely intended to save space, reduce costs, or for situations where a smaller number of visitors were anticipated.<sup>48</sup> The Byrne Street USO was a blend of Types D and A. The design and setting of the former Byrne Street USO Club also is associated with reflects the impact that racial segregation had on the construction of federal

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recreation buildings as a whole. As the population of Camp Lee grew during World War II, the number of USO buildings designated for white soldiers multiplied. However, the Byrne Street USO was simply enlarged to accommodate the increased number of black servicemen.

After graciously being hosted at St. Stephens P.E. Church, a Type D, one-story, frame recreational building opened at 464 Byrne Street in January 1942. As the number of African-American soldiers at Camp Lee soared, the new Byrne Street USO Club could not keep up with the demand. The Committee of Management surveyed the increased needs and successfully petitioned the FSA for enlargement of the building from Type D to Type A. The enlarged structure was re-dedicated on October 24, 1943.<sup>49</sup> The building's new layout kept with popular designs used on larger USO Club buildings, such as the Main Street USO Club building in Monroe, North Carolina, and the all-Black USO Club building in Lebanon, Missouri (see Figure 7), which closely mirror the Byrne Street USO Club.<sup>50</sup>

In the years following World War II, the building continued to play an important role in the social life of the African American community in Petersburg. Due to its architectural merit as an example of a typical federal recreation building from the World War II era, as well as its high level of physical integrity, the former Byrne Street USO Club is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture

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### Historic Maps and Images

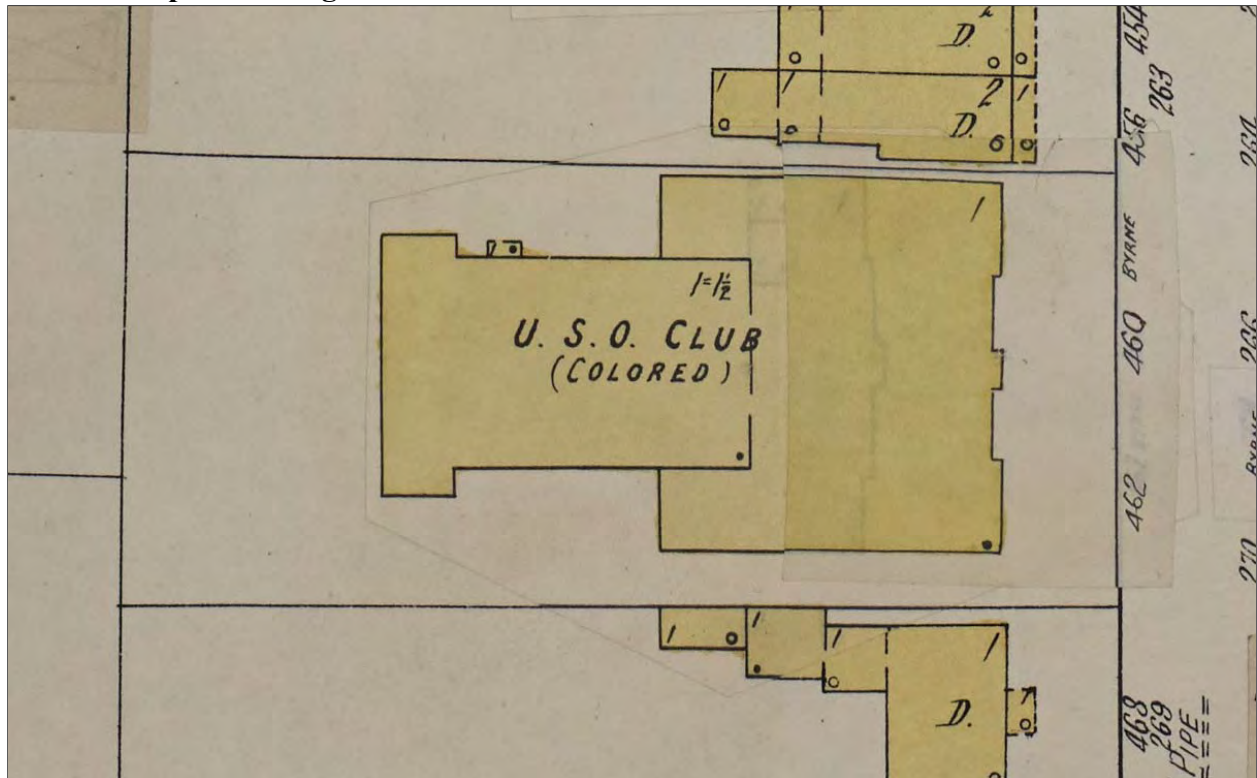


Figure 1. Detail of the 1950 Sanborn Map of Petersburg depicting the Byrne Street USO Club. Source: Sanborn Map Company



Figure 2. The Byrne Street USO Club, mid-twentieth century. Source: *The Progress-Index* 7 February 2014.

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Figure 3. At the Byrne Street USO Club, taken by William E. Lum. Source: VDHR

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Figure 4. Snack Bar at the Byrne Street USO Club, taken by William E. Lum. Source: VDHR

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Figure 5. Playing cards at the Byrne Street USO Club, taken by William E. Lum. Source: VDHR

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Figure 6. Event at the Byrne Street USO Club. Source: Historical Report Part II, Byrne Street USO Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 31 August 1947.



