

Richmond Virginia Temple Fact Sheet



Location: 10915 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, Virginia

Plans Announced: April 1, 2018

Groundbreaking: April 11, 2020

Construction Start: April 13, 2020

Public Open House: March 25–April 15, 2023
(except for Sundays and Saturday, April 1)

Dedication: May 7, 2023

Property Size: 12 Acres

Building Size: 39,202 square feet

Building Height: 164 feet, 9 inches, including
the statue of the Book of Mormon prophet Moroni

Architect: The Richardson Design Partnership;
Church Architect: Lanny Herron

Interior Design: Lisa Ann Interiors;
Church Interior Designer: Linda Marshall

General Contractor: Jacobsen Construction

The Richmond Virginia Temple will be the 177th operating temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the first in Virginia. The architecture of the temple pulls inspiration from the local historical vernacular, which is a blend of Georgian, Federal and Jeffersonian architecture adapted from European styles. The site is set with a backdrop of dense wooded growth. The paths, lighting and landscaping are inspired by the gardens and grounds of historic Williamsburg, Virginia. Trees, hedges and flowers are local varieties, such as the dogwood, magnolia, white oak, boxwood and Virginia bluebells. The dogwood is the state tree and flower and is featured in patterns inside and outside the temple.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

BUILDING: The exterior of the temple is clad with Moleanos stone articulated with a Jeffersonian version of a Doric order (found in Greek and Roman architecture). Added to this are interlocking diamond circles and the dogwood flower. These elements are found on buildings throughout the Richmond area, from Williamsburg to Monticello and the University of Virginia.

EXTERIOR ART GLASS: The art glass was designed by The Richardson Design Partnership in Salt Lake City, Utah. Blue, gold and red glass is used in the design, which pulls from an early American color palette. The design incorporates a diamond motif found in local designs. The window design is reflective of the simple divided light found in historic buildings of colonial Virginia.

LANDSCAPING: Plants chosen for the site were based on precedents taken from colonial-era gardens to match the temple architecture and historic landscapes of the state. Colonial Williamsburg provided insight into early American gardens and helped inform the historic blend between a formal and informal garden style. Landscaping was done with collaboration between landscape architect Loci, located in Salt Lake City, Utah, and local landscape architect LPDA, located in Charlottesville, Virginia.

The site was heavily forested, and much of the existing tree cover was removed to accommodate the proposed improvements to the site. Healthy trees were preserved in several pre-designated areas on the site plan. New trees were provided to mitigate the diminished tree coverage along neighboring properties. Several dogwood trees will provide spring flowers near the temple that match interior elements. Evergreen trees and shrubs are also included in the landscaping.

INTERIOR FEATURES

FLOORING: Blues, reds and golds are used in the carpets and rug designs. The main carpet throughout the building is a royal navy-blue color with an octagon shape pattern repeated throughout. Incorporated within the octagon design is a motif of the dogwood blossom. The carpet was designed and fabricated by Bentley Mills, located in City of Industry, California. The carpet carving in the celestial and sealing rooms is made of an octagon border with a guilloche (interlocking circle) infill, and the dogwood blossom motif is incorporated in the guilloche circles and the corners in the celestial room. The octagon is a familiar form used in Jeffersonian designs. The carpet was carved by Halfmoon Studio in Midvale, Utah.

The marble stone flooring is an adaptation of a diamond parquet pattern found at Monticello. It is made of a combination of Crema Marfil, Emperador Light and Cloudy Beige marble tiles. White oak is used for flooring along the second-floor corridor and the celestial room. The rugs are designed by Rugs International in China and Lisa Ann Interiors in Layton, Utah, and they incorporate both the octagon and dogwood motif.

DECORATIVE PAINTING: Blues, pinks, greens and golds are used in the decorative paint designed by The Richardson Design Partnership in Salt Lake City. The design includes octagons with a guilloche (interlocking circle) border accented with the dogwood flower. The decorative paint is found in the baptistry, celestial room, sealing room, instruction room and bride's room.

INTERIOR ART GLASS: The art glass in the entry is a restored piece, "The Good Shepherd," made by Flanagan and Beidenweg, circa 1920. It came from the collection of Mr. John Hendrickson, Minnesota. The other art glass used in the interior doors match the exterior art glass.

