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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Anna P. Bolling Junior High School

other names/site number DHR File No. 123-117

2. Location

street & number 35 West Fillmore Street not for publication N/A
city or town Petersburg vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county _____ code _____ Zip 23803

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
_____ entered in the National Register _____ removed from the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet _____ other (explain): _____

_____ determined eligible for the
National Register

Signature of Keeper

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

Date of Action _____

ANNA P. BOLLING HIGH SCHOOL
NAME OF PROPERTY
LOCATION, Virginia
PETERSBURG

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

Number of Resources within Property

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 N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education Sub: School

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant Sub: Not in Use

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian/Renaissance/Second Renaissance Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof _____

walls Brick

other Wood

Concrete

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Education _____

Period of Significance _ 1926 _____

Significant Dates _1926____

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

Cultural Affiliation _____ N/A _____

Architect/Builder _ Charles M. Robinson _____

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _Department of Historic Resources_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _1.922__

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	18	286,900	4,122,180	2		
3				4		

___ See continuation sheet.

ANNIE P. BELLING HIGH SCHOOL
NAME OF PROPERTY
LOCATION, Virginia
PETERSBURG

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Ashley M. Neville

Organization: Gray & Pape, Inc. date August 12, 1998

street & number: 1705 East Main Street telephone 804-644-0656

city or town: Richmond state VA zip code 23223

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name: City of Petersburg c/o David Canada, City Manager

street & number: City Hall, 135 North Union Street telephone 804-733-2323

city or town: Petersburg state VA zip code 23803

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
Petersburg, VA
County and State

Summary Description

The Anna P. Bolling Junior High School is located in Petersburg, Virginia which historically was one of the important manufacturing, commercial, and transportation centers in the state. The first several decades of the twentieth century were a period of growth for the city which was still recovering from its role during the last stages of the Civil War. The city has a large inventory of architecturally significant buildings including the Courthouse, churches, schools, and homes and the Bolling School is an integral part of the city's contribution to the architecture of Virginia. Bolling School was built in 1926 and is an impressive example of the Second Renaissance Revival style in Petersburg, Virginia. Designed by Charles M. Robinson, a prolific architect of educational buildings across the state, the Bolling School continued the tradition of building imposing schools for the city school system that was begun by the construction of the Robert E. Lee School (1911) and the Petersburg High School (1917). The handsome exterior, dominated by its three-story semi-circular portico, is equaled by the well-appointed interior. The Anna Bolling School maintains a high degree of integrity with few alterations.

The building faces West Fillmore Street and occupies west half of the block between Harrison and Sycamore streets. The school property also includes the vacant lot on the northwest corner of Sycamore and West Fillmore streets, just east of the school, where McCabe University once stood. The school is also adjacent to the Poplar Lawn Historic District a predominately residential area of large mid- to late nineteenth century homes and Poplar Lawn Park lies just to the east across Sycamore Street from the school. A few, more modern buildings have been constructed nearby such as the residential adult home across the street. There is a small grassy area between the school building and the sidewalk in the front and a flagpole is located in the grassy area at the east end of the building. A large playground area behind the school is enclosed by a high chain-link fence. Most of that area has been surfaced with asphalt for parking although it is in poor repair now.

Architectural Description

The Bolling School is a three story building with orange-colored pressed brick and cast stone ornamentation on the main facade and side elevations. The rear is utilitarian in appearance with a veneer of red brick. The building has a T-shaped plan with the stem of the T extending from the rear of the building. Classrooms are located across the top and ends of the T while the stem houses the cafeteria on the first floor and the auditorium on the second and third floors. A small, one-story addition to the rear of the main block accommodates the furnace.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
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The school features a rusticated first floor with cast stone foundation and watertable. A cast stone beltcourse caps the lower floor. Paired, brick pilasters with cast stone bases and capitals separate each window bay which consists of five, six-over-six light, double-hung, wooden sash windows. The slightly projecting end pavilions on the facade have a brick framed panel with stone corners and a cast-stone panel with shield in the center. Each of the side elevations is three bays wide with a slightly projecting center bay that houses a stairway. Paired windows provide light to the stairs on the second the third floors. A rectangular cast stone panel with shield and swags is located between the floors on each end. The original double doors and sidelights on the side elevations of the building have been removed and the openings enclosed by concrete block and a single door -- the only exterior change to the building. The original cast-iron canopies which feature scalloped glass and metal panels around the lower edge are suspended by chains over each of the side entrances. The entire composition is pulled together by the cast stone beltcourse and denticulated cornice as well as smaller stone bands that set off the second and third floors at the bottom of the second floor and top of the third floor. Cast-stone circular ornamentation is located over each pilaster in the brick panel just below the cornice and rectangular pieces decorated with center shield flanked by swags are found above the end stairway pavilions. The flat roof is hidden behind a brick balustrade with cast stone coping.

