

Barcroft History

Mildred Handy
Ritchie's
Notebook - 1

6/99
"BARCROFT"

PROPERTY OF:

Mildred Handy Ritchie
3205 North Pershing Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22201

*Randy
you may keep
this for
the
B&C.L.
Betty
Handy*

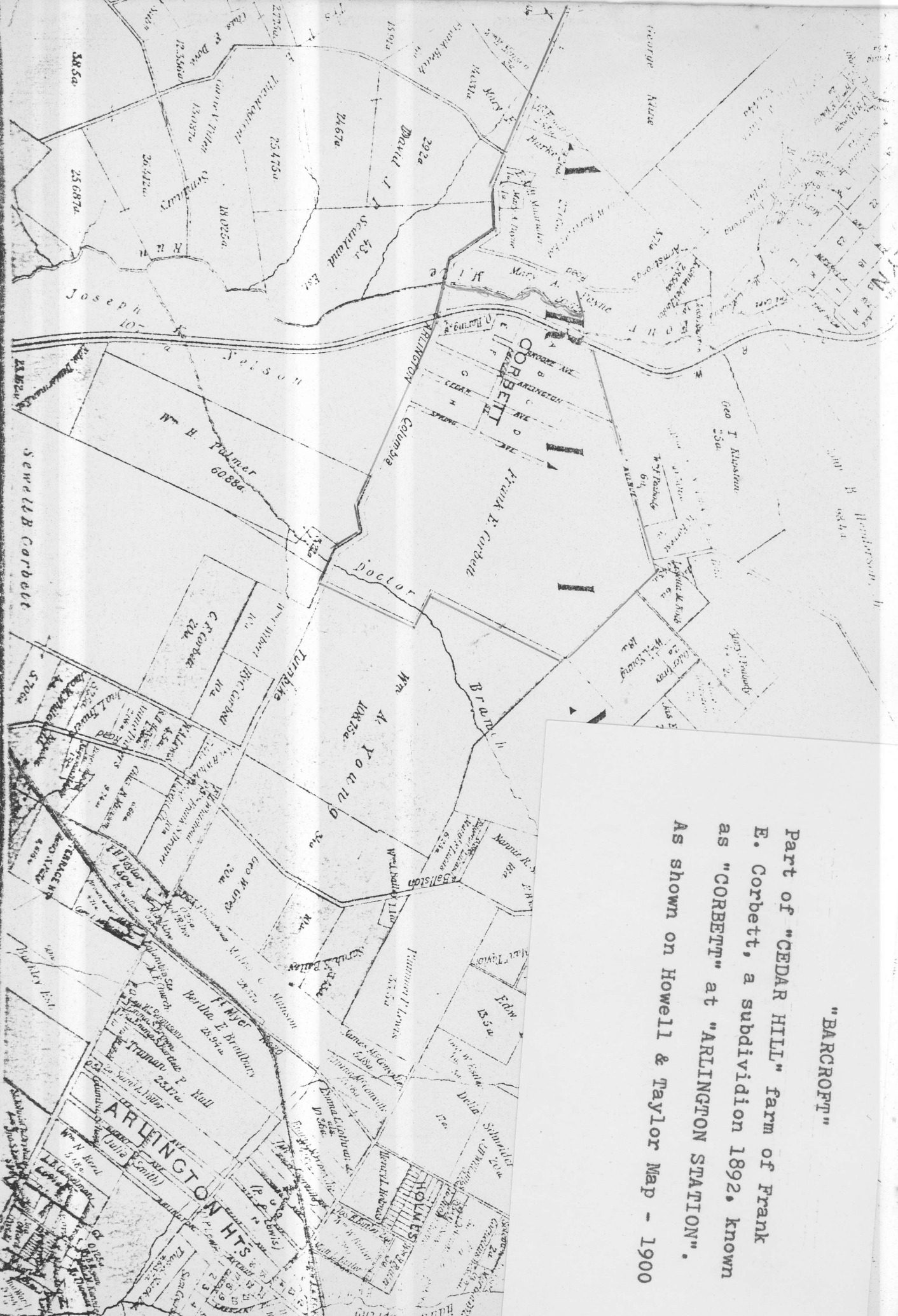
BARCROFT

Records and pictures to be used in a
History of Barcroft and the Columbia
Pike area of Arlington County.