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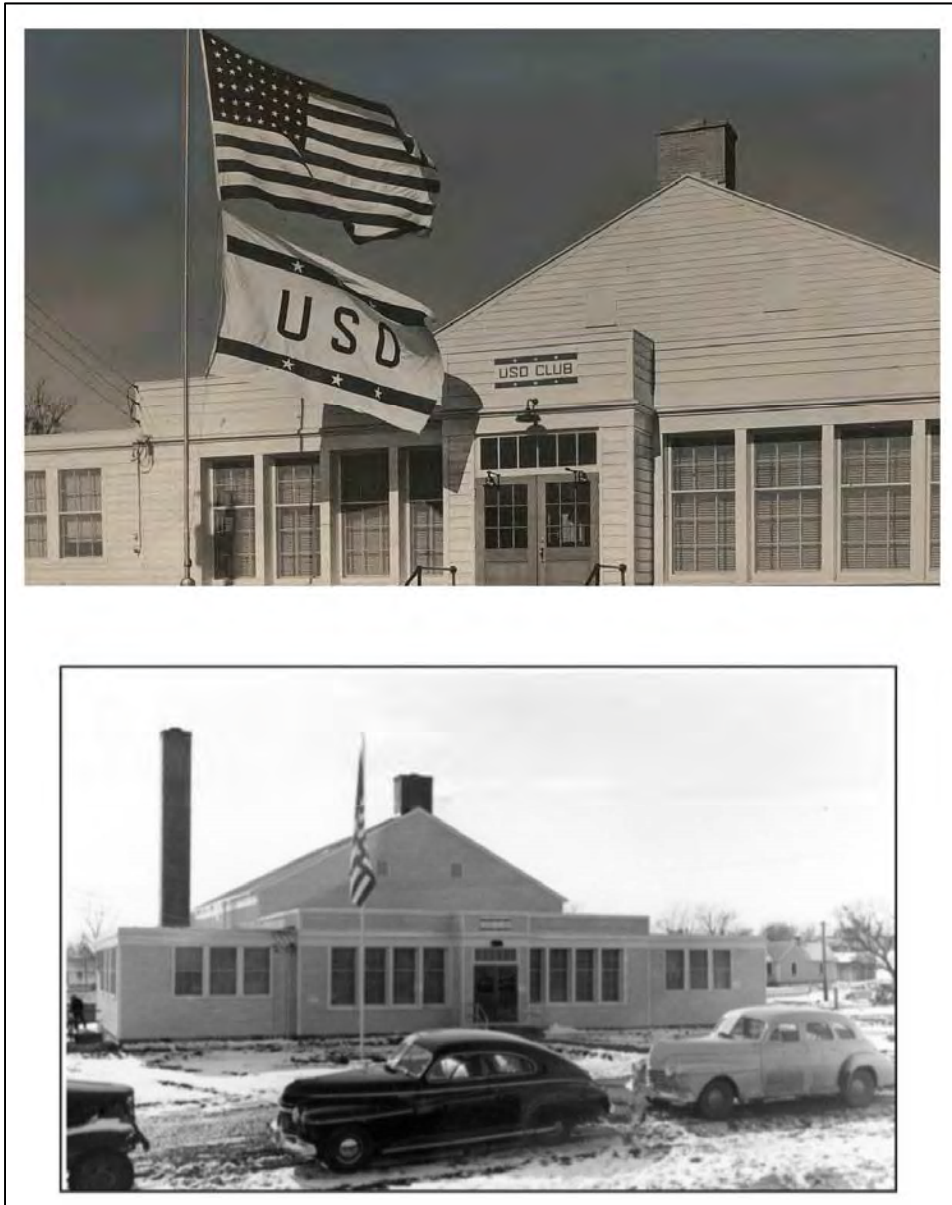


Figure 7. Segregated USO Club at Lebanon, Missouri. Picture taken on February 1, 1942. Courtesy of US Army Engineer School Historic Office, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. The designs of the Byrne Street USO Club and the example at Lebanon, Missouri, were virtually identical.

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<sup>1</sup> Radiah Shabazz, "USO Beaux-Twenty Club Poised for Designation on National Register of Historic Places," *Preserving Black History in Petersburg, VA*. 27 January 2021, <https://sustain.org/preserving-black-history-in-petersburg-va/>.

<sup>2</sup> "Heights Holds Reunion," *The Progress-Index*. 5 September 2010, updated 9 September 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Shabazz, 2021.

<sup>5</sup> "History," *WW2 USO Preservation Association Living History*. <http://ww2uso.org/history.html>.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Sydney Johnson, "How the USO Served a Racially Segregated Military Throughout World War II." *USO*. 26 February 2021. <https://www.uso.org/stories/3001-how-the-uso-served-a-racially-segregated-military-throughout-world-war-ii>.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> "War Department, Camp Lee, Virginia (7/18/1917-6/28/1921)," *National Archives Catalog*. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/10530088>.

<sup>10</sup> The facility became Fort Lee in 1950 when the Army decided to permanently retain the post. "History." *U.S. Army Garrison Fort Lee*. <https://home.army.mil/lee/index.php/about/history>.