The cynosure of the school is its projecting semi-circular, three-story, two-level portico in the center bay. The portico rests on stone steps and as on the main block, the cast stone foundation, beltcourse, and brick rustication carry across the lower level of the portico. Five arched openings articulate the base of the portico and lead into the base. They are topped with rusticated stone and projecting keystones. Cast stone rectangular panels, bearing the same shield and swag motif, are sited above each archway between the beltcourse and stone trim. Massive, two-story cast stone Doric columns support a full entablature with denticulated cornice with the school's name, Anna P. Bolling Junior High School, incised in the stone. A stone balustrade of alternating plain panels and turned balusters surmounts the portico.

Double doors flanked by single doors, all with fixed lights above a solid wood panel, provide the main access from the portico. A second set of double doors flanked by sidelights with paneled section below forms a vestibule at both the center and end entrances. The open well main stairs are located at the front entry and have cast iron railings, paneled, iron newels, and wooden handrail. On the third floor, the iron railing gracefully curves back to the wall. A single stair is located at each end of the building with the same handrail.

The Bolling School has a well appointed interior. The corridors have terrazzo floors and an orange-colored glazed brick wainscot with plaster walls above. A wooden molding tops the wainscot and there is a picture rail in the corridors as well. The pressed tin ceiling on the first floor hides the duct work for the heating system while the remaining floors have a dropped acoustical tile ceiling over the original plaster ceiling. All classrooms have wooden paneled doors with transoms and the major rooms, such as the auditorium, cafeteria, and principal's office have double doors and transoms.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
Petersburg, VA
County and State

The cafeteria was located on the first floor while the second floor served as the main public space with entrances to both the principal's office and auditorium. There appears to have been no specific space for a library or for a gymnasium. The cafeteria is a large open room with square posts supporting the ceiling. The auditorium features both a main floor and balcony with plaster walls and sloped wooden floor. A slightly projecting decorative molding highlighted with gold paint frames the proscenium. The balcony has an enclosed projection booth, reached by a ladder from the corridor, skylights, and simple pipe railings along the risers and balustrade. Only a few of the original seats are left in the auditorium.

The principal's office was located across from the auditorium on the main floor. Although the office was changed for later uses, the original partition wall which separated the outer office from the inner principal's office survives. It features frosted glass panels in the wall as well as the paneled wood door with transoms across the entire partition. Just off the office is a small bathroom. The principal's office also provides one of two access doors to the portico balcony.

The classrooms are almost identical. All rooms were well supplied with natural light with a rank of five windows across one wall. Chalk boards with chalk trough below and a wide molded panel above where items could be displayed are found on at least two other walls of the room. A large closet with sliding doors with chalkboards, which provided space for coats and book bags, occupies the fourth wall of each classroom. A small teacher's closet is usually located adjacent to the large closet. The air returns for the heating system are located above the large closets. Only one classroom has different closet doors for the large coat closet. One of the third floor rooms has small closet doors that pivot instead of sliding. There are deep baseboards on all walls and the floors in the classrooms are wood.

After the school closed, the building served as offices for the Petersburg Health and Social Services Departments. To accommodate those uses, partial height paneled partition walls were erected to create small offices in several of the rooms. These reversible additions are one of the few changes that have been made to the interior of the building.

During the second and third decades of the twentieth century, roughly from 1910 to 1930 when the depression ended most school construction, the design of schools moved from modest, utilitarian buildings to buildings of larger scale and national styles. The earlier schools were generally smaller and not as well designed. Buildings not specifically designed for schools were pressed into service such as the African American church in Petersburg that was used as an elementary school. Schools of this period were generally only five bays wide, two or two-and-a-half stories and there was little exterior ornamentation. Classrooms, sometimes as few as eight, were located on either side of a center passage that ran front to rear.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
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During the latter period when the public school system had moved beyond the developmental stages, the buildings were larger and superior to the earlier schools in design, materials, and methods of construction. These schools also employed national styles popular during that period. Both the Beaux-Arts and Neo-Classical styles were used for educational buildings. The Beaux-Arts style features flat or mansard roofs, elaborate cornices, symmetrical facade with bays divided by pilasters with classical capitals, masonry walls adorned with decorative garlands, floral patterns, or shields, and rusticated stonework and quoins. The Neo-Classical style evolved from a renewed interest in the architectural forms of the ancient Greeks and Romans and was a popular style for banks, courthouses, and schools. Characteristics of this style include a symmetrical facade dominated by a full height porch with classical columns, gable or hip roofs with boxed eaves, denticulated or modillioned cornices and a wide frieze band, and doorways with decorative pediments. In Petersburg, the Petersburg High School and Robert E. Lee Elementary embody the Neo-Classical Revival style while the Bolling Junior High School is Second Renaissance Revival style

