NPS Form 10-900
OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

261

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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: Ryland Hall
Other names/site number: VDHR No. 127-0364-0001
Name of related multiple property listing:
The History and Architecture of the University of Richmond, 1834-1977
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 2 Ryland Circle
City or town: Richmond 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Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a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 _x_statewide ___local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

_x_A ___B _x_C ___D

7/18/13

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

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:) _____

Patrick Andrus 5/7/2013

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	x
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION/ College
EDUCATION/ Library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION/ College

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/ Late Gothic Revival/ Collegiate Gothic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; STONE; CONCRETE

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.)

Summary Paragraph
Architect Ralph Adams Cram designed Ryland Hall, located on the current Westhampton campus of the University of Richmond in Richmond, Virginia, in 1913. The building exemplifies the collegiate gothic style popularized by Cram in the early twentieth century. Ryland Hall is comprised of two parallel wings, Robert Ryland and Charles Ryland halls, set apart by a connecting loggia, with the former containing administrative offices and classrooms and the latter containing the original library for the university. The large brick building contains character-defining Gothic Revival elements as seen throughout the rest of Cram's buildings on campus, including leaded glass windows with Gothic tracery, decorative concrete sculptural elements, a gable roof with slate shingles, asymmetrical massing, Flemish-bond red brick construction, and a cloistered arrangement of buildings. Primary construction materials are brick, stone, and concrete. The building retains a high level of integrity that is reflective of Cram's design aesthetic for the University of Richmond.

Narrative Description

SITE DESCRIPTION
Located atop a slight hill, Ryland Hall forms a courtyard, known as Stern Plaza, with Weinstein Hall, ca. 1951, and the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, ca. 1992. Ryland Hall is positioned

at the southeast corner of Stern Plaza, and is set back from campus roads on a landscaped parcel with mature trees, shrubbery, and ornamental plantings. Brick walkways surround the building. Ryland Hall is oriented on a northeast/southwest axis with the primary façade facing northwest toward the adjacent courtyard. The building occupies a generally rectangular lot that features formal landscaping in keeping with the Collegiate Gothic design aesthetic used throughout the campus. Ryland Circle, a paved drive parallels the southeast elevation and curves around the northeast corner to form a loop. An oval parking area is across from the southwest corner of the building. Immediately north and northwest of the building is a formal courtyard with brick walkways and a circular brick feature at the center. Opposite Ryland Hall, Jepson Hall and Weinstein Hall extend along the northwest and northeast sides of the courtyard, comprising the type of formal, cloistered spatial relationships envisioned by Cram when he conceived the university's original master plan.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Designed in the Collegiate Gothic style, Ryland Hall originally contained the primary administrative offices on campus, the library holding 20,000 volumes, lecture rooms, the art hall, and meeting spaces for organizations.[1] The building is composed of two parallel wings set apart by a connecting loggia. Charles Ryland Hall is the northwestern wing, and Robert Ryland Hall is the southeastern wing and the larger of the two wings. Ryland Hall stands as a prime example of the Collegiate Gothic style popularized by Cram in the early twentieth century, as seen throughout Cram's seven other buildings at the University of Richmond.[2] According to Cram, "good architecture is primarily a matter of form, composition, well chosen materials and absolute honesty of construction," an idea that is exemplified in the design, execution, and lasting integrity of Ryland Hall.[3]

Constructed of red brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern with cast stone decorative accents, Ryland Hall has a gable roof covered in variegated slate shingles, molded concrete surrounds and quoins accenting windows and doors, high parapeted walls, leaded glass multi-light windows, Oriel windows, windows with Gothic-style tracery, decorative concrete sculptural elements, molded concrete surrounds and drip molds, asymmetrical massing, ceramic tile decoration, multi-stack chimneys, and brick buttresses. At Ryland Hall, Cram used a regional variation of his Collegiate Gothic aesthetic from that seen in his other campus designs. Rather than designing the campus utilizing the stone material he employed at Princeton and West Point, he chose to repeat the strong southeastern tradition of building in brick.[4]

The northwestern façade encompasses both Robert Ryland and Charles Ryland halls and the connecting corridor. A large, triple-shoulder chimney is decorated with horizontal concrete banding and is flanked by a set of single, leaded multi-pane windows on the first and second floors. A pointed parapet is placed behind the chimney. Extruded corner piers sit on either end of

[1] W. Harrison Daniel, *History at the University of Richmond* (Richmond, Virginia: University of Richmond Print Shop, 1991), 84
[2] Cheryl Jenkins, "Gothic Architecture: A UR Tradition," *University of Richmond Magazine* (Winter 1973), 13.
[3] "Ryland Hall gets summer makeover," *Spider Network* 8 (2), 1.
[4] Council of Independent Colleges Historic Campus Architecture Project, "Ryland Hall," (http://puka.cs.waikato.ac.nz/cgi-bin/cic/library?a=d&d=p1835).

the exterior wall. The center portion of the façade contains the connecting corridor between the two wings. A series of pointed arches and windows with Gothic-style tracery line the corridor and are accented by concrete horizontal banding and extruded piers. One of the most prominent Gothic features of the building sits along the northern corner of the western façade in what once was the Charles H. Ryland Library. A pronounced pointed arch window with elaborate Gothic-style tracery punctuates the otherwise austere side. Concrete horizontal banding and sculptural elements at the highest point of the parapeted roofline accent the Flemish-bond red brick.

The side-gabled northwestern façade of Charles Ryland Hall contains a series of pointed arches, extruded half-height piers, and prominent pointed arch windows with Gothic-style tracery. As with the other sides of the building, concrete horizontal banding accents the Flemish-bond red brick and concrete moldings surround leaded glass multi-paned window sets along the second floor. The entrance to the building sits at the western corner of the façade and is emphasized by a set of dark, wooden pointed arch doors that are surrounded by molded concrete decoration. The entrance is further decorated by sculpted concrete in botanical and Gothic geometric motifs, a prominent Oriel window, and sculpted concrete drip molds. The northeastern wall of the Charles Ryland wing contains a large, upper-level pointed arch window with Gothic-style tracery flanked by niches of sculpted concrete. The courtyard area between the Charles Ryland and Robert Ryland halls opens to the northwestern side of the Robert Ryland Hall and its covered corridor. This corridor is comprised of a series of pointed arches and extruded half-height piers of brick and concrete construction and is topped by a row of leaded glass multi-paned sets of windows with one Oriel window and a pointed parapet dormer above one of the arched bays in the corridor. Cram originally planned for the corridor floors to be covered in quarry tile, but they are now a mixture of slate tile, granite slabs for the steps, and herringbone brick.

The southeast elevation of Ryland Hall faces Ryland Circle. The central portion of the building is topped by a slate-shingled, gable roof with two hipped-roof dormers and two pointed parapet dormers. The parapet dormers are of Flemish-bond red brick construction with horizontal concrete banding, as is seen throughout the entire building. Sets of leaded glass multi-pane windows are placed along this façade in groups ranging from three to six windows per set. Along this elevation, as throughout the rest of the exterior, molded concrete quoins and decorative moldings surround the windows. A large rectangular tower rises at the northeast end of the building with an additional, smaller hexagonal tower appended to the corner of the larger tower. This red brick tower contains horizontal concrete banding stretching across the width of the tower, leading from the window surrounds around the smaller tower. Large decorative windows with Gothic style tracery are placed on the third and fifth floors, with an entrance door below the third floor window. This wooden door in the shape of a pointed arch is surrounded by a molded concrete pointed arch. Along the cornice level of the tower, concrete drip molds with sculpted gargoyles in the forms of owls, pelicans, and men's faces, including one of Cram, draw attention to the prominent flat roofline. On the west end of the southeast elevation, a pointed parapet wing sits with a prominent Oriel window on the third floor and a set of leaded glass multi-paned windows on the first and second floors, both surrounded by concrete moldings. Horizontal concrete banding wraps around the wing and a sculpted concrete element is placed at the pointed gable. Extruded corner piers and concrete banding draw attention to the triple-shoulder chimney to the west side of the wing.