DECORATIVE LIGHTING: Adapted from catalog period pieces (lantern pendants with candles to reflect early American fixtures), the decorative lighting was designed by The Richardson Design Partnership in Salt Lake City, Utah, and installed by M&E Contractors of Richmond, Virginia. Oil rubbed bronze, glass and crystal are the primary materials of the decorative lighting. The crystal lighting fixtures in the celestial and sealing rooms are Schonbek fixtures manufactured in Plattsburgh, New York. The manufacturers were Hudson Valley Lighting and Rambusch Lighting, both located in New York state.

BAPTISMAL FONT RAILINGS: The baptistry railings use an interlocking diamond motif found on local traditional architecture. The railing is made of bronze posts with Peruvian walnut wood cap and etched glass panels. The railings were fabricated and installed by Baer Welding of Providence, Utah.

DOORS AND HARDWARE: The doors are painted wood doors and the hardware is cast bronze with an oil rubbed finish. The door hardware, inspired by colonial design, includes a small dogwood flower. The doors were fabricated by TruStile Doors of Denver, Colorado, and installed by Gaithersburg Architectural Millwork of Warrenton, Virginia. Luna Bronze of Heber City, Utah, fabricated all the custom hardware in the temple.

WALLS AND MILLWORK: The majority of the millwork throughout the temple is painted in an effort to reflect similar techniques seen in early colonial style interior architecture and was fabricated and installed by Gaithersburg Architectural Millwork from Warrenton, Virginia. The different wall coverings were manufactured by Momentum Textiles and Wallcovering in the instruction rooms, Arthouse in the bride's room and Maya Romanoff in the sealing rooms.

CEILINGS: The ceilings are painted gypsum board with painted wood crown molding throughout. Ornamental molded ceiling medallions are located at each decorative light fixture, typical of formal colonial buildings. The decorative ceilings were custom painted by Iconography Studio in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ORIGINAL ARTWORK: "Shenandoah River" by Brad Aldridge; "The Waters of Autumn" by Adair Payne; "Tidewater Spring" by Adair Payne; "We Do Not Doubt Our Mothers Knew It" by Dan Wilson.



A Brief History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Central Virginia



Early Church History

The first missionaries of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints preached the gospel in the Southern states in 1832. Few received their message at that time. On December 15, 1840, Elder Jedediah M. Grant wrote that he and his brother, Joshua, had been laboring during the past 17 months in North Carolina and in Patrick, Grayson, Wythe, Smyth and Washington counties in Virginia. As a result of their efforts, a small congregation, called a branch, was formed in Richmond Valley, Smyth County.

Other missionaries followed, and by September 1842, there were four branches of the Church in the area: Little Nauvoo, Wythe County, with 31 members; Richmond Valley, Smyth County, with 24 members; Burk's Garden, Tazewell County, with 60 members; and Patrick County Branch, with 16 members. A number of these converts, joined by members of other branches in Virginia, migrated to Nauvoo, Illinois.

After the Saints left Illinois for the Rocky Mountains, most of the faithful members in Virginia traveled west, and the early branches of the Church in Virginia were nearly all discontinued.

Church Growth

In the late 1860s, missionary work recommenced in Virginia amid great persecution. The first three known

African American converts to the Church in Virginia were baptized in 1868 near Tazewell County. The year following, an additional six African Americans joined the Church. The Church grew, and the Southern States Mission was organized on October 9, 1876. The Richmond area was in that mission until the creation of the East Central States mission on December 9, 1928.

By the beginning of the twentieth century, there were several small groups of Saints in the Richmond area, including a branch in Oilville. In 1914, the Saints in Tappahannock purchased the first Church building in Central Virginia. More meetinghouses were purchased and built, and the Richmond Branch was added to the Washington Stake on October 28, 1945. On November 24, 1946, the Richmond Branch was converted into a ward, and on June 30, 1957, the Virginia Stake was organized. That stake was divided into the Virginia and Norfolk Stakes on April 12, 1964. Today there are nine stakes in the greater Richmond area and about 34,000 members of the Church. (A stake is a group of congregations, similar to a Catholic diocese. Wards are larger congregations; branches are smaller congregations.)

