

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Petersburg (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-06-45-00226	DATE 6/11/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Exchange Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Merchant's Exchange Building, The Exchange

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
15-19 W. Bank Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Petersburg

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: (in cit.) CODE: 730

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No: <input type="checkbox"/>				

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	Police Station	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Court	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
City of Petersburg

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Petersburg STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Clerk's Office of Hustings Court

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Petersburg STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/3 acre

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1959 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 08

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

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Exchange Building is a freely rendered Greek Revival structure featuring a finely executed Doric portico. The building is two-stories on a high basement with the second floor windows contained in the frieze of the entablature. Although the entrance facade is five bays wide, the portico shelters only the central three bays. The side elevations also contain five bays but these are more widely spaced and are separated by pilasters. The building is topped by a hipped roof and a large shallow dome with lantern.

The principal interior feature of the Exchange is the central circular domed room. The dome rests on an entablature supported by piers. Behind the piers is a gallery with a very simple iron railing. Despite the fact that the building has served as a bank, and more recently a police court, the interior of the Exchange has survived without serious alteration.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1841

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

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

Among the original incorporators of the Petersburg Exchange in 1839 was David Dunlop, a prominent Petersburg tobacco manufacturer. A group of local businessmen were desirous of having such a building - intending that it serve to display tobacco and cotton as well as provide a place to hold auctions and sales. The design was supplied by a Mr. Berrien of New York, and completed by 1841. The Exchange presently serves the Domestic Relations and Police Court Departments of Petersburg.

The Exchange Building is a fine model of the more monumental Greek Revival commercial buildings which have become so rare. It stands as an example of the civic pride of the ante-bellum period.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

O'Neal, William B., Architecture in Virginia, Virginia Museum, 1968.

Scott, James G. and Edward A. Wyatt, IV, Petersburg's Story. Petersburg: Titmus Optical Company, 1960.

Biallas, Randall, "The Exchange", Historic American Buildings Survey Report, 1968.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37 ° 13 ' 55 "	77 ° 24 ' 16 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: April 21, 1969

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

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National State Local

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

Date May 20, 1969

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

Count Allen Gossard
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date JUN 11 1969

ATTEST:
William J. [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date JUN 11 1969

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Petersburg (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-06-45-0022	6/11/69

(Number all entries)

6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #123-51
1967
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Petersburg	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

Merchant's Exchange
Building

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance

In the first half of the 19th century a building type that was virtually indispensable to the successful conduct of business in commercial centers was the Merchants Exchange. In these buildings bulk commodities such as tobacco, cotton and grain were sold from the wholesaler to the retailer or from the grower to the manufacturer. Some of the country's best known architects such as Benjamin Henry Latrobe, William Strickland, and Isaiah Rogers turned their hands to the design of Merchant's Exchanges. However because these buildings were most frequently located in fast developing downtown areas very few of them have survived. The best known extant example is Strickland's Merchants Exchange in Philadelphia. However, the original interiors of this building have been completely altered to provide modern office space.

The Exchange in Petersburg, Virginia, built in 1841 and designed by Mr. Berrien of New York, is a boldly detailed building in the Greek Revival Style. Rectangular on the exterior with a tetrastyle Doric entrance portico, the interior discloses a central two-story rotunda rising to a dome and octagonal lantern. The Exchange in Petersburg is most probably the last, unaltered Merchants Exchange in existence in the United States.