<sup>11</sup> James G. Scott and Edward A. Wyatt, IV, *Petersburg's Story: A History* (Petersburg, VA: Titmus Optical Company), 329.

<sup>12</sup> Tim O'Gorman and Dr. Steve Anders, *Fort Lee*. (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing), 70.

<sup>13</sup> Ray Kozakewicz. "Fort Lee WACs helped drive the racial integration of the U.S. Army in the 1950s," *U.S. Army*. 25 February 2014.

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<sup>14</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, Union Street, Petersburg, Virginia. Manuscript on file at the Library of Virginia, Virginia, World War II, History Commission, Subseries IV, USO Histories, Box 4B, Folder 62.

<sup>15</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 20 April 1945. Manuscript on file at the Library of Virginia, Virginia, World War II, History Commission, Subseries IV, USO Histories, Box 4B, Folder 63.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> "Petersburg's historic mayor leaves behind a legacy for us all," *The Progress-Index*. 14 November 2010. p. A4, c. 1.

<sup>18</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 20 April 1945.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Amina Luqman-Dawson, *African Americans of Petersburg*. (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2008), 7.

<sup>22</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 20 April 1945.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Historical Report Part II, Byrne Street USO Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 31 August 1947. Manuscript on file at the Library of Virginia, Virginia, World War II, History Commission, Subseries IV, USO Histories, Box 4B, Folder 63.

<sup>25</sup> "Petersburg Service will Close Feb. 28," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. 12 February 1947, p.3, c.2.

<sup>26</sup> Historical Report Part II, Byrne Street USO Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 31 August 1947.

<sup>27</sup> "Our Yesterdays," *The Progress-Index*. 21 November 1968, p.33, c.5.

<sup>28</sup> Historical Report Part II, Byrne Street USO Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 31 August 1947.

<sup>29</sup> "USO Plans Approved By Petersburg Council," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. 7 February 1950, p.3.

<sup>30</sup> "Anniversary Celebration," *The Progress-Index*. 6 February 1961, p.14, c.4.

<sup>31</sup> "Byrne St. USO Here to Mark 20th Year." *The Progress-Index*. 4 February 1961, p.12, c.9.

<sup>32</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 20 April 1945.

<sup>33</sup> Amina Luqman-Dawson, 105.

<sup>34</sup> Janita Poe, "Role of Social Clubs Changes with Times," *Chicago Tribune*. 9 February 1994.

<sup>35</sup> The club took its name from Beau Brummel, the French arbiter of men's high fashion in Regency England. Amina Luqman-Dawson, 106.

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<sup>36</sup> Amina Luqman-Dawson, 106; “Wives of Beaux-Twenty to celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> annual debutante cotillion,” *The Progress-Index*. 4 March 2018.

<sup>37</sup> “Wives of Beaux-Twenty to celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> annual debutante cotillion.”

<sup>38</sup> “Wives of Beaux-Twenty presents 39th Debutant Cotillion,” *Jackson Newspapers*. 17 September 2017.

<sup>39</sup> Queen Shabazz, Correspondence to Elizabeth Lipford, Virginia Department of Historic Resources. 24 November 2020.

<sup>40</sup> Mella Rothwell Harmon, “Hawthorne U.S.O. Building,” *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 5 January 2005. Prepared by the State Historic Preservation Office.

<sup>41</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, “Historic Context for Department of Defense Facilities: World War II Permanent Construction,” 1997, [https://fas.org/man/dod-101/fac/ww2\\_pc1.htm#Types%20of%20Construction:%20%20Permanent%20vs.%20Temporary](https://fas.org/man/dod-101/fac/ww2_pc1.htm#Types%20of%20Construction:%20%20Permanent%20vs.%20Temporary), 25.

<sup>42</sup> “Here’s How the First USO Centers Were Created,” USO, accessed June 2021, <https://www.uso.org/stories/150-here-s-how-the-first-uso-centers-were-created>.

<sup>43</sup> Newton Preservation Foundation, “The Newton Falls U.S.O. Center.” *History of USO/Community Center*. <https://www.nfpreservation.org/community-center>.

<sup>44</sup> “World War II Temporary Construction,” Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, accessed June 2021, <https://www.nps.gov/articles/ww2-tempconstruction.htm>.

<sup>45</sup> Mella Rothwell Harmon.

<sup>46</sup> Newton Preservation Foundation.

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<sup>48</sup> Mella Rothwell Harmon.

<sup>49</sup> Historical Record of USO Club, USO-YMCA Club, 464 Byrne Street, Petersburg, Virginia. 20 April 1945.

<sup>50</sup> “North Carolina U.S.O. Monroe: Main Street Club Compiled History,” North Carolina Digital Collections, accessed June 2021, <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/digital/collection/p16062coll10/id/12227/>. Matthew Peek, “North Carolina WWII USO Clubs Records Online,” August 29, 2019, *Medium*, accessed June 2021,

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Byrne Street USO Club

Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA

County and State

“Wives of Beaux-Twenty to celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> annual debutante cotillion,” *The Progress-Index*. 4  
March 2018.

“Wives of Beaux-Twenty presents 39th Debutante Cotillion,” *Jackson Newspapers*. 17  
September 2017.

“World War II Temporary Construction.” Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park  
Service. Accessed June 2021. <https://www.nps.gov/articles/ww2-tempconstruction.htm>.