The Community and the Church Today

During the past two years, the Church has donated more than one million pounds of food to area food banks, churches, and food pantries to help provide for people in need. Members of the Church are also actively involved in supporting refugee relief efforts.

The Church has worked with the Library of Virginia, the Baptist General Convention, the African American Historical and Genealogical Society and other local partners to clean and beautify cemeteries and preserve genealogical records of African Americans.

In the general conference of the Church held April 1, 2018, President Russell M. Nelson announced plans to construct a temple in Richmond. The Richmond Virginia Temple will be the first in Virginia. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, a private groundbreaking ceremony was held April 11, 2020, attended only by a few Church leaders. When completed, the temple will serve more than 44,000 members of the Church in Virginia and West Virginia.



Temples throughout the World

More facts and statistics can be found at Newsroom.ChurchofJesusChrist.org

300 TEMPLES: DEDICATED, UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND ANNOUNCED

NORTH AMERICA

Albuquerque New Mexico
Anchorage Alaska
Atlanta Georgia
Austin Texas
Baton Rouge Louisiana
Bentonville Arkansas
Billings Montana
Birmingham Alabama
Bismarck North Dakota
Boise Idaho
Boston Massachusetts
Bountiful Utah
Brigham City Utah
Burley Idaho
Calgary Alberta
Cardston Alberta
Casper Wyoming
Cedar City Utah
Chicago Illinois
Cleveland Ohio
Cody Wyoming
Columbia River Washington
Columbia South Carolina
Columbus Ohio
Dallas Texas
Denver Colorado
Deseret Peak Utah
Detroit Michigan
Draper Utah
Edmonton Alberta
Elko Nevada
Ephraim Utah
Farmington New Mexico
Feather River California
Fort Collins Colorado
Fort Lauderdale Florida
Fort Worth Texas
Fresno California
Gilbert Arizona
Grand Junction Colorado
Grand Rapids Michigan
Halifax Nova Scotia
Hartford Connecticut
Heber Valley Utah
Helena Montana
Houston Texas
Idaho Falls Idaho
Indianapolis Indiana
Jacksonville Florida

Jordan River Utah
Kansas City Missouri
Knoxville Tennessee
Kona Hawaii
Laie Hawaii
Las Vegas Nevada
Layton Utah
Lindon Utah
Logan Utah
Lone Mountain Nevada
Los Angeles California
Louisville Kentucky
Lubbock Texas
Manhattan New York
Manti Utah
McAllen Texas
Medford Oregon
Memphis Tennessee
Meridian Idaho
Mesa Arizona
Missoula Montana
Modesto California
Monticello Utah
Montpelier Idaho
Montreal Quebec
Moses Lake Washington
Mount Timpanogos Utah
Nashville Tennessee
Nauvoo Illinois
Newport Beach California
Oakland California
Ogden Utah
Oklahoma City Oklahoma
Oquirrh Mountain Utah
Orem Utah
Orlando Florida
Palmyra New York
Payson Utah
Philadelphia Pennsylvania
Phoenix Arizona
Pittsburgh Pennsylvania
Pocatello Idaho
Portland Oregon
Prosper Texas
Provo City Center
Provo Utah
Raleigh North Carolina
Red Cliffs Utah
Redlands California
Regina Saskatchewan

Reno Nevada
Rexburg Idaho North
Rexburg Idaho
Richmond Virginia
Sacramento California
Salt Lake
San Antonio Texas
San Diego California
Saratoga Springs Utah
Seattle Washington
Smithfield Utah
Snowflake Arizona
Spokane Washington
St. George Utah
St. Louis Missouri
St. Paul Minnesota
Star Valley Wyoming
Syracuse Utah
Tacoma Washington
Tallahassee Florida
Tampa Florida
Taylorsville Utah
The Gila Valley Arizona
Toronto Ontario
Tucson Arizona
Twin Falls Idaho
Vancouver British Columbia
Vernal Utah
Washington D.C.
Wichita Kansas
Willamette Valley Oregon
Winnipeg Manitoba
Winter Quarters Nebraska
Yorba Linda California

AFRICA

Aba Nigeria
Abidjan Ivory Coast
Accra Ghana
Antananarivo Madagascar
Beira Mozambique
Benin City Nigeria
Brazzaville Republic of the Congo
Cape Town South Africa
Durban South Africa
Eket Nigeria
Freetown Sierra Leone
Harare Zimbabwe
Johannesburg South Africa
Kananga Democratic Republic
of the Congo