Some were used in an article published
in THE ARLINGTON HISTORICAL MAGAZINE,
October 1980, Vol. 5, No. 4, entitled,
BARCROFT, ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA
A VILLAGE METAPHORMOSIS. *By Mildred*
HANDY RITCHIE

"BARCROFT"

Part of "CEDAR HILL" farm of Frank E. Corbett, a subdivision 1892, known as "CORBETT" at "ARLINGTON STATION".
As shown on Howell & Taylor Map - 1900



1900 - Alexandria County, Virginia
Howell & Taylor Map
"Corbett" - Frank E. Corbett Estate.

Map Division
DUPLICATE
of Original

1892
 "CORBETT" - Subdivision of small portion
 of "CEDAR HILL", farm of Frank E. Corbett
 at Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run, Alexandria
 County, Virginia, at Railroad Station named
 "Arlington".

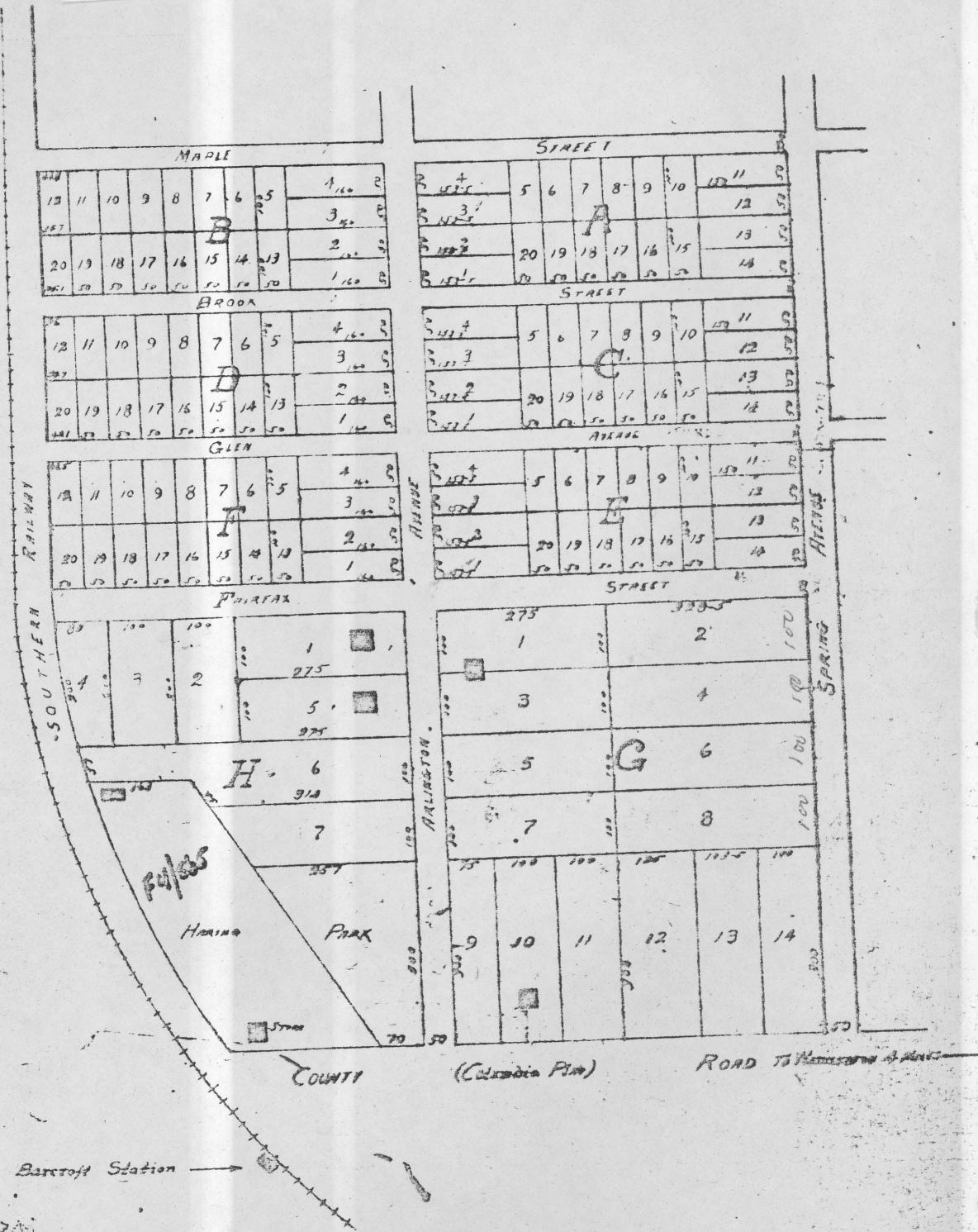
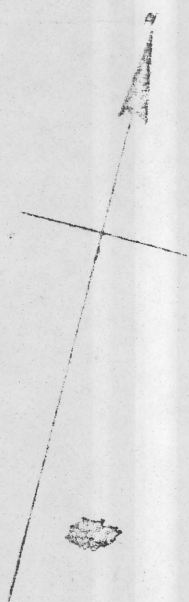
CLERK OF THE COURT
 I have read and approved the
 plan of subdivision of the land
 described in the petition filed
 in this court on the 28th day of
 December 1892 and the plan is
 approved and the land is divided
 into lots numbered 1 to 7 and
 A and B and the same are
 described in the plan filed
 in this court on the 28th day of
 December 1892.
 W. H. Young, Clerk