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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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** VDHR File #123-5054

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 0.482 Acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37.219861 Longitude: -77.404411

Byrne Street USO Club  
Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA  
County and State

**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: |

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

UPAL's Petersburg Community Resiliency Hub is located at 464 Byrne Street in The Heights neighborhood of Petersburg, Virginia. It is identified by the City of Petersburg as parcel 031040010. The true and correct historic boundaries are shown on the attached Tax Parcel Map and Sketch Map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes UPAL's Petersburg Community Resiliency Hub building, as well as the historic setting and acreage associated with the building. This has not changed throughout its history, as evidenced by mid-twentieth century Sanborn Maps.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Dara A. Friedberg, Madelyn Shiflett, and Robert J. Taylor, Jr.  
organization: Dutton + Associates, LLC  
street & number: 1115 Crowder Drive  
city or town: Midlothian state: Virginia zip code: 23112  
telephone: 804-897-1960  
date: February 17, 2021

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**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.

Byrne Street USO Club

Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA

County and State

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### 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: Byrne Street USO Club

City or Vicinity: Petersburg

County: Independent City

Photographer: Robert J. Taylor, Jr.

Photo 1 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Façade, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 2 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Central Entry Bay, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 3 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

East and south elevations, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 4 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of brick wall in front of building, view south

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 5 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of wood and Brick-Tex siding on south (side) elevation, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 6 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

West and south elevation, view northeast

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 7 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club



Byrne Street USO Club

Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA

County and State

North elevation, view southeast

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 8 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of original drop siding on west (rear) elevation, view east

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 9 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of window on east elevation, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 10 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of entrance doors, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 11 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of entrance doors in front vestibule, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 12 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Central hallway, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 13 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of lockers in office, view northeast

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 14 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of door in office, view southwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 15 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Recreation room, view south

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 16 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Reception hall and fireplace, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 17 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of wood paneling in reception hall, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 18 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Byrne Street USO Club

Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA

County and State

Snack bar in reception hall, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 19 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Entry into ballroom from reception hall, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 20 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Phone booth in reception hall, view south

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 21 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Locker room, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 22 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of women's bathroom, view south

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 23 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of wood trusses in ballroom, view southwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 24 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of stage in ballroom, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 25 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of mural in ballroom, view east

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 26 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of mural in ballroom, view southwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 27 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of mural in ballroom, view northwest

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 28 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of south dressing room, view west

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 29 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Byrne Street USO Club

Name of Property

City of Petersburg, VA

County and State

Detail of front doors in central hallway, view east

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 30 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Detail of Beaux Twenty Club sign in central hallway, view east

Date Photographed: March 18, 2021

Photo 31 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Façade as it appeared after installation of vinyl siding, view southwest

Date Photographed: March 2022

Photographer: Marc. C. Wagner

Photo 32 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

Façade as it appeared after installation of vinyl siding, view west/northwest

Date Photographed: March 2022

Photographer: Marc. C. Wagner

Photo 33 of 33: Byrne Street USO Club

South (side) elevation as it appeared after installation of vinyl siding with a portion of Brick-Tex siding remaining in the central bay, view west/northwest

Date Photographed: March 2022

Photographer: Marc. C. Wagner

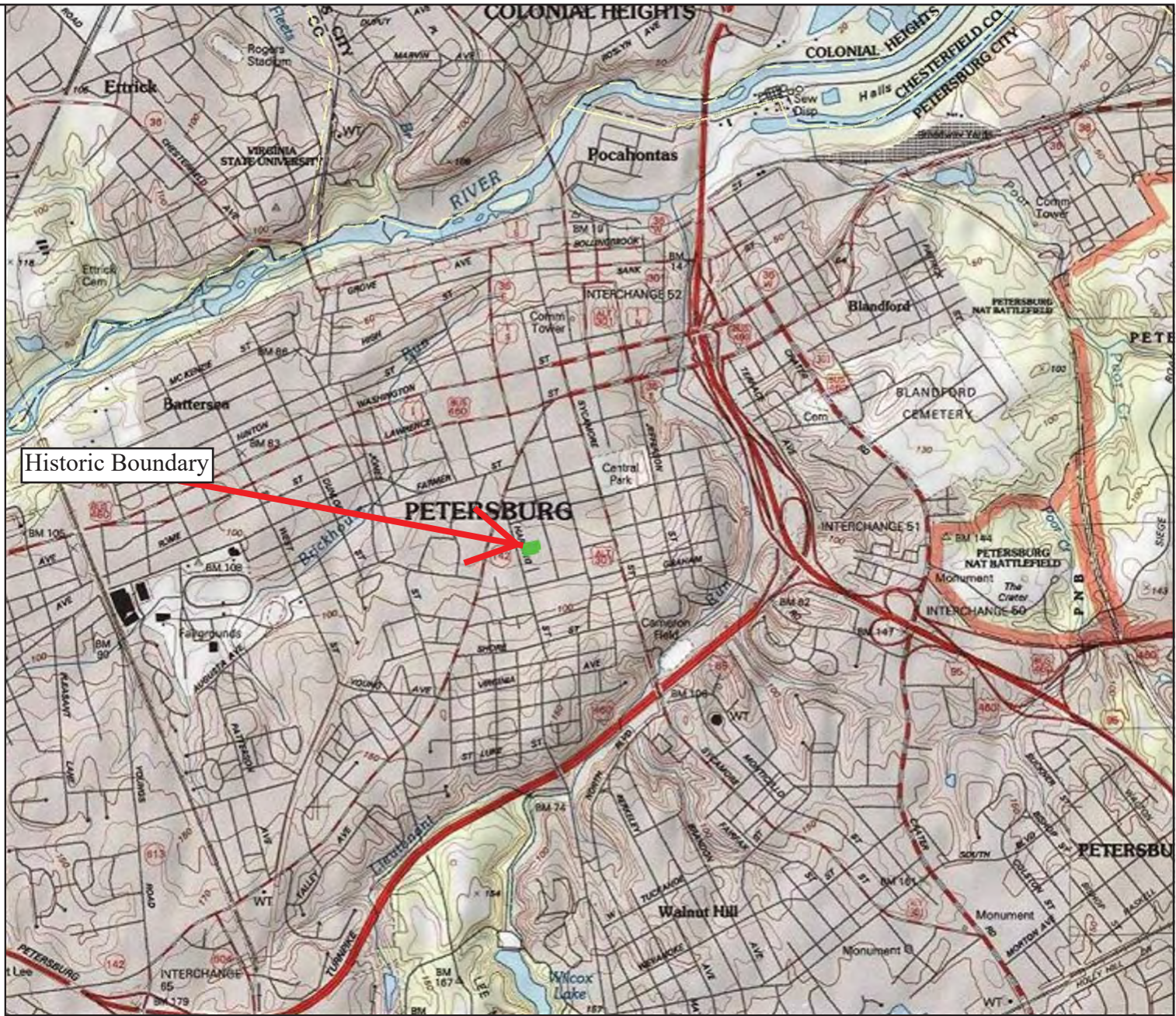
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Byrne Street USO Club  
City of Petersburg, VA  
DHR No. 123-5054