Interior Description

In Cram's original design, the basement of the Robert Ryland Hall wing included a classroom and fan, storage, and common rooms, each with hardwood floors. The first floor held the post office, three classrooms, two lecture rooms, the Law Library, one professor's office, the Treasurer and Assistant to the Treasurer's offices, and the President and Secretary's offices. On the first floor, the northwestern Charles H. Ryland Hall wing containing the Law Library and two lecture rooms were connected to the southeastern Robert Ryland Hall wing's first floor by a corridor (termed a "cloister" on plans) with a quarry tile floor. In Robert Ryland Hall, the larger of the two wings, a corridor stair between the Treasurer and President's offices connected the four levels. A more accessible stair was placed in the cloister between the two wings, providing primary access to each of the floors. The first floor interior contained all hardwood floors with quarry tile floors along the interior and exterior corridors. The interiors all contain plaster walls with dark oak decorative accents, moldings, and doors, as well as molded concrete tracery in the leaded glass windows.

The second floor of the Charles Ryland wing originally contained a large library encompassing the entire space. Across the corridor, five classrooms and three professors offices constituted the Robert Ryland wing. The classrooms and corridors were designed and built with hardwood floors and the library with cork tile floors. Four of the classrooms had two blackboards installed in the design and the remaining class had three.

The third floor contained three spaces designated for literary societies and the loft space for the vaulted ceiling in the second-floor library. An additional room designated for the Literary Society's use was located in the fourth floor tower. The original floorplan included hardwood floors throughout the third floor and fourth floor tower.

Integrity

Ryland Hall maintains an exceptional level of exterior integrity. The elaborate Gothic embellishments that are a character-defining feature of the building have been maintained and repaired as needed. No additions have been made to the building's original footprint, and patterns of ingress and egress have not been changed.

On the interior, after the construction of Boatwright Memorial Library in 1955, the second-floor Ryland Hall library space was divided into smaller offices for the English department. Partition walls were erected to create office spaces within the original alcoves and a central corridor extends the length of the second floor. The library's original elements are intact, albeit hidden by the partition walls.

From time to time, classrooms throughout the building have been converted for use as offices then returned to classroom use. On the second floor, the original wide corridor along one perimeter wall was partitioned to create a central corridor and more office spaces along the perimeter wall. In the basement, one classroom became the history department and another

became the print shop for a time.[5] A renovation project in 1973 resulted in removal of the original interior oak woodwork, which was stored elsewhere. In 1990, the University of Richmond embarked on a $1 million project that was attuned more to a restoration than a renovation. This endeavor restored the building to its pre-1973 renovation appearance with the addition of mechanical upgrades. Director of the Physical Plant, John Hoogakker, claimed, "The main thrust of the project was a historical restoration of the building…restoring a lot of the original features that appeared there."[6] In addition to receiving visible interior changes which included stripping away layers of paint, reinstalling the original oak woodwork, and exposing original oak and stone materials, the arched ceilings in the third and fourth floor hallways were restored. Also at this time, the heating, air-conditioning, and electrical systems were upgraded and the roof and masonry work were strengthened. Each pane of leaded glass was numbered and removed so that the steel window sash/frames could be removed. The sash/frames were sent to a company to have the paint stripped and then were powder coated. Once the sash/frames were re-installed, Shelton Stained Glass Company re-installed the leaded glass panes.[7] Since that time, cosmetic changes such as new carpeting, paint, and other interior finishes have been undertaken. Today Ryland Hall maintains a high level of integrity on both the interior and exterior, even as it has been adapted to suit changing educational needs at the university.

[5] Edward C. Peple, "Changing Face of Ryland Hall," *University of Richmond Magazine* 38 (Winter 1975), 7.
[6] Bill Norton, "Ryland Hall," *The Collegian* (September 6, 1990).
[7] Andrew McBride, personal communication, 2012.

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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1913-1963

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Cram, Ralph Adams

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.)

Ryland Hall is significant at the statewide level under Criterion A (Education) for its association with the development of Richmond College (which became the University of Richmond in 1920) and its housing of the university's first library, classrooms, meeting rooms, and offices, including the president's office. The building also is significant at the statewide level under Criterion C (Architecture) for its Collegiate Gothic architecture at the hand of prominent architect Ralph Adams Cram of the Boston and New York firm of Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson. Cram, the head architect for the university's new Westhampton campus during the early twentieth century, employed the Collegiate Gothic style that had gained national popularity at other campuses such as West Point, Princeton University, and Western Reserve University (now Case Western Reserve). While Cram's original campus plan was never fully realized due to financial constraints, Cram's legacy remains in the original seven buildings built to his designs and his Collegiate Gothic aesthetic that has guided campus architecture to the present day. The period of significance begins in 1913, the year construction began on Ryland Hall, and ends in 1963, the traditional fifty-year cutoff date for historic properties that continued to have importance. Ryland Hall continues to be a landmark building in the heart of the University of Richmond campus today. Ryland Hall is being listed in the National Register under the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPD), *The History and Architecture of the University of Richmond, 1834-1977*. A general historic context covering the educational and architectural history of Ryland Hall is found in sections E and F of the MPD. It is recommended individually eligible in the Property Type Registration Requirements of Section F.

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

In employing an architect to design the buildings for the new campus at Westhampton, Richmond College president Frederic W. Boatwright and the Board of Trustees enlisted prominent architect Ralph Adams Cram of the Boston and New York-based firm Cram, Goodhue, and Ferguson. After his conversion to Anglo-Catholicism in 1887, Cram asserted that the Gothic style, and its inherent moral truths, had been lost and needed restoring.[8] Cram advocated the working partnership between the artisan and craftsman that existed during the medieval age, however, he simultaneously understood that modern-day construction techniques could be employed in a useful manner.[9] Cram accepted modern construction methods and materials, even claiming,

> What we have done in steel and stone can assuredly be said to be the expression of the best in us, and may, perhaps, be a prophecy of the great things that are to come…in the

[8] Edwin J. Slipek, Jr., *Ralph Adams Cram: The University of Richmond and the Gothic Style Today* (Richmond, Virginia: Marsh Art Gallery, 1997), 21.
[9] Ibid.

> church spires and soaring silhouettes of the buildings that compose our skyline there is a profound spiritual quality.[10]

Thus, it seems Cram objected more to the term "modernism," which conjured certain "ideas, values, and practices" that countered those convictions he associated with the medieval past, than the concept of something being "modern" in the chronological sense of the word.[11] In describing his admiration of the medieval past, Cram wrote:

> In a way the eleventh [century] may be considered one of the marvelous centuries of all history: everything happened and all at once…with the swiftness of dreams monasteries arose all over Europe, each a center of law and order, religion, learning and mercy. Schools were reared on monastic foundations all over the west.[12]

The Collegiate Gothic style popularized by Cram allowed him to correlate the architecture and values of the medieval past to the campus architecture of the twentieth century. Using the Gothic style in his campus designs also allowed Cram to create a unified aesthetic for a collection of buildings that differed in use. Whether the building housed science laboratories or administrative offices, the Gothic style could be adapted.[13]

In 1909, when Boatwright was planning the new coeducational campus at Westhampton, he visited several colleges and universities to inspire ideas for the new campus at Richmond College. He visited Cleveland's Western Reserve University, where the women's and men's colleges remained separate for the most part but shared several buildings, such as the library, auditorium, and science laboratories.[14] In addition to the coeducational campus organization, Boatwright may have been attracted to the Gothic style architecture of the women's college. While Cram did not design those particular buildings, he was responsible for the neighboring Gothic style Euclid Avenue Presbyterian Church, which was under construction at the time of Boatwright's visit.[15]

Boatwright and the Board favored the Collegiate Gothic aesthetic, which Cram had popularized at institutions including Princeton University, the United States Military Academy at West Point, Williams College, and religious buildings including the chapel at St. George's School in Newport, Rhode Island, and the cathedrals at St. Albans in Washington, D.C. and St. John the Divine in New York.[16] Additionally, Cram's Colonial Revival designs for the newly opened Sweet Briar College, ca. 1906, in Sweet Briar, Virginia, and for Rice University in Houston, Texas, also demonstrated Cram's aptitude for campus planning and design.[17] Specifically,

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[10] Robert Muccigrosso, *American Gothic: The Mind and Art of Ralph Adams Cram* (Washington: University Press of America, 1980), 198-199; Slipek, 27.
[11] Muccigrosso, 199
[12] Ralph Adams Cram, *The Great Thousand Years* (Boston: Marshall Jones Company, 1918) p. 14 in Slipek, *Ralph Adams Cram*, 26.
[13] Slipek, 26.
[14] Slipek, 22.
[15] Ibid.
[16] W. Harrison Daniel, 79.
[17] W. Harrison Daniel, 80.