Charles M. Robinson's design for the Bolling School exhibits a level of increasing architectural sophistication for schools in Petersburg. It is one of five Robinson designed buildings in the city, three of which were public schools, and the Bolling School is the most ambitious of the three. It is also the last of the Robinson designed buildings to be constructed in Petersburg. The Bolling School has a balanced but less monumental exterior than the high school, built nine years earlier, but a much higher level of interior finishes and details. Indeed, the portico of the Bolling school echoes, on a smaller scale, the half drum of the auditorium on the high school which is a signature of that building. The Bolling School, with its terrazzo tile flooring, architecturally pleasing stairways, and ample classroom storage and detailing exhibits a much higher quality of materials and interior finishes that was found in the earlier school buildings in Petersburg. The school exemplifies the high quality of design brought to this period of school development by architect Charles M. Robinson. The Anna Bolling Junior High School embodies the progress made in school design statewide during this period as well as the increased importance of public education to the citizens of the City of Petersburg.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
Petersburg, VA
County and State

Summary Statement of Significance

The Anna P. Bolling Junior High School was designed by Charles M. Robinson and built by the City of Petersburg, Virginia in 1926. At its opening in 1927, it was dedicated to Anna Peyton Bolling, a former principal of the Petersburg High School and member of a prominent Petersburg family. The Bolling School was built during a period of growth in public school construction in both Petersburg and the state. It was built, in part, to alleviate overcrowding at the Petersburg High School which had opened nine years earlier. The Bolling School was part of an effort to improve education facilities in the city and its level of architectural sophistication is indicative of the increased importance attached to public education by the citizens of Petersburg.

The Anna P. Bolling Junior High School meets the following criteria established by the National Register of Historic Places and is significant at the local level:

Criteria C. The Anna P. Bolling Junior High School is eligible because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method construction and represents the work of a master, and possesses high artistic values. More specifically, it represents the work of Charles M. Robinson, an architect who is noted for his designs of educational buildings state-wide. He is one of the most important Virginia architects of this period and his approach to school design and campus master planning continue to exert an influence today. In addition, the Bolling School exemplifies the high quality of design brought to this period of school development by architect Charles M. Robinson. It embodies the progress made in school design in Petersburg and the emergence of a significant school building type in Virginia.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Anna P. Bolling Junior High School stands on land long associated with educational opportunity in the City of Petersburg. On the school property, at the corner of Sycamore and West Fillmore streets just east of the present building, stood McCabe's University a private preparatory school in post-bellum Petersburg. In 1874, Peabody High School, the first high school for African Americans in Petersburg and one of the first in Virginia was built where Bolling School now stands.¹

Prior to the mid-nineteenth century, education in Virginia was left to the family and those who could afford the expense either furnished tutors for their children or enrolled them in one of several private establishments that flourished in Petersburg. Ministers frequently supplemented their income by teaching and educated single women and widows operated schools from their home. One of the best known private schools was the Petersburg Academy which opened in 1786. One of its early principals was the cartographer John Wood who is now famous for his early maps of the state.² Although most of the private academies in Petersburg in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries were for young men, an interest in the education of young women resulted in the establishment of several schools for women by

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the 1850s³.

Petersburg was also home to several free schools in the first half of the nineteenth century that were the forerunner of the public school system in Virginia. Petersburg's most notable free school was the Anderson Seminary which was established by a bequest of David Anderson, a Scottish merchant in Petersburg. Anderson, who died in 1812, left \$10,000 for the "education of poor boys and girls, white children, whose parents and guardians lived in the community and were not able to educate them."⁴ With additional funds from Petersburg, the Anderson Seminary opened in 1821. Unfortunately, the term "free school" came to be associated with "poor school" and there was a certain stigma attached to attending these schools.

There were few educational opportunities for Africans Americans in Petersburg prior to the Civil War, especially those enslaved. However, a few early schools were available for the large free African American population of Petersburg. Those free blacks that could, sent their children to schools in the north or in some southern urban areas churches and benevolent societies established schools. After 1831, teaching African Americans, both free and slave, was prohibited but some secret schools operated.