Historic Boundary



Feet

0 600 1200 1800 2400

1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Title:

Date: 4/19/2022

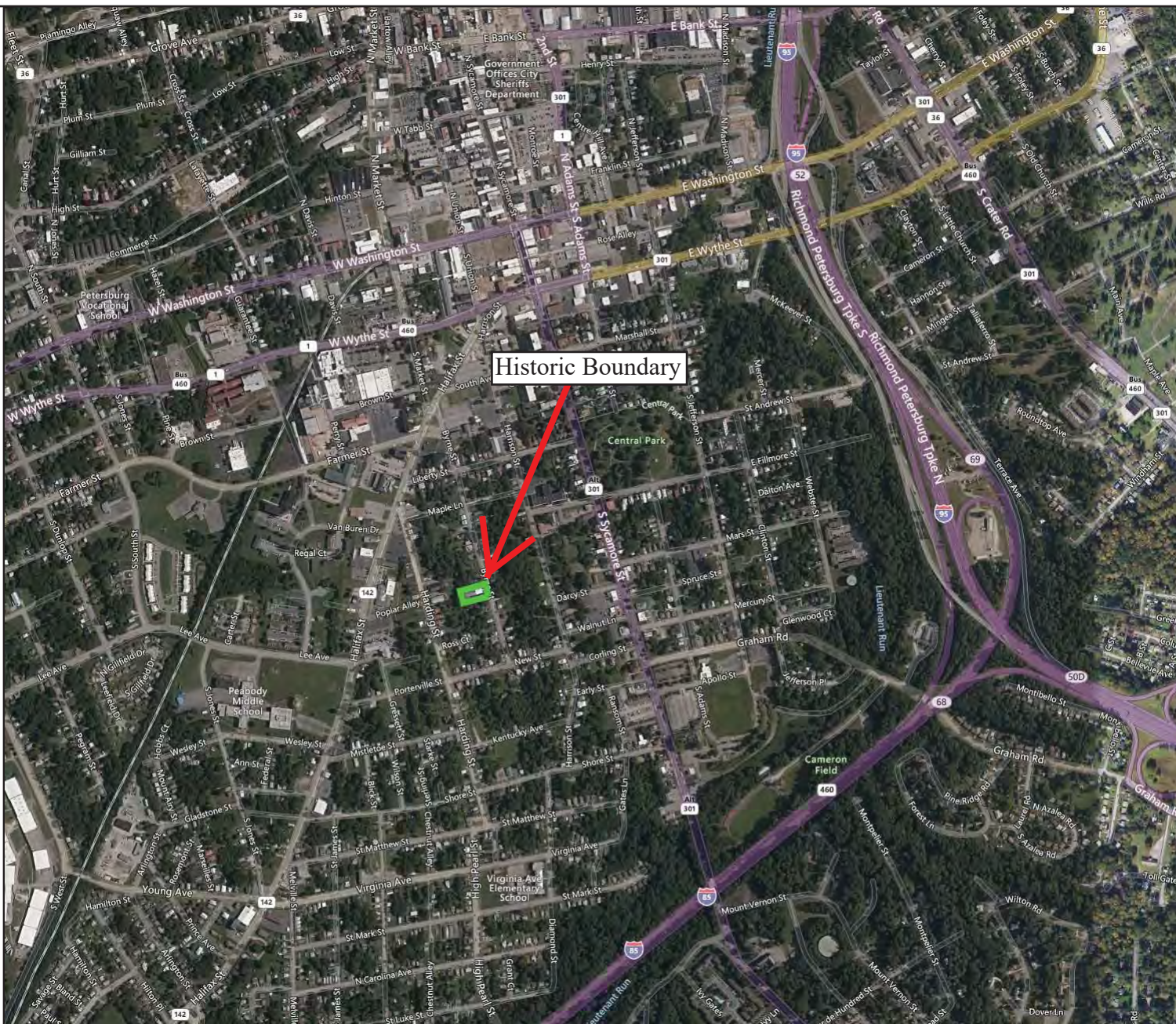
DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.