Cram's preceding work at Princeton and West Point demonstrate clear parallels to his work at Richmond College. In addition to his own work, Cram referenced Cambridge and Oxford universities in England for examples of ideal campus design.[18] At Princeton, Cram arranged the buildings into groups resembling monastic cloisters but included a prominent central axis that recalled Beaux-Arts planning schemes.[19] Similarly at West Point, Cram relied on a Gothic aesthetic, which provided a more picturesque environment than the neoclassical designs conjured by his contemporaries.[20]

President Boatwright and the Board hired Cram to work in conjunction with Boston-based landscape architect Warren H. Manning, former apprentice to preeminent landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, in the organization of the new campus.[21] When the Richmond College campus opened in 1914, seven of Cram's designs were built in accordance with his larger plan for the campus, including Westhampton College, Ryland Hall, Thomas and Jeter Halls, a stadium, Brunet Memorial Hall, and a power plant.[22] These initial seven buildings were designed in Cram's Collegiate Gothic aesthetic, setting the stage for the campus architecture as a whole.[23]

Ryland Hall

Throughout the history of the University of Richmond, and prior Richmond College, the Ryland name has remained prominent. Ryland Hall's two wings are named for Robert Ryland and Charles Ryland, each of whom held long-standing positions at the school. In 1832, Pastor Robert Ryland was appointed Superintendent of the Virginia Baptist Seminary.[24] Under Ryland, the seminary prioritized general, or "literary," education, rather than one based on the Bible, for the ministerial students.[25] As enrollment increased and the seminary gained in popularity, the administration decided to relocate the campus from Spring Farm, near current-day Bryan Park, to a location one-half mile from the city of Richmond.[26] The new seminary, located near the intersection of present-day Grace and Lombardy streets, remained at this site until 1914.[27] In 1840, the charter of Richmond College was created and Ryland was named President upon his withdrawal from his position as President of the Board of Trustees. Ryland remained President of Richmond College until 1866. Ryland's contributions to the institution allowed its growth

[18] Slipek, 24-26.
[19] Slipek, 24.
[20] Ibid.
[21] W. Harrison Daniel, 80.
[22] Jennifer Hugman, Peter C. Luebke, Amy Moses, and Marc Wagner, *The History and Architecture of the University of Richmond, 1834-1977*, Multiple Property Documentation Form (Richmond, Virginia: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, December 2011), 10.
[23] Hugman et al., 10
[24] Reuben E. Alley, *History of the University of Richmond, 1830-1971* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1977), 13.
[25] Alley, 19.
[26] University of Richmond, "Historical Traditions of the Master Plan" (http://facilities.richmond.edu/master-plan/historical-traditions.html).
[27] Ibid.

from a one-teacher seminary in 1832 to a college with six full-time professors at the start of the Civil War.[28]

Charles H. Ryland, Robert Ryland's nephew, and after whom the Charles Ryland wing of Ryland Hall is named, served Richmond College in several positions throughout his tenure.[29] Beginning in the 1870s, Ryland presided as secretary-treasurer of Richmond College, an appointment that resulted in a "long and fruitful" relationship between Ryland and the college that strengthened the foundation and reputation of the school.[30] After resigning from his position as Treasurer, Ryland continued to serve as Secretary and Librarian at Richmond College until his death in 1914, which occurred one week prior to moving the school to the new Westhampton campus.[31] After Ryland's death, his daughter, Marion Garnett Ryland, took over the position of Librarian until her death in 1927. The library moved to the newly constructed Boatwright Memorial Library in 1955.[32]

The construction of Ryland Hall began with the laying of the cornerstone on June 10, 1913, by Richmond Masonic Lodge No. 10. Cram addressed the audience of the ceremony, stating that the idea of his Collegiate Gothic aesthetic was "to abandon all that is ephemeral and time-saving in architecture and go back to the perfect style that was developed by our own kin in the old home over-seas, to express just these high and eternal ideals of education that were so perfectly calculated to breed high character, and did breed it, as history clearly shows."[33]

Robert Ryland Hall originally housed the administrative offices and Charles H. Ryland Hall housed the University of Richmond library from 1914 until the completion of Boatwright Memorial Library in 1955.[34] Originally, the first floor of the Robert Ryland Hall contained the President and Treasurer's offices and one faculty office where the entire faculty could meet and where individual conferences took place.[35] Classrooms comprised the rest of the first floor. The second floor housed the office of the Dean of Richmond College and additional classrooms, while the third floor provided space assigned to the literary societies, the Philologian Literary Society and the Mu Sigma Rho Literary Society, for meeting rooms.[36] Atop the fourth floor of the tower, a cupola stored a bell with a rope hanging down through a series of closets to the President's office on the ground level; President Boatwright would ring this bell to indicate class changes.[37]

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[28] University of Richmond, "Rev. Robert Ryland," http://urhistory.richmond.edu/people/Ryland.html).
[29] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall," (http://urhistory.richmond.edu/architecture/ryland.html).
[30] Alley, 59.
[31] Alley, 133.
[32] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall."
[33] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall;" "Laying of the cornerstone at Westhampton," *The Religious Herald* (June 19, 1913).
[34] Jenkins, 13.
[35] Peple, 7.
[36] Peple, 7; University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall."
[37] Peple 7.

The second floor of the west wing of Charles H. Ryland Hall contains an architecturally impressive library. A separate library building had been planned by Cram, but the construction costs of Westhampton College's North Court building had cost almost twice the original $100,000 estimate, thus the Ryland Hall library was added as an appendage to the administration building.[38] As Dr. Edward C. Peple, associate provost and English professor, asserts, the library was "by far the handsomest room on campus and a fine one by any standards."[39] Peple described the library:

> It consisted of two parallel rows of reading alcoves along a central aisle with a large Gothic window at each end. The walls and the soaring vaulted ceiling were paneled in dark oak. The alcoves and other walls held the shelving for the book collection. Each alcove was furnished with a square table, a reading lamp, four straight, hard chairs, and a window seat over a heating vent.[40]

The elaborate interior design and ornamentation of the library even sparked comparisons between it and the students' study halls at Oxford and Cambridge.[41] In 1914, more than half of the 386 students at the college could sit in the library at the same time.[42] The Ryland Hall library contained over 20,000 volumes, including the law school's books.[43]

The interior space of Ryland Hall has fluctuated as the needs of the university have changed throughout the years. The first change in the use of Ryland Hall came in 1918 when the United States entered World War I and the Richmond College campus was designated as an army hospital. At this time, the college and its operations, including the library, moved back to its previous location at Grace and Lombardy streets.[44] At the war's end, the law school and its library remained in the downtown location. By 1927, the library space in Ryland Hall no longer sufficed, thus the large library on the second floor became shelving space for the large collection of books. At this time, the classrooms on the first floor were also converted into a reading room and additional space for shelving. On the third floor, the rooms designated for the literary societies were moved from their meeting rooms to make more space for additional stacks. Ultimately, the library's collection grew so large that librarians had to fill the shelves two books deep.[45] After the construction of Boatwright Memorial Library in 1955, the second-floor Ryland Hall library space was divided into smaller offices for the English department. Partition walls were erected to create office spaces within the original alcoves and a central corridor extends the length of the second floor. Most of the library's original elements are intact, with much of the space hidden by the partition walls.

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[38] Jenkins, 13.
[39] Peple, 7.
[40] Ibid.
[41] Jenkins, 13.
[42] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall."
[43] Ibid.
[44] Peple, 7.
[45] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall."