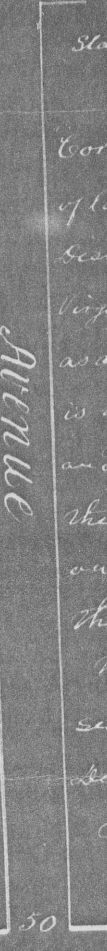
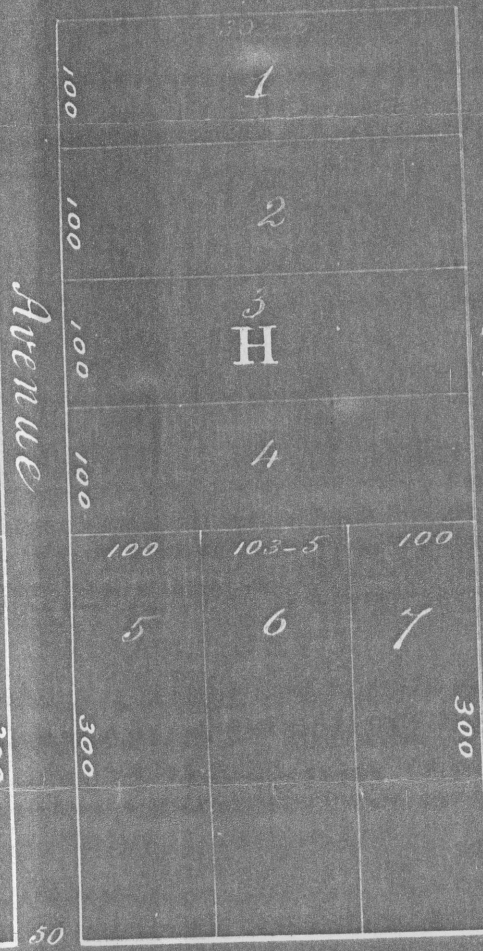
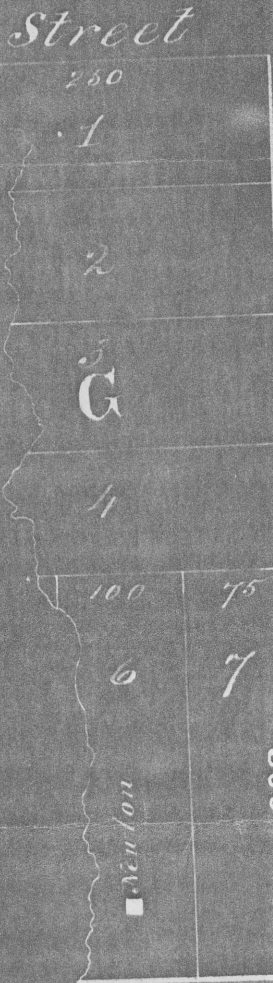
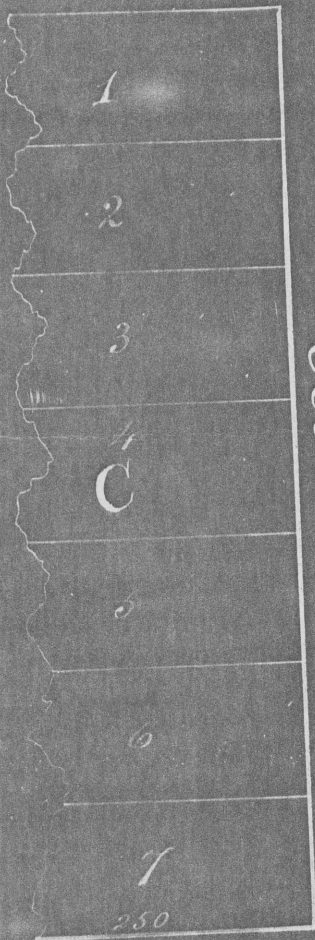
MAP
 OF
CORBETT
 ALEXANDRIA CO
 Virginia