AERIAL VIEW - VICINITY

Byrne Street USO Club  
City of Petersburg, VA  
DHR No. 123-5054



Feet

0 500 1000 1500 2000

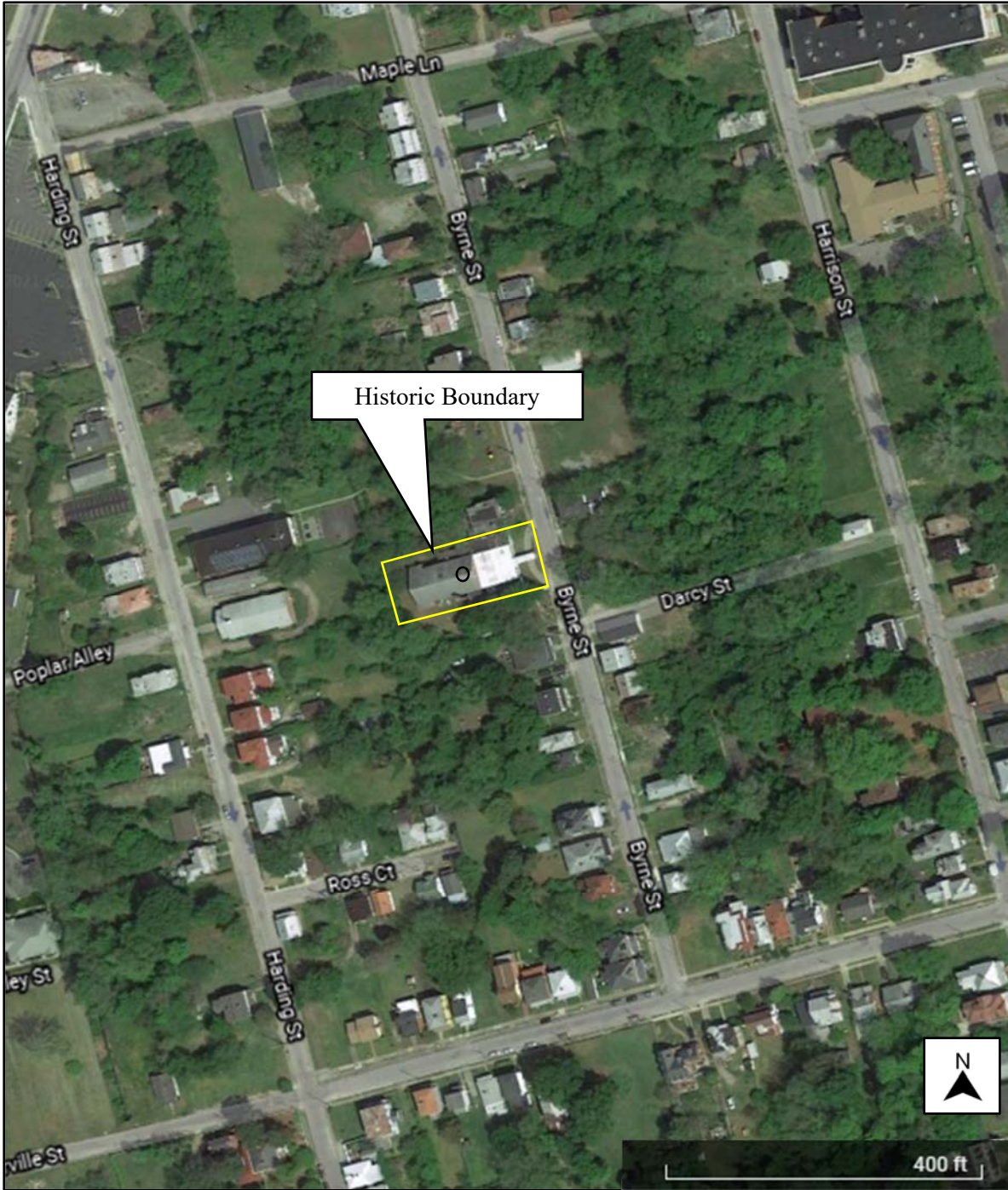
1:18,056 / 1"=1,505 Feet

Title:

Date: 4/19/2022

*DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.*

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*Map: Google Earth*

**LOCATION MAP**

**Byrne Street USO Club, City of Petersburg, VA**

**VDHR# 123-5054**

**Latitude: 37.219861**

**Longitude: -77.404411**





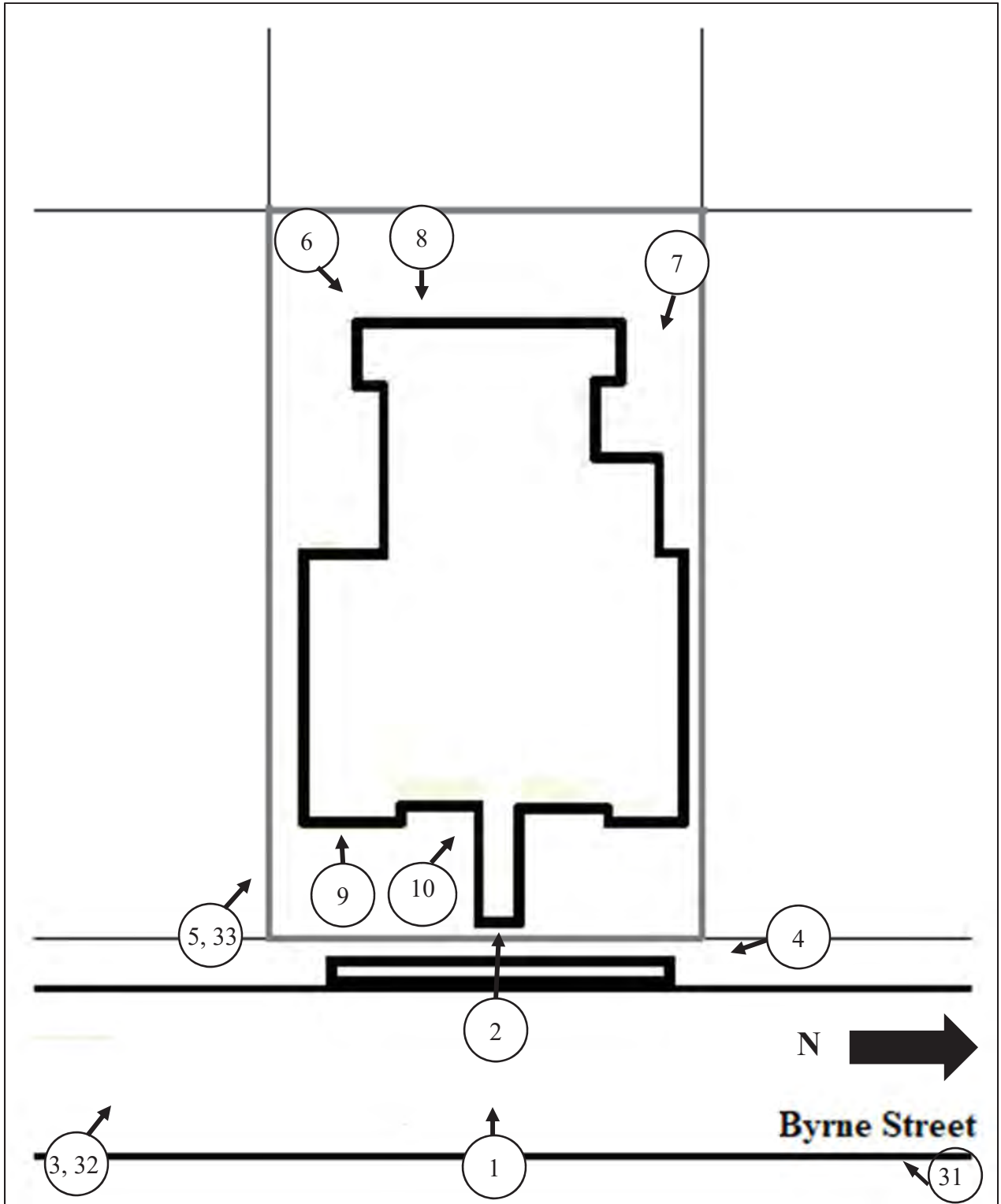
*Map: Google Earth*

### SKETCH MAP

**Byrne Street USO Club, City of Petersburg, VA**

**VDHR# 123-5054**

-  Historic Boundary
-  1943 Building (contributing building)

