

BEFORE RENOVATIONS



Completed in 1895, the Finance building is historic in its own right. As the third most historic structure in Capitol Square, following the Mansion and the Capitol, the building has been described as a symbol of Virginia emerging from Reconstruction. Designed by Richmond Native and Washington D.C. architect William Poindexter, the building was designed to harmonize with the Capitol's hexastyle portico and Ionic columns. The entrance was designed to resemble the Capitol in the 1890s by being placed in the basement level below the portico.

The building was originally built to house the Commonwealth's library, Supreme Court of Appeals, its offices and libraries, the treasurer, and other tenants. By 1940 the library and Supreme Court of Appeals had relocated to what is now named the Patrick Henry Building, leaving the main tenant the State Treasurer's Office. This former state library building came to be known as the State Finance Building.