county

1902 "BARCROFT" Resubdivision of "Corbett",
 part of Corbett estate sold 1898 to Mrs.
 Abbie G. Fox. Occupied Corbett farm-
 house (corner of present So. Taylor and
 Sixth Streets.)



Map of BARCROFT
 Alexandria County, Virginia.



Cedar

Spring

Street

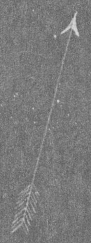
Avenue

AVENUE

Road

This Plat and surveyed
 certificates received and admitted
 to record on the 28th day of December
 1892 and recorded in Volume No. 4
 of the Records of the Board
 of Alexandria County Virginia
 and examined Jan. 5th 1893
 J. H. Young, Clerk

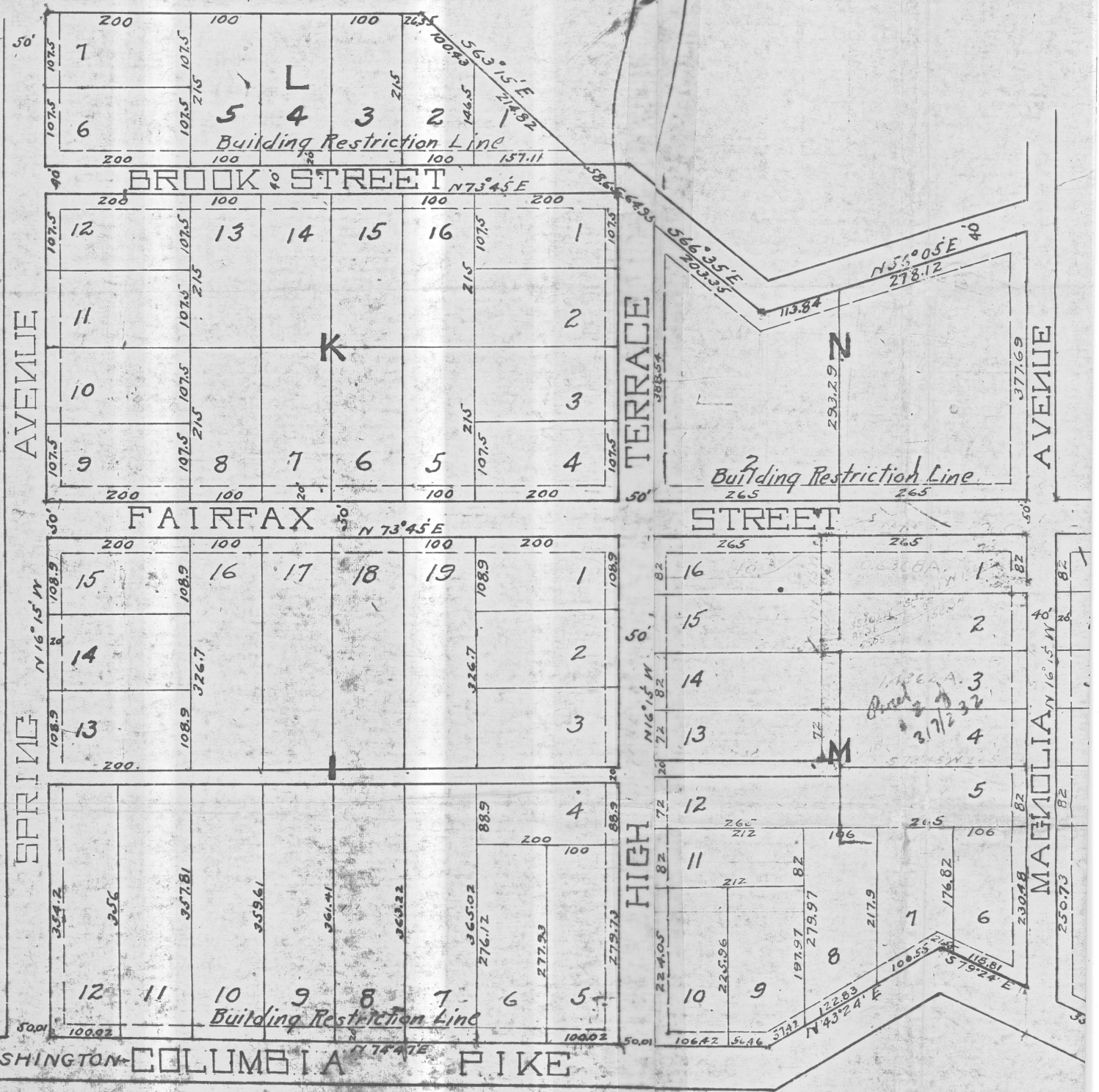
Scale 100 ft = 1 inch



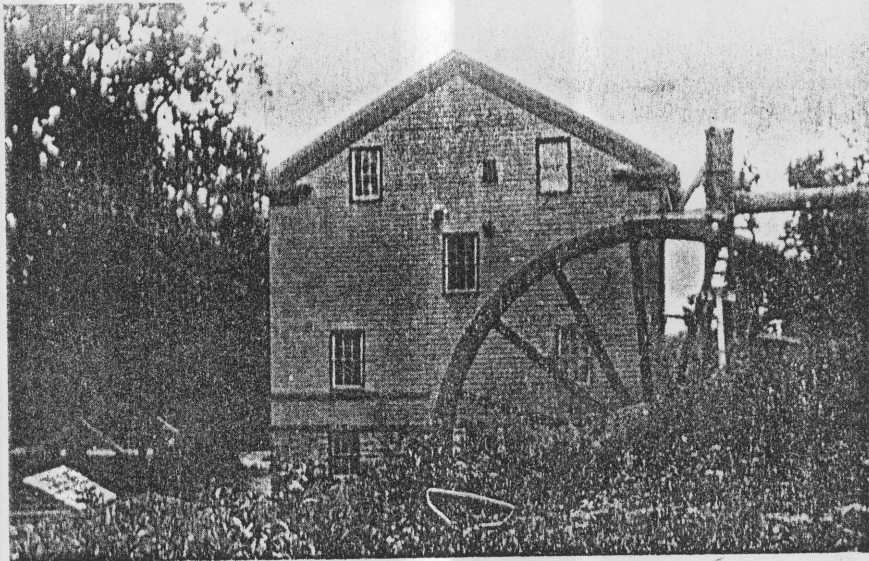
State of Virginia: to wit
 This subdivision called
 Corbett of a part of a tract
 of land in Arlington municipal
 District Alexandria County
 Virginia called "Baker Hill"
 as appears on this plat
 is with the free consent
 and in accordance with
 the desire of the undersigned
 owner and proprietor of
 the said tract of land
 Witness my hand and
 seal this 9th day of
 December 1892
 Frank E. Corbett

(Seal)

1909 - "East Barcroft", first addition
to "Barcroft" along Columbia Pike.



1886 - "BARCROFT MILL" erected 1886 on site of former "ARLINGTON MILL", destroyed in Civil War, of Custis family- Columbia Pike, West of Four Mile Run.



BARCROFT MILL.

to be out, which seldom happened, the two ladies waited on the store in his absence.

Son Eddie, as he was affectionately known, was more or less busy with his own affairs. He was an up and coming young man who edited and printed the first and only Barcroft newspaper, known as the "Barcroft News" in 1903, which was a little four-page affair with the comings, goings, doings, and ailments of the small community. Milton Payne, who was then a small boy, felt very important when he was allowed to help set type. Ed was a very bright, likable fellow and the hero of all the neighborhood belles and the ring leader in all the sports and social events as well.