Other interior use modifications include the transformation of classrooms on the first floor into an enlarged Treasurer's office, and the later modification of additional classrooms into offices for the religion department. On the second floor, classrooms were divided to become offices and the broad hallway partitioned to create a central corridor and more office spaces along the perimeter wall. In the basement, one classroom became the history department, another became the print shop, and classrooms that had previously been converted to two English department offices were reconfigured to classrooms.[46] Upon reconversion of the basement offices to classrooms, some faculty members regretted the move and the loss of their unique office spaces. As Dr. Edward Peple stated, the losses included,

> A Miltonic 'vast abyss' outlined in chalk on the floor, complete with a brooding dove 'with mighty wings outspread' suspended above it; a rebus for Spenser's Red Cross Knight; and such valuable data recorded on the blackboard as the list of The Four Last Things, the names of the mistresses of Charles II, a reminder of the date of the last appearance of the great bustard in England, the date of the last authenticated appearance of a dragon in Europe, and the number of pubs in the Irish Free State.[47]

All alterations to Ryland Hall, however, were carried out to maintain the university's mission of higher education. Interior renovations carried out during the 1970s included removal of original interior woodwork, but the woodwork was stored on campus and reinstalled during a renovation in the 1990s. Throughout Ryland Hall's history, the university has maintained the original, extensive architectural embellishments on the exterior. The building continues to exemplify Cram's Collegiate Gothic aesthetic with its cloistered building design, unparalleled vistas, picturesque siting on the campus property, and numerous Gothic architectural elements. Currently Ryland Hall houses the English and History departments' classrooms and offices.[48]

[46] Peple, 7.
[47] Peple, 7.
[48] University of Richmond, "Ryland Hall."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Alley, Reuben E. *History of the University of Richmond, 1830-1971.* Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1977.

Council of Independent Colleges. "Historic Campus Architecture Project: Ryland Hall." Last modified 2006. http://puka.cs.waikato.ac.nz/cgi-bin/cic/library?a=d&d=p1835.

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Muccigrosso, Robert. *American Gothic: The Mind and Art of Ralph Adams Cram.* Washington: University Press of America, 1980.

Norton, Bill. "Ryland Hall." *The Collegian,* September 6, 1990.

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"Ryland Hall gets summer makeover." *Spider Network* 8 (2): 1.

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University of Richmond, "History of the University of Richmond: Architecture." Last modified 2009.http://urhistory.richmond.edu/architecture/ryland.html.

University of Richmond. "Historical Traditions of the Master Plan." Last modified 2012. http://facilities.richmond.edu/master-plan/historical-traditions.html

University of Richmond. "University History: People." Last modified 2012. http://urhistory.richmond.edu/people/Ryland.html

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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:

_x__ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
_x___ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA; University of Richmond, Richmond, VA_____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _VDHR No. 127-0364-0001_____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __0.597 acre_____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 37.577540 Longitude: -77.537177
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

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.)

Ryland Hall occupies a slightly irregularly shaped lot on the University of Richmond campus that is recorded as parcel no. W0230004008 by the City of Richmond, Virginia. The historic boundary coincides with the lot lines (see attached parcel map). The nominated property is bounded on the west by Richmond Way and Westhampton Lake, on the north by Richmond Way, on east by Gateway Drive, and on the south by the intersection of Richmond Way and Gateway Drive.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary encompasses Ryland Hall and its immediate environs, and follows the lot lines associated with the building since its construction in 1911. The boundary of the nominated property includes all land historically associated with the building's operation as an educational building on the campus of the University of Richmond.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Joanna McKnight and Lena Sweeten McDonald
organization: Department of Historic Resources
street & number: 2801 Kensington Avenue
city or town: Richmond state: VA zip code: 23221
e-mail lena.mcdonald@dhr.virginia.gov
telephone: 804-482-6439
date: October 1, 2012

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.
- **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

The following information is common to all photographs:
Name of Property: Ryland Hall, University of Richmond
City or Vicinity: Richmond (Independent City) State: Virginia
Photographer: Joanna McKnight
Date Photographed: June 19, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

0001 West entrance façade, camera facing northwest. 1 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0001.tif

0002 South chimney façade, camera facing north. 2 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0002.tif

0003 South arcade façade, camera facing north. 3 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0003.tif

0004 South library façade, camera facing northeast. 4 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0004.tif

0005 East main entrance façade, camera facing northeast. 5 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0005.tif

0006 East main entrance façade, main entry, camera facing northwest. 6 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0006.tif

0007 Corner of east main entrance façade and north library façade, camera facing south. 7 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0007.tif

0008 East arcade façade, north library façade on right, camera facing east. 8 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0008.tif

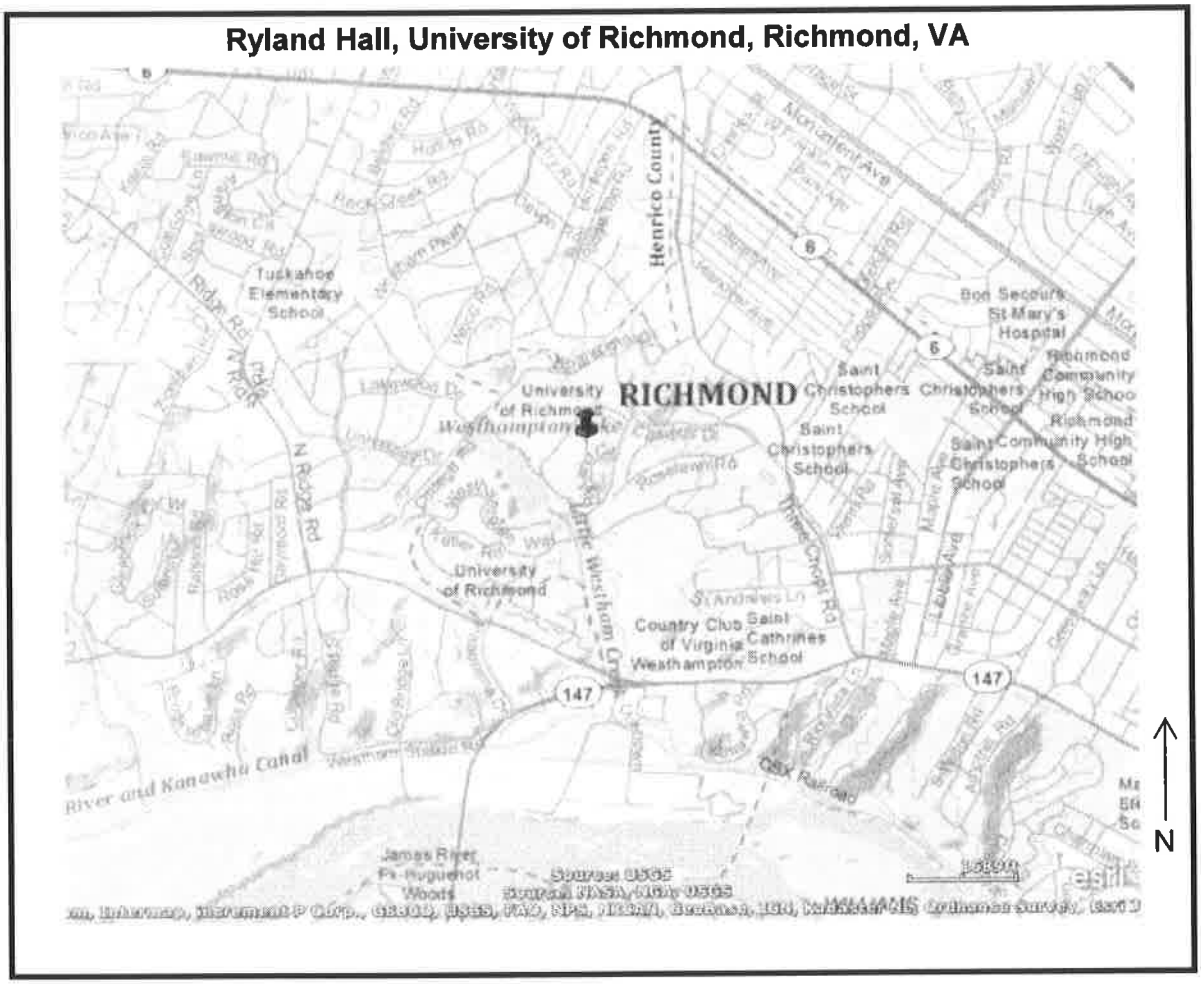
0009 Corner of north tower and bell tower façade and west façade of north tower, camera facing west. 9 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0009.tif