After the Civil War, a number of private schools opened in Petersburg. One of the most notable was McCabe's University, located on the corner of Sycamore Street near the future site of both the Peabody and Bolling schools. Captain Gordon McCabe, a Confederate artilleryman and writer, operated it in Petersburg from 1865 to 1895 when it moved to Richmond. His classical preparatory school for boys maintained a high reputation.⁵

The end of the Civil War brought other changes to education in Petersburg with the establishment of the first true public school system for the city in 1868, two years before the state system. The Petersburg School Board initially organized a twelve year system -- eight elementary grades and four years of high school -- which later was changed to eleven to correspond to the state system. It was not until 1954, that the twelve year system was reinstated state-wide.

The city initially established three white elementary schools in what had been the free schools and a high school in the old Petersburg Classical Institute on Union Street. African American children were educated in four elementary schools which occupied rented quarters including one church. However, a high school education was thought unnecessary for African Americans and it was not until 1874 that Peabody High School was built where the Bolling School now stands.

The original Peabody High School appears to have been a three story building with a central corridor with four rooms on each floor.⁶ This was a typical plan for late nineteenth century schools. This school was later demolished and a new high school for African American students was built on Jones Road.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
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At the turn of the twentieth century, Progressive Era reformers sought to remake the public school as the center of the community with a wider influence than just providing an education for children. They envisioned every public school in Virginia as "a community center where the citizens may unite for the improvement of their educational, social, moral, physical, civic, and economic interests."⁷ This movement to use schools as a catalyst for social change led to more control in the early twentieth century by the State Board of Education and diminished local power. Junior high schools, as a concept, were introduced about 1914. These schools provided an interim step between elementary and high schools and accepted students from several elementary schools. They were larger than elementary schools but generally smaller than high schools.

During the first two decades of the twentieth century, the state legislature passed several financial incentives for the construction of new schools which led to a boom in school construction. The value of school property in Virginia increased from 8.5 to 39 million between 1910 and 1923. With the disbursement of money for local schools, the state also began to exercise tighter control over the actual construction of school buildings and required all plans to be approved by local and state superintendents. The Strode Act included specifications on ventilation, lighting, design, and toilet facilities. By 1911, the Department of Public Instruction was supplying without cost plans and specifications for sixteen different school designs. By 1920, the newly established Division of School Building provided plans, advised on sites, wrote specifications for buildings, and supervised the construction.⁸ This level of control raised the standards of design and construction throughout the state.

It was during this period of progressive reform and activist state participation in education that some of Petersburg's most impressive schools were built. The same was true in other urban centers of the state such as Richmond. Many of Petersburg's schools were overcrowded, notably the high school which was housed in the old Anderson Seminary building, and the city embarked on an ambitious building campaign. The Robert E. Lee Elementary School on West Washington Street was constructed in 1911 and the Petersburg High School in 1917. The new high school was pressed into service as a hospital during the influenza epidemic and did not open as a school until 1918. Within a decade, the high school was once again crowded and the Anna P. Bolling Junior High School was built in 1926 in part to relieve that situation. The contract price for the school was \$242,947.⁹

The Bolling School was designed by Charles M. Robinson. Robinson was one of the most important Virginia architects of this period and is most noted for his work in designing schools at all educational levels -- primary, secondary, and collegiate. Robinson (1867-1932) was born in Hamilton, in Loudoun County, Virginia, the son of architect James T. Robinson. He studied architecture under D. S. Hopkins of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and John K. Peebles, a Petersburg native.¹⁰ (Ironically, Peebles was a partner with F.F. Ferguson, Sr., architect of the Petersburg High School, from 1917 to 1934.) Charles Robinson practiced architecture in Altoona and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania before moving to Richmond in 1906. From 1910 to 1929 he served as the supervising architect for the Board of Public Instruction in Richmond and is associated with the design of at least twenty-nine new schools or additions built in that

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city including Cary, Fox, and Ginter Park Elementary Schools, Albert Hill, Bainbridge, and Chandler Junior High Schools, and Thomas Jefferson High School.¹¹ In addition to his work for the City of Richmond, he designed primary and secondary schools for Hanover, Henrico, and Louisa counties and the cities of Portsmouth, Newport News, Norfolk, Fredericksburg among others.

Robinson also was active in the design and campus layout at a number of state institutions of high learning. In 1908, he was employed to prepare a master plan for Madison College, one of the state's four normal colleges for women (now James Madison University). He created an "elaborate Beaux Arts scheme" that could be expanded in units without destroying the original plan.¹² He also designed a master plan for Radford University which was abandoned after the first two buildings were constructed. He designed a number of individual buildings at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Virginia and Virginia State University in Ettrick across the Appomattox River from Petersburg. Perhaps his best known collegiate work is the master plan for the College of William and Mary which he designed in 1925. He also designed many of the buildings for that plan. Thought by many to be his most highly detailed collegiate work, the William and Mary campus and building plan has been credited with popularizing the Georgian Revival style for educational, residential, commercial, and religious uses throughout the country.¹³