Kinshasa Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Kumasi Ghana
Lagos Nigeria
Lubumbashi Democratic Republic
of the Congo
Monrovia Liberia
Nairobi Kenya
Praia Cape Verde

ASIA

Alabang Philippines
Bacolod Philippines
Bangkok Thailand
Bengaluru India
Busan Korea
Cagayan de Oro Philippines
Cebu City Philippines
Davao Philippines
Dubai United Arab Emirates
Fukuoka Japan
Hong Kong China
Kaohsiung Taiwan
Manila Philippines
Naga Philippines
Okinawa Japan
Phnom Penh Cambodia
Santiago Philippines
Sapporo Japan
Seoul Korea
Shanghai People's Republic of China
Singapore Republic of Singapore
Tacloban City Philippines
Taipei Taiwan
Tokyo Japan
Urdaneta Philippines
Yigo Guam

CARIBBEAN

Port-au-Prince Haiti
San Juan Puerto Rico
Santo Domingo Dominican Republic

CENTRAL AMERICA

Cobán Guatemala
Greater Guatemala City
Guatemala City Guatemala
Huehuetenango Guatemala
Managua Nicaragua
Panama City Panama
Quetzaltenango Guatemala
San José Costa Rica
San Pedro Sula Honduras
San Salvador El Salvador
Tegucigalpa Honduras

EUROPE

Barcelona Spain
Bern Switzerland
Birmingham England
Brussels Belgium
Budapest Hungary
Copenhagen Denmark
Frankfurt Germany
Freiberg Germany
Helsinki Finland
Kyiv Ukraine
Lisbon Portugal
London England
Madrid Spain
Oslo Norway
Paris France
Preston England
Rome Italy
Russia
Stockholm Sweden
The Hague Netherlands
Vienna Austria

MEXICO

Ciudad Juárez Mexico
Colonia Juárez Chihuahua Mexico
Cuernavaca Mexico
Culiacán Mexico
Guadalajara Mexico
Hermosillo Sonora Mexico
Mérida Mexico
Mexico City Benemérito Mexico
Mexico City Mexico
Monterrey Mexico
Oaxaca Mexico
Pachuca Mexico
Puebla Mexico
Querétaro Mexico
San Luis Potosí Mexico
Tampico Mexico
Tijuana Mexico
Toluca Mexico
Torreón Mexico
Tula Mexico
Tuxtla Gutiérrez Mexico
Veracruz Mexico
Villahermosa Mexico

OCEANIA

Adelaide Australia
Apia Samoa
Auckland New Zealand
Brisbane Australia
Hamilton New Zealand
Melbourne Australia
Neiafu Tonga

Nuku'alofa Tonga
Pago Pago American Samoa
Papeete Tahiti
Perth Australia
Port Moresby Papua New Guinea
Port Vila Vanuatu
Suva Fiji
Sydney Australia
Tarawa Kiribati
Wellington New Zealand

SOUTH AMERICA

Antofagasta Chile
Arequipa Peru
Asunción Paraguay
Bahía Blanca Argentina
Barranquilla Colombia
Belém Brazil
Belo Horizonte Brazil
Bogotá Colombia
Brasília Brazil
Buenos Aires Argentina
Buenos Aires City Center Argentina
Cali Colombia
Campinas Brazil
Caracas Venezuela
Chiclayo Peru
Cochabamba Bolivia
Concepción Chile
Córdoba Argentina
Curitiba Brazil
Cusco Peru
Fortaleza Brazil
Guayaquil Ecuador
La Paz Bolivia
Lima Peru
Lima Peru Los Olivos
Londrina Brazil
Maceió Brazil
Manaus Brazil
Mendoza Argentina
Montevideo Uruguay
Porto Alegre Brazil
Quito Ecuador
Recife Brazil
Ribeirão Preto Brazil
Rio de Janeiro Brazil
Salta Argentina
Salvador Brazil
Santa Cruz Bolivia
Santiago Chile
Santiago Chile West
Santos Brazil
São Paulo Brazil
São Paulo East Brazil
Trujillo Peru
Vitória Brazil