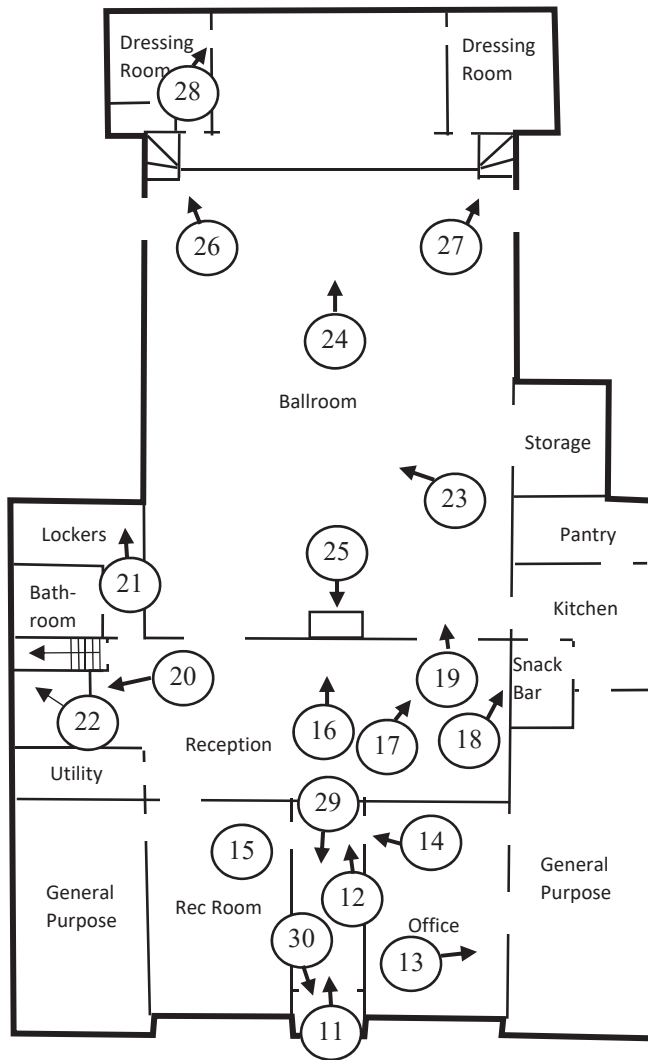


**PHOTO KEY (1 of 2)**  
 Byrne Street USO Club, City of Petersburg, VA  
 VDHR# 123-5054

 Historic Boundary

Photo Location & Direction 



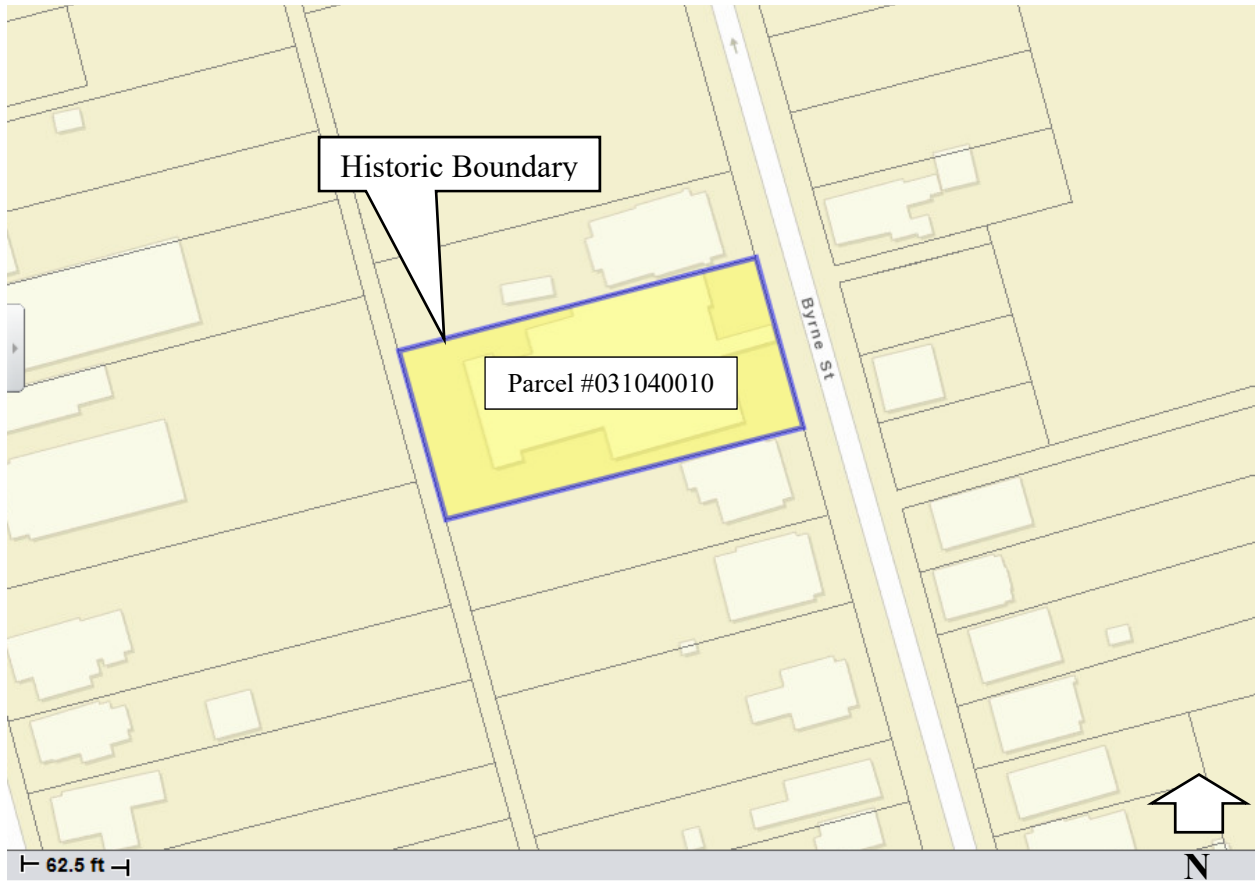


**PHOTO KEY (2 of 2)**

Byrne Street USO Club, City of Petersburg, VA  
 VDHR# 123-5054



Photo Location & Direction



**TAX PARCEL MAP**  
**Byrne Street USO Club, City of Petersburg, VA**  
**VDHR# 123-5054**

City of Petersburg Geographical Information System website,  
<https://parcelviewer.geodecisions.com/Petersburg/>  
Accessed 6/23/2021