

Approved Minutes
Art and Architectural Review Board
March 7, 2025, at 10:00 am
Patrick Henry Building, West Reading Room
1111 E. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219

1.0 ADMINISTRATION

10:03 am **1.1 CALL TO ORDER**
Board Members Present: Anca Lipan (Vice-Chair); Jill Nolt; Anne Smith, and Stanley Rayfield.
Absent: Lynden Garland (Chair), Megan Melinat, and Gaby Rengifo.
Department of General Services Staff Present: Luke Priddy and Kästle Aschlman
** A quorum has been established.*

1.2 PUBLIC COMMENT
Thomas Courtney and Leslie Stone spoke to the board about new art warehouse developments and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts expansion.

1.3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion to Approve: Jill Nolt
Second: Stanley Rayfield
Vote: 4-Y 0-N

1.4 OTHER BUSINESS
- None

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA

2.1 Virginia Community College System / Western Community College, Mural at Chapman Hall
(Final Approval)
This project proposes to install a vinyl mural on the exterior wall of Chapman Hall (VWCC's enrollment center). The location is at what VWCC refers to as Bookstore Alley which is a major pedestrian pathway into the campus from the student parking lots. Chapman is a rather bland flat roof, one-story building dating to the late 1960's era. The mural would be approximately 10'H x 20'W and situated on a blank brick wall between windows. The mural's graphics and placement are designed to attract and engage students and visitors who use this pathway. The graphic represents scenes and points of interest in the Virginia Western service area both scenic and iconic to the Roanoke region. Images include Roanoke Star, McAfees Knob, Roanoke/James River, and VWCC campus.

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR has not reviewed this project and does not need to unless required by another agency.

Board Comments:

- None

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Jill Nolt

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

**2.2 Virginia Department of Transportation / Dulles Toll Road Bridge Aesthetics
(Final Approval)**

The aesthetic enchantments include cut metal pattern grills across the girders of the bridge span facades, cut metal patterned landmark towers at the end faces of the bridge pier walls, VDOT standard patterned concrete on the outsides of the barriers, and super-graphic shapes on the pier walls under the bridge. The pattern grill façade panels elevate the bridge from a utilitarian structure into an artistic statement. The landmark towers transform the bridge into a placemaking beacon, promoting the identity of the site. The patterned barriers add texture to an otherwise plain expanse of concrete. The pier wall super-graphics unify the gestures on both sides of the bridge with a continuous movement under the bridge. The cut metal patterning, the “Ripple Pattern” concept, uses a series of sweeping curves and circles to suggest the movement of a babbling brook, reminiscent of nearby Scotts Run. The patterning combines classical ornamentation with contemporary gestures to create a modular design that adapts to the changing dimensions of the bridge spans. The blue color used throughout this project reflects this water theme and aligns with the colors associated with Tysons' identity.

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR has not reviewed this project and does not need to unless required by another agency.

Board Comments:

- None

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Jill Nolt

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

3.0 PROJECT REVIEWS

**3.1 The College of William and Mary / West Woods, Phase 2
(Preliminary Review)**

West Woods Phase 2 is the continuation of the West Woods project occupying the site of the former Randolph Complex and is framed by Ukrop Way to the

west, phase 1 to the north, and dense woods to the east and south. The project's site strategy includes making all major pedestrian paths fully accessible, preserving as many existing trees as possible, opening views to West 1, and completing the street edge, sympathetically, along Ukrop Way.

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR reviewed the demolition component of this project and provided comments on 11/21/24. The buildings proposed to be demolished were built in phases between 1980 and 1988. The Randolph Complex buildings proposed to be demolished: Cabell Hall, Giles Hall, Preston Hall, Harrison Hall, Page Hall, Tazewell Hall, Nicholas Hall, and Pleasants Hall. The buildings are not 50 years of age, nor do they appear to warrant the application of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria Consideration G for properties that have achieved significance within the past fifty years. The EIR for the site development was received on 2/27/25 and will have comments out by 3/29/25.

Board Comments:

1. Balance dormer arrangement along the façade
2. Continue to explore opportunities for improving the southwest façade and options for student gathering
3. Illustrate in the next presentation how design elements relate and connect to the West Woods 1 development and achieve overall architectural cohesion between the two phases
4. Ensure that the primary pedestrian path is also accessible
5. Recommend using other materials, e.g. glass and precast, to help soften the connection between the brick façades and landscape.
6. Provide more experiential, eye-level renderings in the next submission to show all sides of the project, and include a bird's-eye perspective for the entire development.

Motion to Recommend Preliminary Approval with Board Comments: Anne Smith

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

3.2 Virginia State University / New Residential Housing

(Final Review)

The project consists of new construction for student housing on VSU's campus. The project is a four-story, precast concrete building with thin brick masonry veneer. The residence building will include R-2 occupancy with accessory occupancies of S-2 (storage and mechanical spaces), B (residence life office), and A-3 (multipurpose space).