The store was a typical squash center one, where all the men gathered to discuss crops and topics of the day around an old pot-bellied coal-burning stove. People who commuted to Washington kept warm around this old stove while waiting for the Southern, which was notorious in never being on time. The store boasted of one of the few telephones in the neighborhood. If Central cared to get your number she did; if she didn't care to she didn't and no amount of argument altered the case. She simply cut you off and that was that. There was no higher up or telephone office to contact. In that day the slogan "The customer is always right" had never been heard of.

The blacksmith shop was directly across Columbia Pike from the store under an immense oak tree which has only recently been cut down. It was operated by two bachelor brothers from Germany named August and Otto Hoffman.

The cattle pen was back of the store about a thousand yards up the east side of the tracks.



WALTER KER HANDY

Educated Bliss Electrical School and George Washington University.

Employed Potomac Electric Power Company, 1904-1942. Manager, Commercial Department.

Married and became resident of Barcroft 1908. (First wife, Grace Kerfoot.)

Charter member 1908 Barcroft School and Civic League. President 1921-22. Elected to Life Membership 1942.

Obtained more than 12 signatures required to extend poles and electricity one mile from Columbia to Barcroft. In 1913, wired first 14 homes and school for electricity.

Elder, Sunday School Superintendant, Teacher, Arlington Presbyterian Church 1910-67.

Member of:

Arlington County Civic Federation.

Arlington County Chamber of Commerce.

Arlington County and D.C. YMCA.

Alexandria County Committee to rename County.

Proposed name "Arlington"

County Group in favor of County Manager form of Government.

Arlington County Committee to select site for W. & L. High School.

Conference with U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, then Agriculture Department, with idea of surfacing Columbia Pike (a dirt road) with sections of concrete for testing strength. Road surfaced from area near present Pentagon to Taylor Street, Barcroft, 1928.

Arlington County Committee to select route for Arlington Boulevard. Walked three routes from River to Fairfax County line.

President, Washington Host Lion's Club.

D. C. Board of Trade.

D. C. Presbytery.

Organizer and President, D. C. Society for the Blind, which later, with others, organized National Society for the Blind. Became Secretary and Secretary Emeritus of National Society.

President, Arlington Council for Religious Education.

Past Master, Potomac Lodge #5, Georgetown.



MRS AMY FAIRFAX

Home of Mrs. Fairfax, Arlington and Glen
Avenues (now Buchanan and Eighth Roads, South).
In 1907-08 taught first "school" in Barcroft,
a group of ten children, in her "parlor", for
\$25.00 a month.

Miss Emma McQuiggan
Teacher & Principal
Bakeroft School
(Brick Bldg.)
1928(?)



