JTOC

As described earlier in "Object Layout," the JTOC is responsible for holding literal and static field values. Traversing the JTOC produces the boot image.

Boot record

A table at the beginning of the data image that contains data shared between the boot image runner and Jikes RVM. These values typically cannot be determined during the bootstrap.

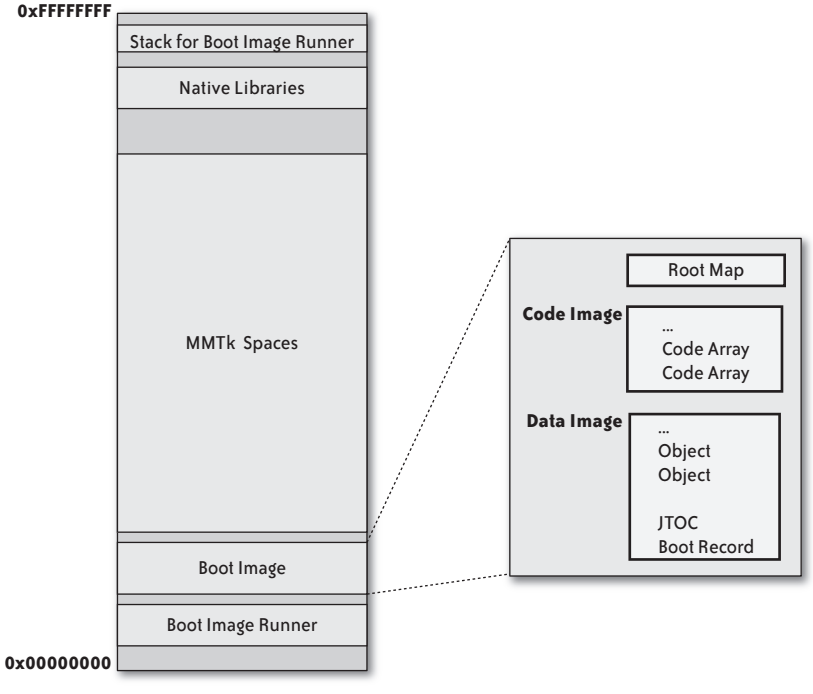

FIGURE 10-4. The runtime memory layout of Jikes RVM

Compiling the Primordials and Filling in the JTOC

The *primordials* are a collection of classes that must be built into the boot image for it to run. The most important primordial is `org.jikesrvm.VM`, which is responsible for starting the virtual machine. If something isn't part of the boot image, and therefore isn't a primordial, then it is referenced. When a referenced object is accessed at runtime, it causes the class loader to load and link the referenced class.