0010 West façade of north tower, camera facing west. 10 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0010.tif

0011 Interior, East main entrance façade, camera facing northeast. 11 of 11.
VA_Richmond_RylandHall_0011.tif

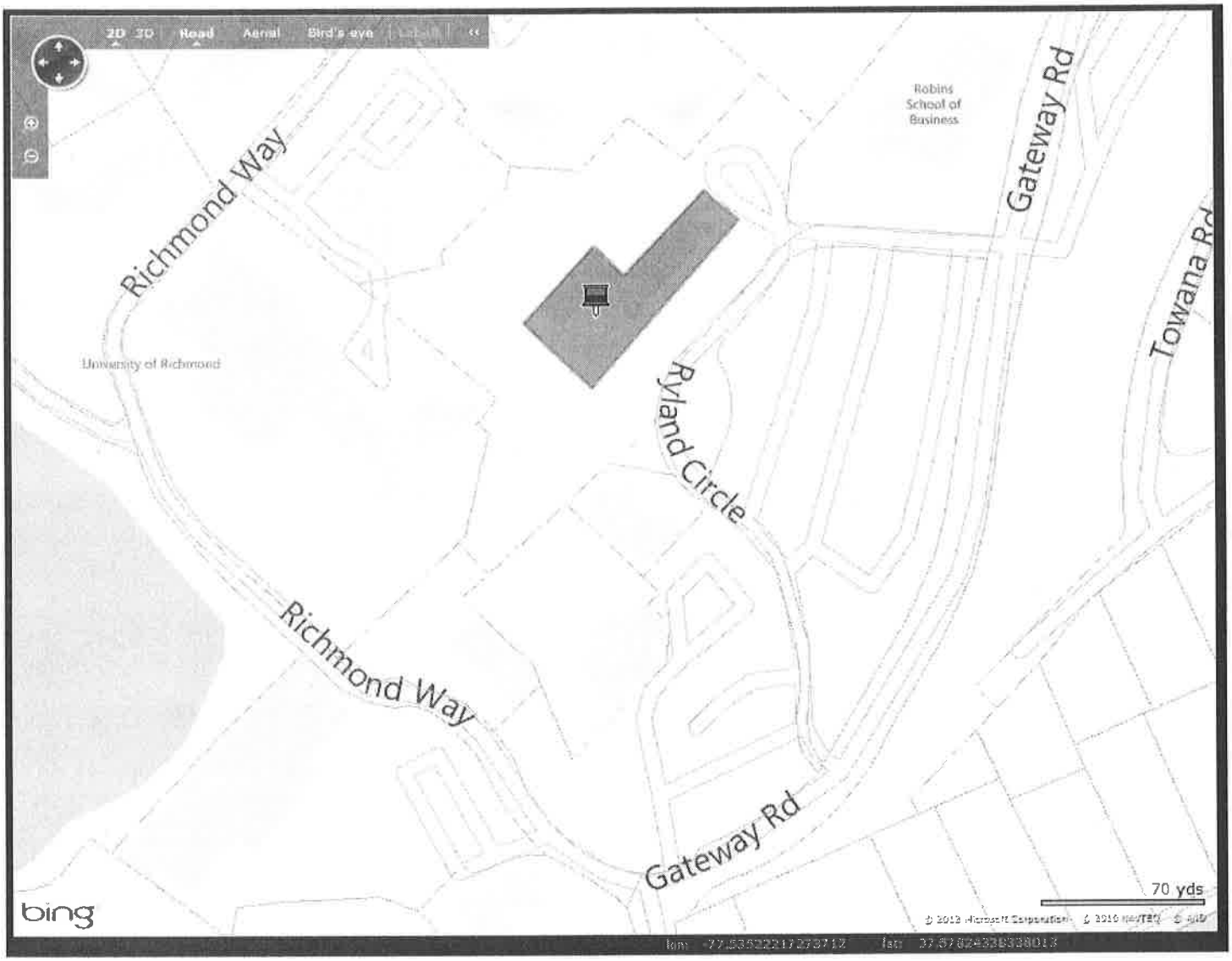
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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.

Ryland Hall, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA



Ryland Hall
University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR #127-0364-0001