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR is still awaiting the submission of further information as noted in our October 2024 AARB comments:

DHR reviewed this project's Environmental Impact Report. The project takes place within the Ettrick Historic District, which is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR), and the Campbells Bridge Mill Worker Historic District, which is eligible for listing in the VLR/NRHP. While it appears some of the contributing resources have been previously demolished, there are contributing resources to the Ettrick Historic District within the area of potential effect, and we will need to understand what impacts there will be to those resources specifically. The most recent aerials depict contributing resources on the subject parcel. Have those since been demolished? Also, we will need to see design drawings and any available renderings for the new construction.

Board Comments:

1. Provide final site plan, and planting plan, including hardscape and site furnishings for final approval of site design.
2. Suggest adding additional entry doors and widening the path leading into the building on the courtyard side.
3. Continue consultation with DHR to satisfy their comments on the project.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval with Board Comments except for the site plan, planting plan, hardscape, and site furnishings which will be resubmitted separately for final approval at a later date: Anne Smith

Second: Jill Nolt

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

3.3 University of Virginia / Shannon Courtyard

(Preliminary Review)

The UVA Rotunda restoration project, completed in 2016, proposed landscape renovations for the building's north terrace and two courtyards. The east courtyard, named for former UVA President Darden, and the north terrace were completed according to the Olin Studio's landscape master plan for the Rotunda restoration project. The west courtyard, named for former UVA President Shannon, was not renovated according to the full design due to budget constraints. At the time, the University rebuilt the Shannon Court with four simple planting beds and new brick and concrete paving. In 2023, the University began the process of completing the Shannon Court's design according to the principles in the landscape master plan. A minor waterproofing repair for the Rotunda will be undertaken at the same time as the courtyard renovation.

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR has not reviewed this project and will need to review this.

Board Comments:

- None

Motion to Recommend Preliminary Approval: Stanley Rayfield
Second: Jill Nolt
Vote: 4-Y 0-N

3.4 University of Virginia / Ivy Corridor Student Housing

(Final Review)

The University of Virginia is reimagining the student residential experience with the Ivy Corridor Student Housing Project, which will provide 750 to 800 apartment-style beds situated in the heart of a new mixed-use academic and arts district. Each apartment will feature private bedrooms, bathrooms, fully equipped kitchens, and shared living and dining spaces, designed to create a welcoming and community-centered environment. Enhancing the student experience further, the buildings will include common areas such as study spaces, lounges, and inviting lobbies, fostering interaction and a sense of belonging among residents.

Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Comments: DHR has reviewed this project, and determined that it will not adversely impact historic resources.

Board Comments:

1. Add more of the 'Swiss Coffee' accents and employ other techniques to break up the massing of the brick façade, including at the cornice of the building, and make the building more inviting.
2. Continue to study the experience of moving through the north areaway to get it to be more lively.

Motion to Recommend Denial: Anne Smith

Second: None

Motion to Recommend Final Approval with Board Comments except for the site plan, planting plan, hardscape, and site furnishings which will be resubmitted separately for final approval at a later date along with updated renderings reflecting Board Comments: Anne Smith

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

3.5 University of Virginia / University Avenue Park

(Final Review)

The one-acre park at the eastern end of Grounds was the site of the George Rogers Clark statue for 100 years. The statue was one of four donated to the City of Charlottesville and the University by benefactor Paul McIntire in the early 1920s. In 2021, UVA convened the Presidential Committee on George Rogers Clark, made up of UVA faculty and staff plus chiefs or their delegates from a dozen regional tribal nations, to consider the effects of the statue's presence on Grounds. This committee recommended that the University remove the George Rogers Clark statue and redevelop the park, now unofficially renamed the

University Avenue Park. UVA sought AARB approval to remove the statue from the park in July 2021 and placed it into storage shortly afterward.

The UVA Presidential Committee on George Rogers Clark outlined new design goals for the park: to create a welcoming space at this important threshold to Grounds and to reveal the deep history and vibrant culture of the regional tribal nations, particularly the Monacan Nation on whose traditional homeland this park stands. Wolf Josey Landscape Architects undertook substantial research and analysis and worked with a special Tribal Advisory Council to translate the goals into a plan that includes accessible park entrances, gathering places of various sizes, regional materials such as native plants and stone, paths for strolling, a garden of culturally significant plants, and educational/interpretive elements. [Department of Historic Resources \(DHR\) Comments: Department of Historic Resources \(DHR\) Comments: DHR has reviewed this project, and determined that it will not adversely impact historic resources.](#)

Board Comments:

1. Edit the amount of stories told through the site, or embrace the incongruity of the site elements.
2. Provide clear signage to explain the chosen approach and its inspiration so pedestrians understand the significance of the site and its elements.
3. Extend the custom paving to encompass the accessible route.
4. Incorporate kid-friendly stumps into the design.

Motion to Recommend Final Approval: Jill Nolt

Second: Stanley Rayfield

Vote: 4-Y 0-N

4.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next AARB meeting will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025, in the Patrick Henry Building – East Reading Room.

5.0 MEETING ADJOURNED – 2:08 pm