In addition to his educational works, Robinson designed churches, hotels, department stores, including Richmond's famous Miller & Rhoads building, two Richmond hospitals, Stuart Circle and Grace, and a tobacco warehouse for R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. Although perhaps not as well known as his institutional accomplishments, he created residential designs for the burgeoning Richmond suburb of Ginter Park and in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Robinson is known to have designed five buildings in Petersburg, four schools and the Petersburg Hotel on Tabb Street. His earliest is a 1908 plan for an elementary school that may be the Duncan M. Brown School at Wythe and Jefferson streets (now administrative offices). He is also credited with the design of a second elementary school in 1910, perhaps the A.P. Hill School on Halifax Street. Both of these designs were more typical of late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century schools than Robinson's later designs. In contrast, the Bolling School, designed in 1926, late in Robinson's career is more monumental in scale with a recognized national style that exemplified the increased importance of education.

Both the Robert E. Lee Elementary School (1911) and the Petersburg High School (1917) were on the leading edge of the movement towards larger, more architecturally sophisticated buildings for school and their Neo-Classical-style exteriors are representative of this trend. Robinson took this a step farther by also significantly improving on the interior at the Bolling School. Whereas, the interior of the high school is very utilitarian, almost spartan, in nature the Bolling School has a well appointed interior. At the high school, the corridor walls are plaster and until the 1950s when tile was laid down, the corridor floors were plain concrete. The twin stairs, located on the rear of the building, have simple pipe railings. In the classrooms there was only one small closet and no provisions were made anywhere in the

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
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building for students to store their coats of books during the day. The original cafeteria was very small. In contrast, the corridors of the Bolling School feature terrazzo tile floors and glazed brick wainscot throughout. There is a main central stair as well as end stairs and all have decorative iron railings. There is also ample closet space in all the classrooms and there is a large cafeteria. Such improvements indicate the significant progress made in school design since the high school was constructed as well as Robinson's attention to the interior finishes necessary to create a pleasant learning atmosphere. These features became a standard part of school construction.

The school was named for Anna Peyton Bolling a member of a prominent Petersburg family. The Bolling family had acquired land in what is now Petersburg in the early eighteenth century and had helped establish the city. When the Petersburg public school system was established, the high school had a teaching principal, R.M. Cary, and an assistant teacher, Miss Anna Bolling. Her salary was \$500. Anna Bolling became principal of the high school in 1876 after acting in that capacity for several years. She served as principal until 1907. A woman of strong personality, Bolling made an indelible impression on the generations of pupils who came in contact with her as teacher and principal.

The Bolling School, built as a junior high school, served in this capacity until the late 1960s. During the latter part of this period the Petersburg public school system underwent a number of changes. The 1970s brought school integration to Petersburg and the 1972 annexation of parts of Prince George and Dinwiddie counties added to the school age population and increased crowding in some schools. It was also during this period that junior high schools throughout the state were being phased out in favor of middle schools which housed sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. In 1974, all seventh graders attended the former high school which had been left vacant when a new high school was built in 1973. After it was closed as a school it was used as offices by the city's health and social services departments. Finally, those too departed and the school was left vacant. Today the Anna P. Bolling Junior High School is poised to re-enter community life as it is rehabilitated for moderate income apartments.

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
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Petersburg, VA
County and State

Endnotes

1. Rosy Rash, curator, "Petersburg Pupils, Education in the Cockade City," typescript of exhibit captions at Centre Hill Mansion, Petersburg Museums, Department of Tourism, Petersburg, Virginia, 1998.
2. James G. Scott and Edward A. Wyatt, IV, *Petersburg's Story, A History*, (Petersburg: By the Author, 1960), p. 117.
3. Scott and Wyatt, p. 120.
4. Scott and Wyatt, p. 118.
5. Scott and Wyatt, p. 274.
6. Bill Lafoon, Draft National Register of Historic Places Registration form for Poplar Lawn Historic District Amendment, 1997.
7. J. L. Blaire Buck, *The Development of Public Schools in Virginia, 1607-1952*, (Richmond: Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Education, 1952), p. 257.
8. Buck, p. 144.
9. John Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955, A Bibliographic Dictionary*, (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1977), p. 383.
10. Wells and Dalton, p. 377.
11. Paul L. Weaver, "Public Schools of Richmond, Virginia 1869-1930," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1992.
12. Wells and Dalton, p. 377.
13. Wells and Dalton, p. 378.