Location Coordinates:
Latitude: 37.577540
Longitude: -77.537177



Parcel Map

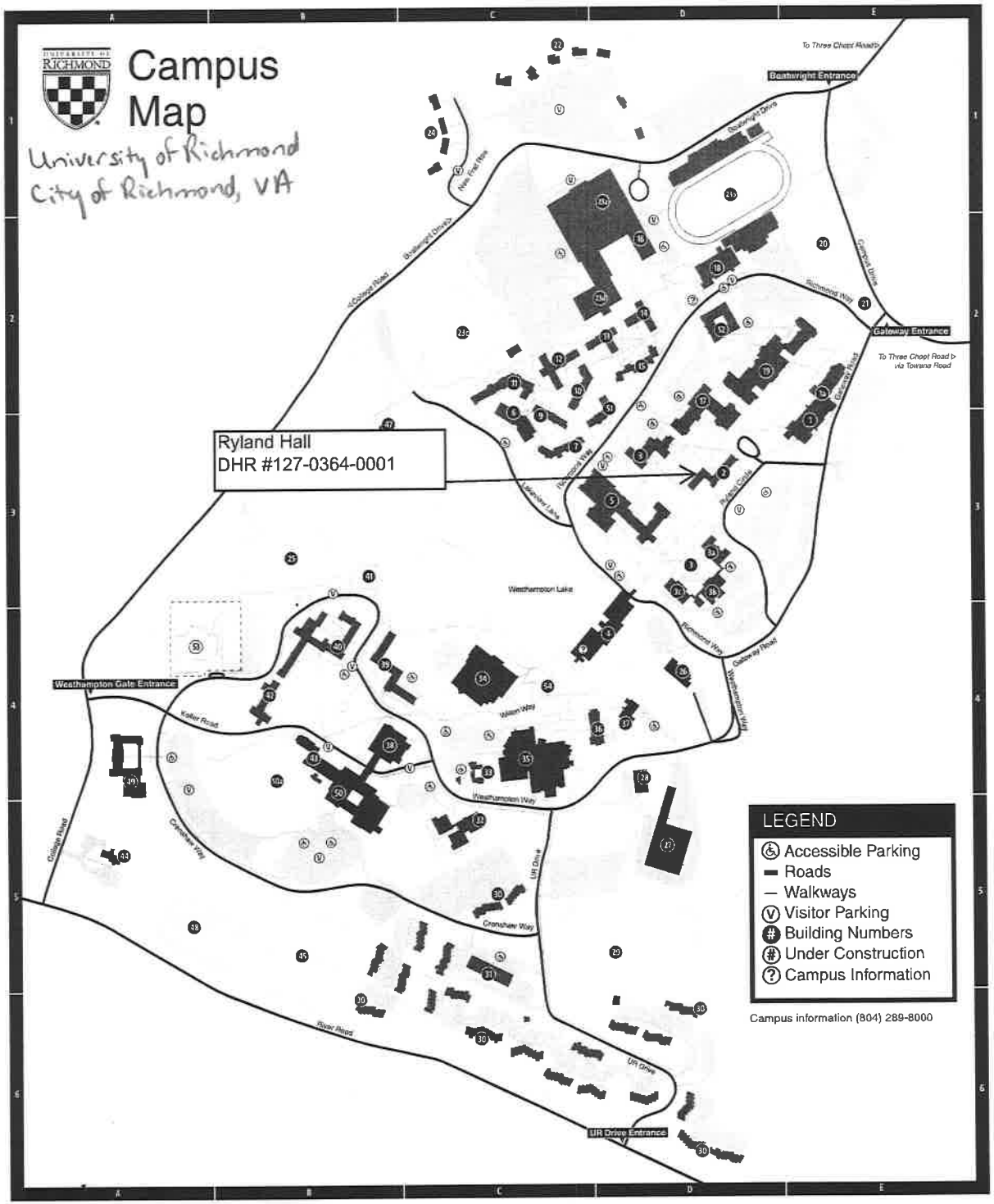
Parcel no. W0230004008

Ryland Hall

2 Ryland Circle

Richmond, Virginia

DHR # 127-0364-0001



LOCATIONS

5	Boatwright Memorial Library	D3
38	Booker Hall	B4
18	Brunet Hall	D2
21	Bus Stop	E2
36	Cannon Memorial Chapel	D4
52	Carole Weinstein International Center	D2
50a	Crenshaw Field	B4
13	Dennis Hall	D2
48	Football Practice Field	A5
10	Freeman Hall	C2
47	Gazebo	B3
35	Gottwald Center for the Sciences	C4
39	Gray Court	B4
41	Greek Theatre, Jenkins	B3
34	Heilman Center (dining hall)	C4
29	Intramural Fields	D5
49	Jepson Alumni Center	A4
17	Jepson Hall	D2
15	Jeter Hall	D2
43	Keller Hall	B4
6	Lakeview Hall	C3
32	Lora Robins Court	C5
11	Marsh Hall	C2
3a	Maryland Hall	D3
16	Millhiser Gymnasium	D2
50	Modlin Center for the Arts	B4
12	Moore Hall	C2
24	New Fraternity Row	C1
40	North Court	B4
22	Old Fraternity Row	C1
27	Physical Plant	D5
23c	Pitt Baseball Field	C2
44	President's Home	A5
3c	Puryear Hall	D3
1a	Queally Hall	E3
20	Richmond College Tennis Courts	E2
3b	Richmond Hall	D3
23a	Robins Center	D1
14	Robins Hall	D2
1	Robins School of Business	E3
23b	Robins Stadium	D1
2	Ryland Hall	D3
19	School of Law	D2
28	Service Building	D4
42	South Court	B4
31	Special Programs Building	C5
26	Steam Plant	D4
53	Student Activities Center	A4
7	Thomas Hall	C3
4	Tyler Haynes Commons	D4
30	University Forest Apartments	B6, C5, C6, D6
54	University Forum	C4
45	Upper/Lower Grass Training Fields	B5
23d	Weinstein Center for Recreation and Wellness	D2
8	Weinstein Hall	D3
33	Westhampton Center	C4
25	Westhampton College Tennis Courts	B3
51	Whitehurst	D2
37	Wilton Center	D4
9	Wood Hall	C3

PLACES TO NOTE

18	Admission and Financial Aid—Undergraduate	D2
4	Bookstore	D4
49	Bottomley House	A4
38	Camp Concert Hall	B4
4	Career Development Center	D4
8	Human Resources	D3
31	Department of Public Safety and Student Health Center	C5
33	Thalhimer Guest Cottage	C4
5	Virginia Baptist Historical Society	D3

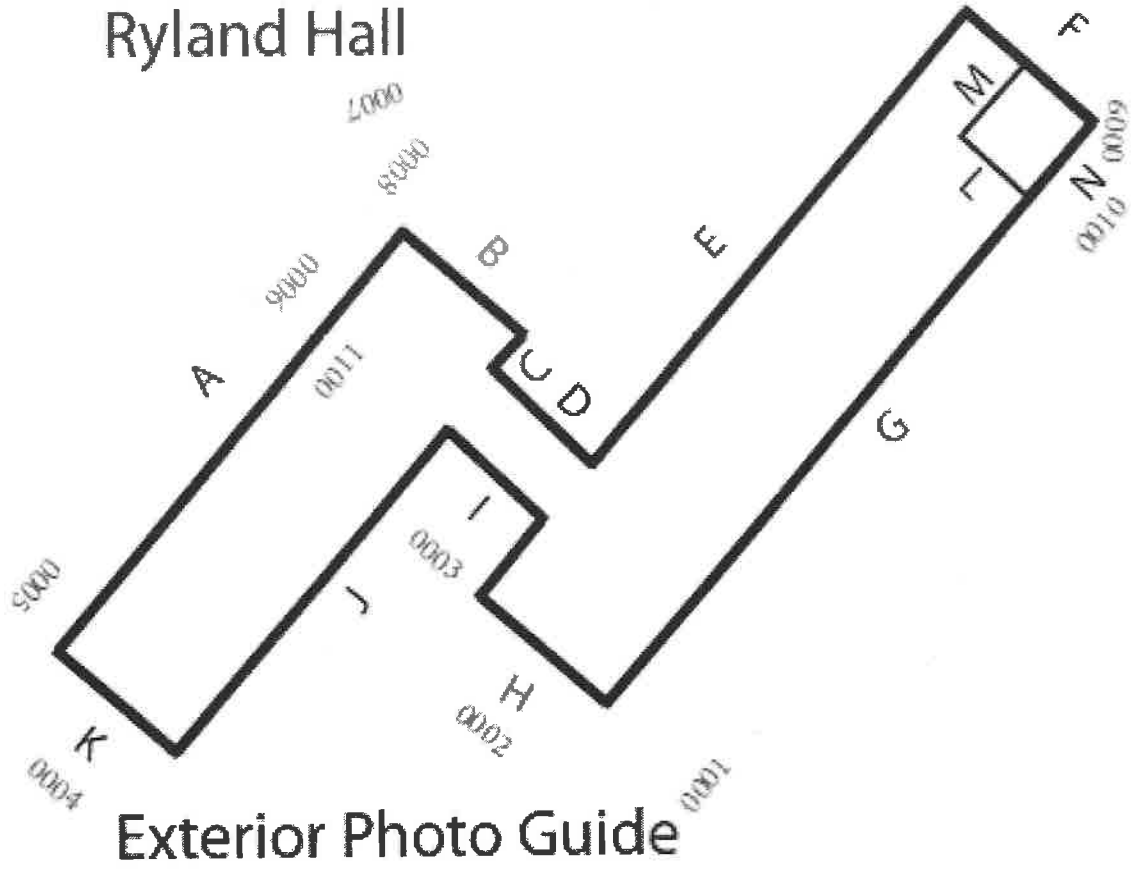
MUSEUMS

50	Harnett Museum of Art and Harnett Print Study Center	B4
5	Lora Robins Gallery of Design from Nature	D3

DEAN'S OFFICES

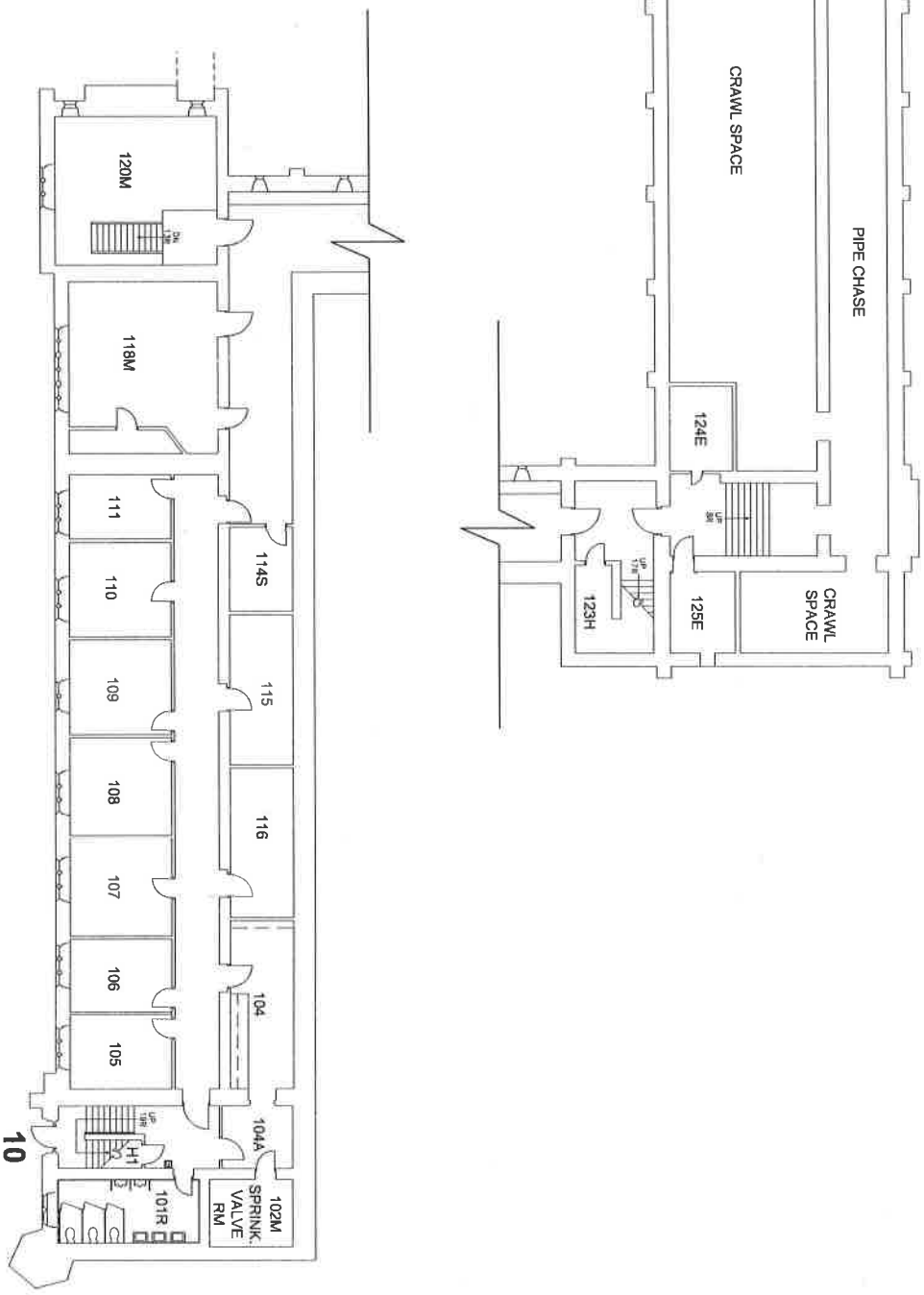
17	Jepson School of Leadership Studies	D2
51	Richmond College	D2
1	Robins School of Business	E3
5	School of Arts and Sciences	D3
31	School of Continuing Studies	C5
19	School of Law	D2
33	Westhampton College	C4

06/11



A = East Main Entrance Facade
B = North Library Facade
C = West Facing Facade of North Half of Library
D = North Arcade/Hyphen Facade
E = East Arcade Facade
F = North Tower and Bell Tower Facade
L = South Facade of North Tower
M = East Facade of North Tower
N = West Facade of North Tower
G = West Entrance Facade
H = South Chimney Facade
I = South Arcade Facade
J = West Library Facade
K = South Library Facade

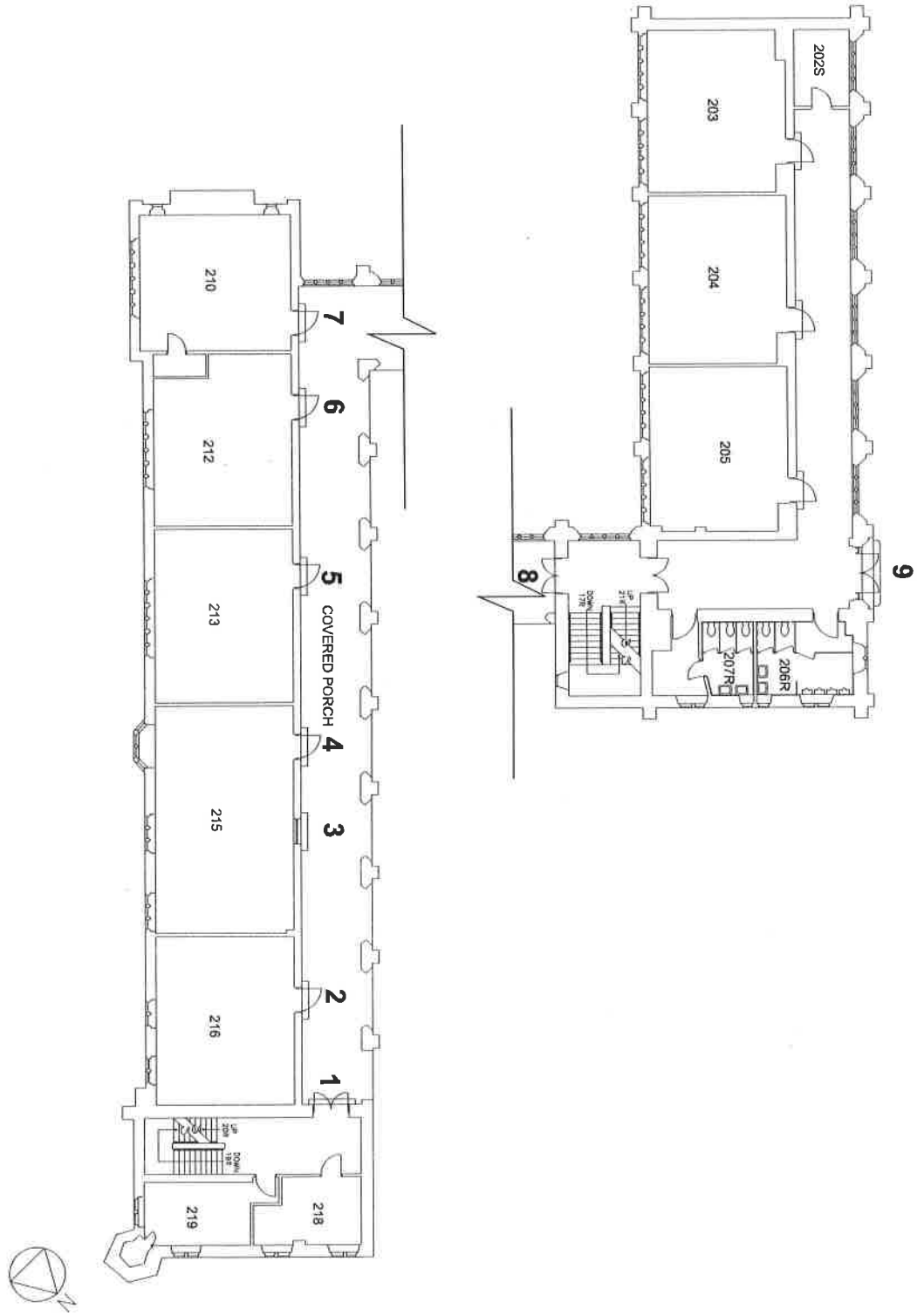
Photo Key
Ryland Hall, University of Richmond
City of Richmond, Virginia
DHR #127-0364-0001



RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR # 127-0364-0001

FIRST FLOOR
Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"
Summer 2004

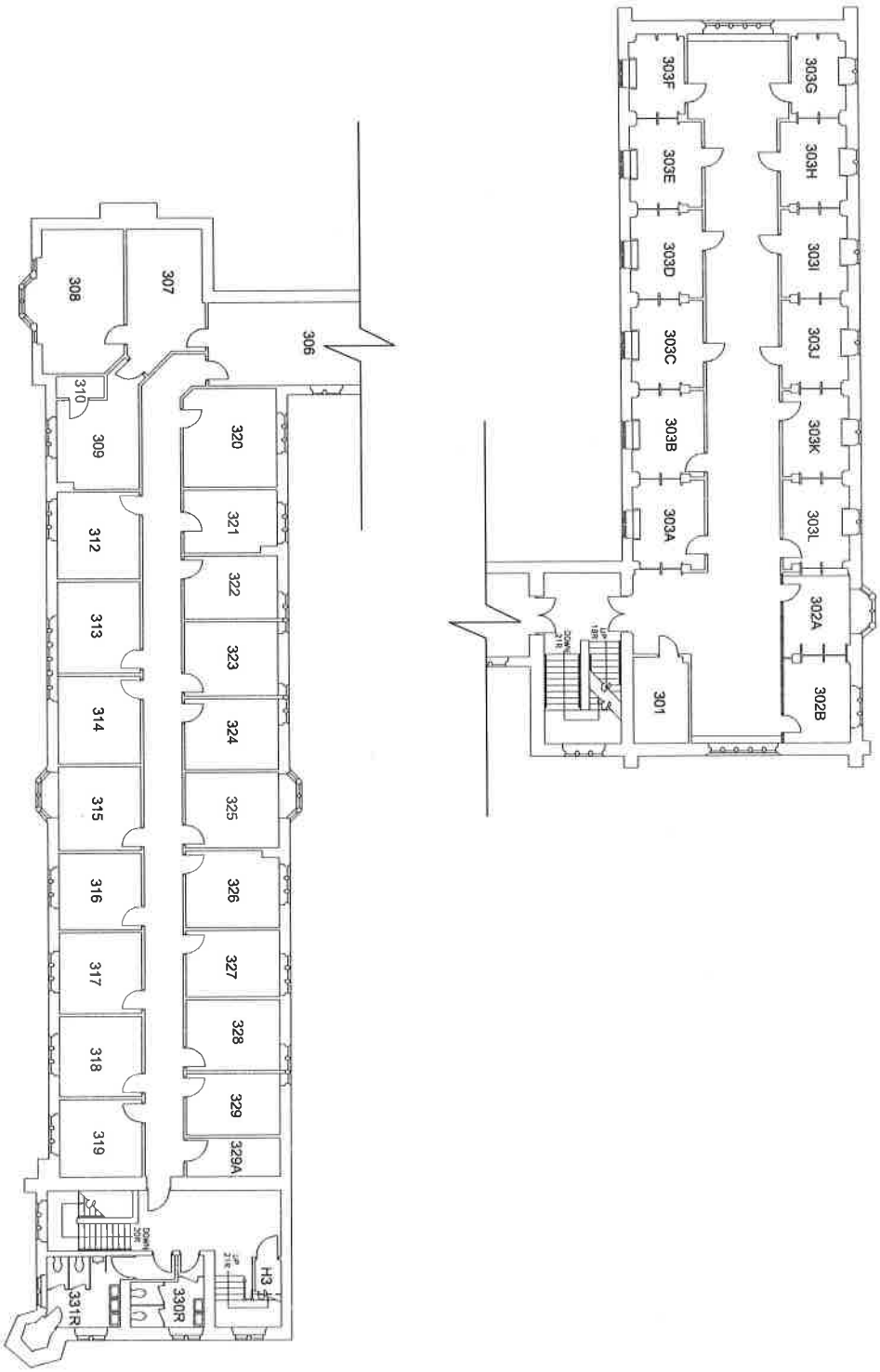


RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR #127-0364-0001

SECOND FLOOR

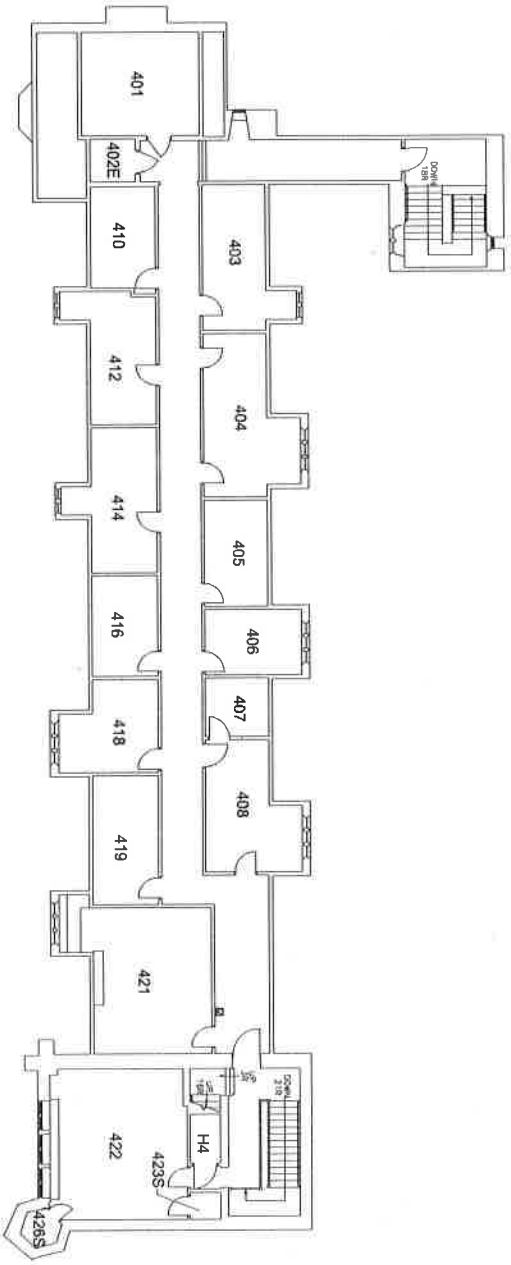
Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"
Summer 2009



RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR # 127-0364-0001

THIRD FLOOR
Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"
Summer 2004

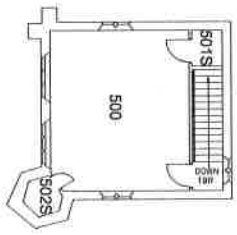


RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR #127-0364-0001

FOURTH FLOOR

Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"
Winter 2011

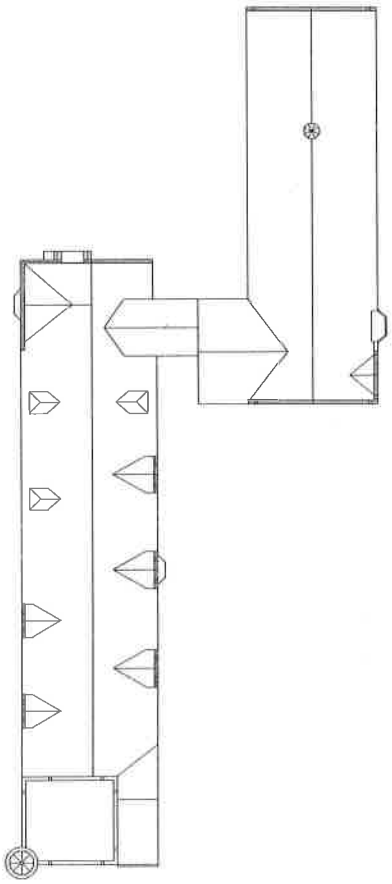


RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR # 127-0364-0001

FIFTH FLOOR

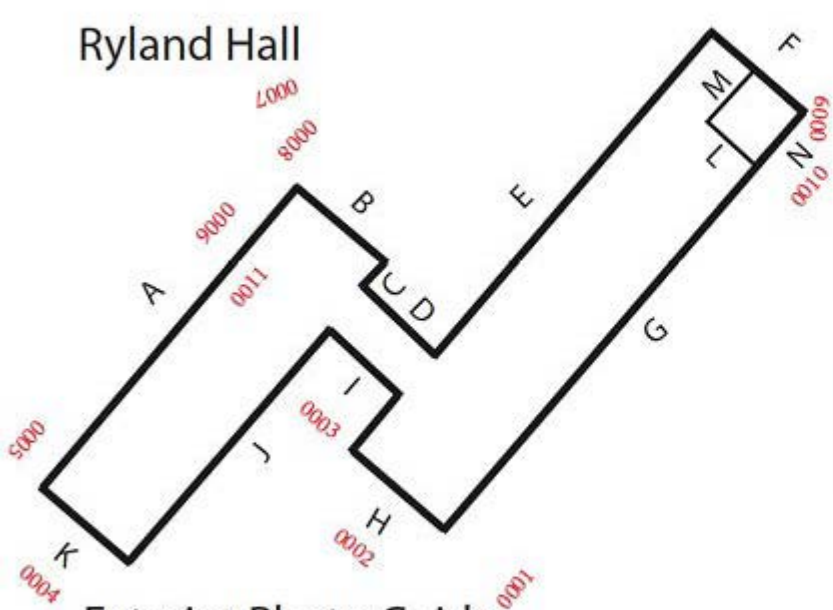
Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/16"=1'-0"
Summer 2004



RYLAND HALL

University of Richmond
Richmond, VA
DHR # 127-0364-0001

ROOF PLAN
Campus Address: 2 Ryland Circle
Completed in 1914
32,151 sf
Scale: 1/32"=1'-0"
Summer 2004



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