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National Park Service

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Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
Petersburg, VA
County and State

Major Bibliographic Reverences

- Buck, J.L.Blaire. *The Development of Public Schools in Virginia, 1607-1952*, Richmond: Commonwealth of Virginia, Board of Education. 1952.
- Lafoon, Bill. Draft National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for Poplar Lawn Historic District Amendment, 1997.
- Rash, Rosy. "Petersburg Pupils, Education in the Cockade City." Typescript of exhibit captions at Centre Hill Mansion, Petersburg Museums, Department of Tourism, Petersburg, Va., 1998.
- Scott, James G. and Wyatt, Edward A., IV. *Petersburg's Story, A History*, Petersburg: By the Authors, 1960.
- Weaver, Paul L. *Public Schools of Richmond, Virginia, 1869-1930*. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Prepared by Paul L. Weaver, Historic Property Associates, St. Augustine, Florida. October 31, 1992.
- Wells, John and Dalton, Robert E. *The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955, A Bibliographic Dictionary*. Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1977.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section number 10 Page 1

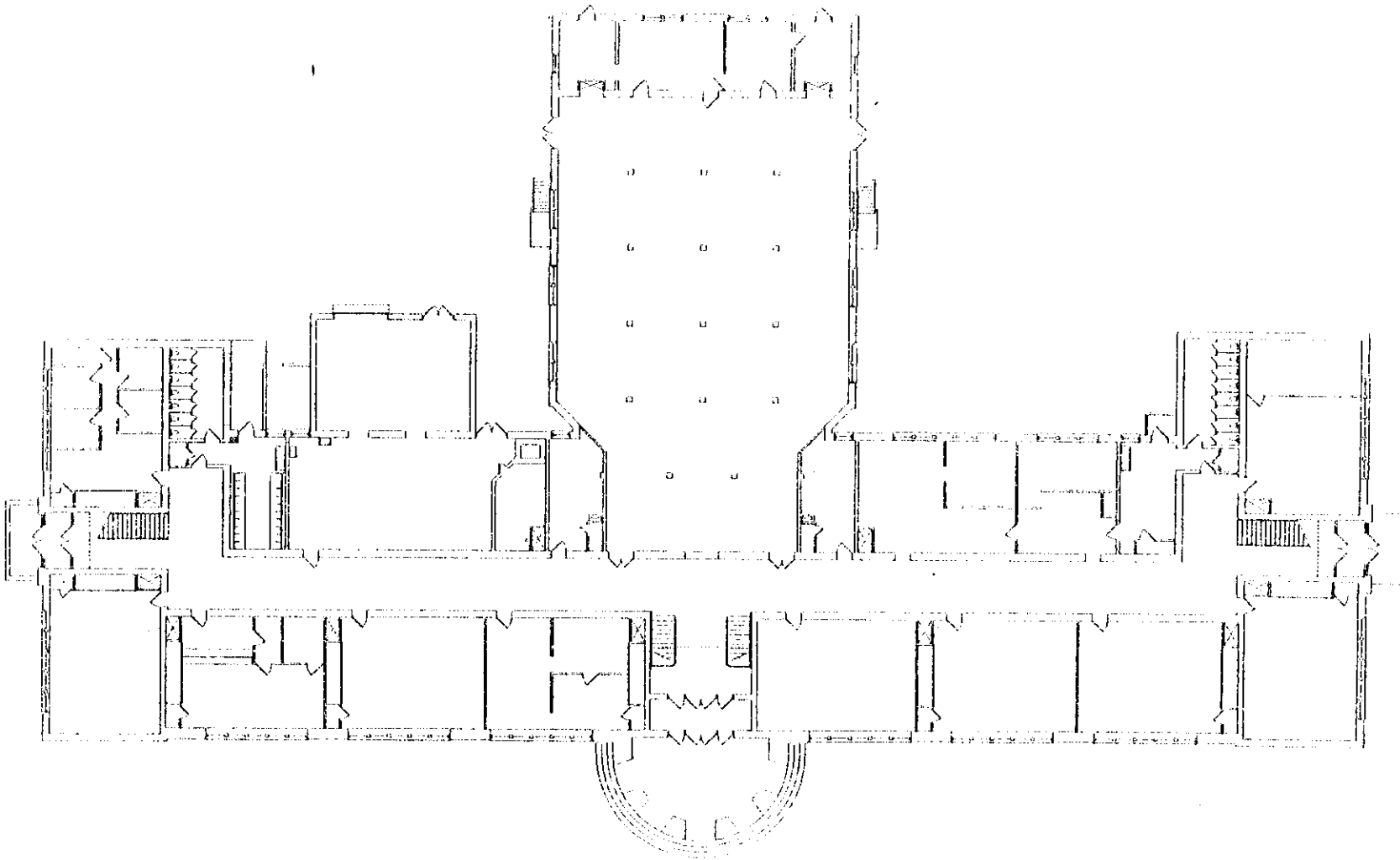
Anna P. Bolling Junior High School
Name of property
Petersburg, VA
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the nominated property encompass all of Tax Map Parcel Nos. 22-30-17, 22-30-18, 22-30-19, and 22-30-20 in the City of Petersburg.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the nominated property include the school building, its front yard, and its rear playground/athletic field that was last used as a parking lot. These are the legally recorded boundary lines for the Anna P. Bolling Junior High School.



1
401
First Floor Existing Plan
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Building
 Park Limited Partnership
 Building
 Park
 11 East Tower Street
 Portland, ME 04101

Architect

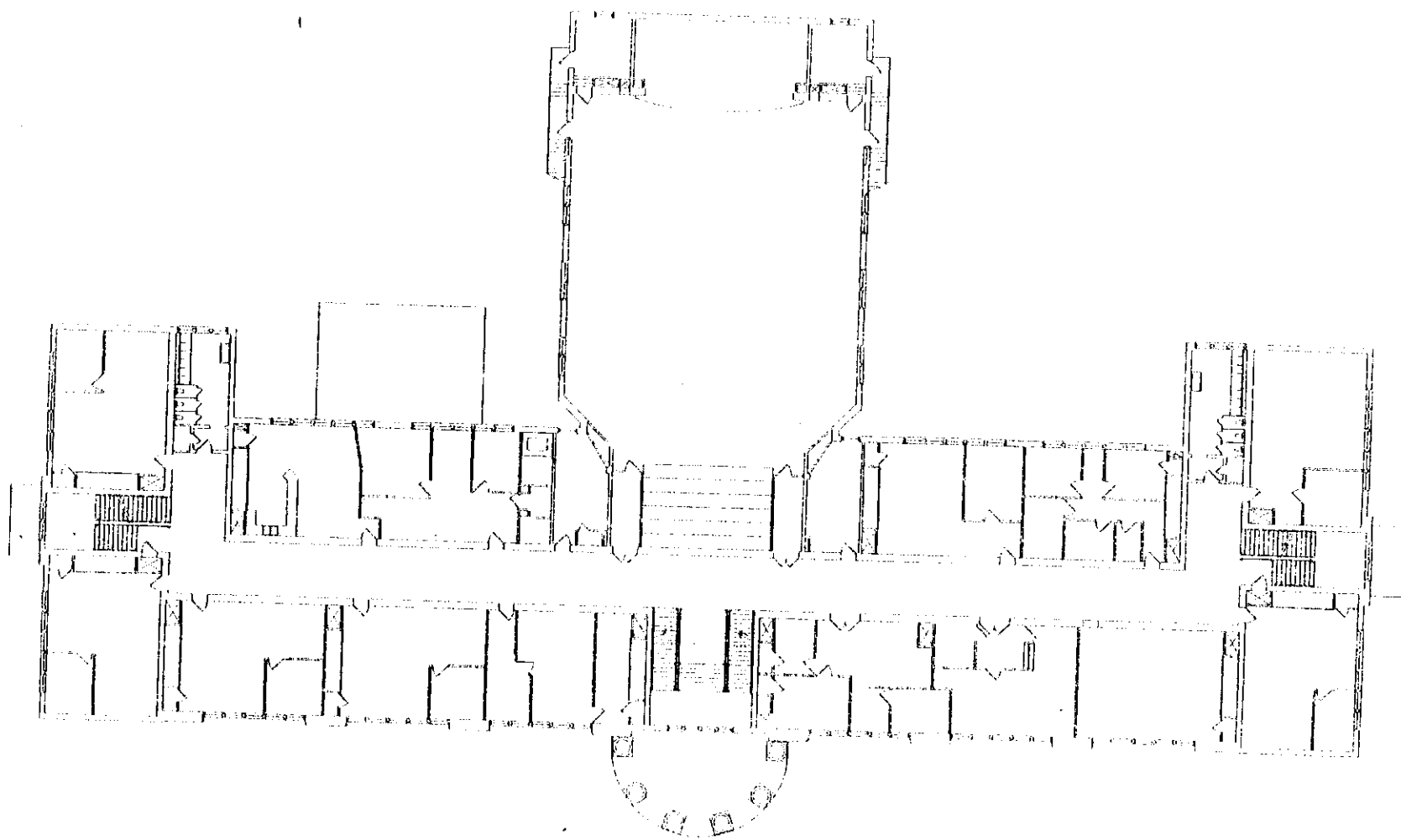
100 1/2 Main Street
 Portland, ME 04101

First
 Floor
 Existing
 Plan

A 0.1

11/11/11
 11/11/11

David
 Decard Architect PA



Second Floor Existing Plan
Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

1st Floor
2nd Floor
3rd Floor

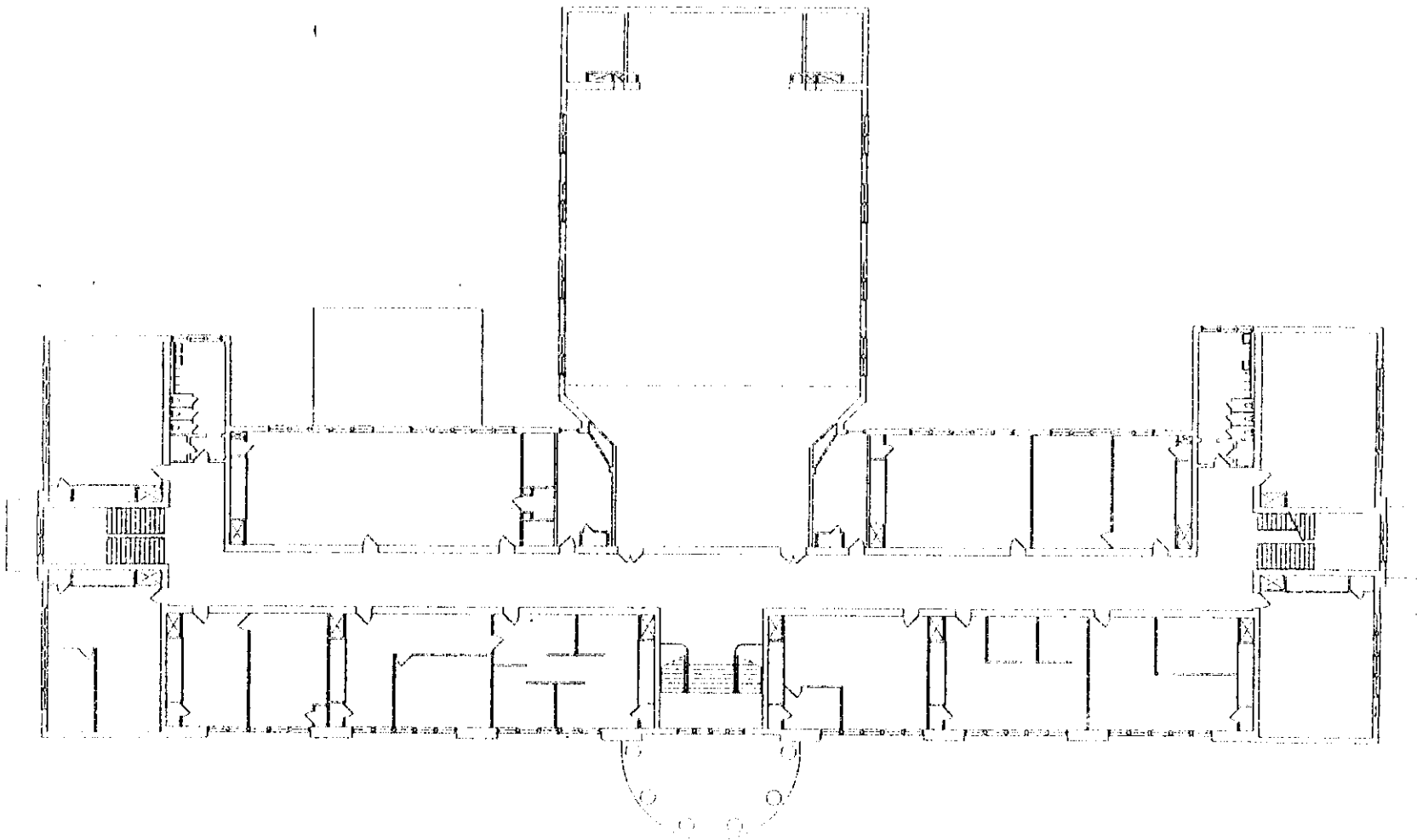
4th Floor

5th Floor

6th Floor

A 0.2

Deckard Architects PA



1 Third Floor Existing Plan
 A0.3 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Building
 Park
 United Partnership
 Building
 Park
 23 West Albany Street
 Albany, Oregon

1000 S. Main St.
 Suite 100, Albany, OR

Third
 Floor
 Existing
 Plan

A 0.3

PETERSBURG QUADRANGLE
 VIRGINIA
 7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

25' 00" 286 3 597 500 METERS 288 289 77' 22' 30" 37' 15' 00"



4125
 4124
 1 00 00 METERS
 4122
 4121
 12' 30"
 4120

Bolling Jr. High School
 123-117
 18 286,700 E.
 4,122,150 N.