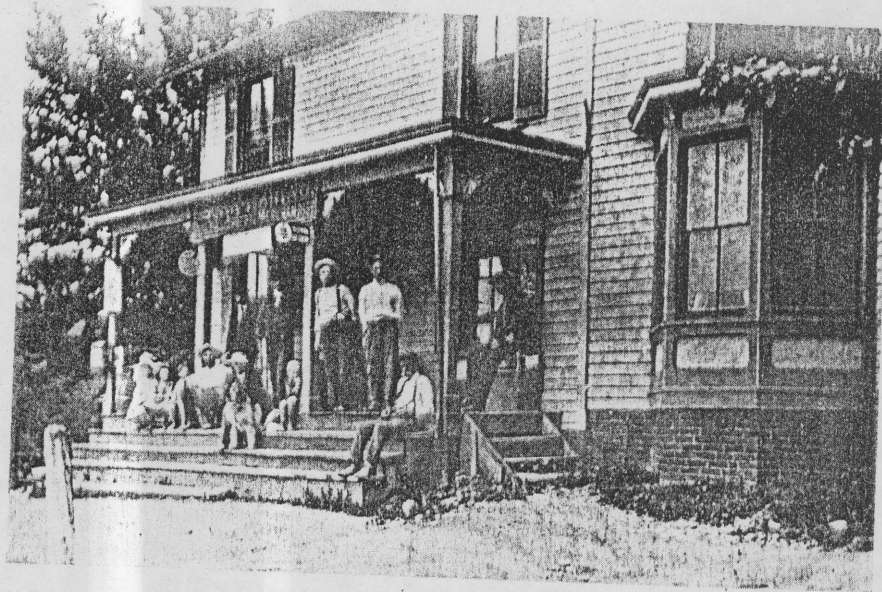


WALTER KER HANDY

1876 - 1967

Early resident, with wife, Grace, of Barcroft from 1908 to 1967. Charter member and organizer of "The Citizens Association of Barcroft" in 1908, later known as "The Barcroft School and Civic League". He held various offices, and was President 1920-21.

"BARCROFT STORE" and "Post Office", erected about 1890 by Oscar Haring, Columbia Pike East of Railroad at "Arlington Station".



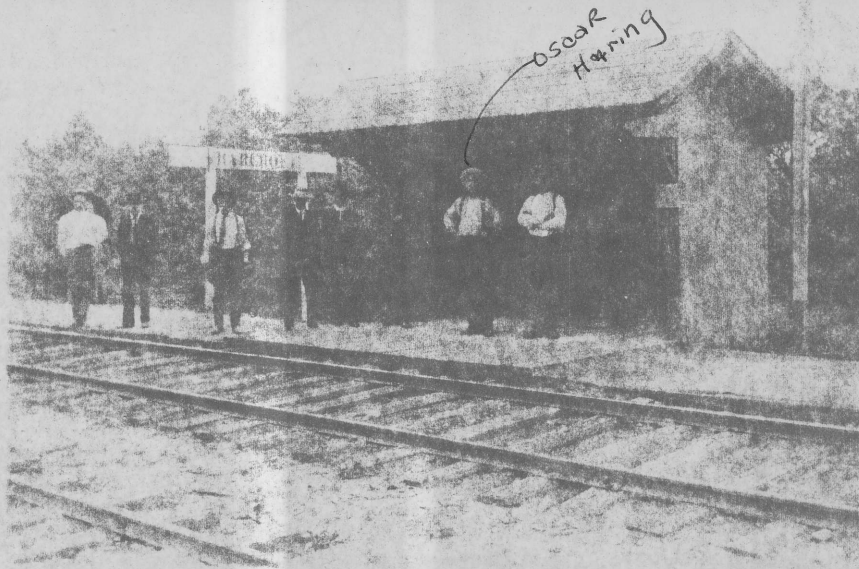
OSCAR HARING'S STORE IN BARCROFT.

Columbia Pike. It was diagonally across the tracks from the present Government storehouse. The people of the community boarded the trains here for Washington, Alexandria, Bluemont, and way stations. If the residents wished to go to Washington by trolley they either drove or walked to what is now Columbia but then called Arlington.

The trolley line ran from Convalescent Camp (Nauck) to the Virginia side of the old Aqueduct Bridge, where one got off the trolley and walked across the bridge to M Street in Georgetown. There you took the streetcar to downtown Washington by way of M Street and Pennsylvania Avenue or walked up some hundred or more steps to 36th and Prospect Street in Georgetown and took the Washington Railway and Electric Trolley to downtown Washington. These two trolley or electric lines, as we say today, are now merged into the Capital Transit Co. Much of the W.R.&E. has been replaced by busses. The old trolley line at Columbia ran along what is today Walter Reed Drive and Fillmore Streets, thence through Hunter, Penrose, Hatfield, Fort Myer, and Signal Corps to Rosslyn.

The general store stood on the east side of the railroad tracks and the north side of Columbia Pike. It was operated by Oscar Haring and his family. His sister-in-law, Miss Virgie Doremus, later Mrs. George Pepper, was postmistress, and the post office was in the store. If Miss Doremus was not there her sister, Mrs. Haring, or Mr. Haring handed out the mail. There were so few people and so little mail then that the Haring family even knew the handwriting of most of the townspeople. Once a letter addressed simply to "Mother," Barcroft, Va., reached its proper destination. If Mr. Haring had

Barcroft Station



"BARCROFT School"
1908-09



Dorothy Payne

Lyla Pepper

Pauline Palmer

Margaret Handy

Fanny Morgan

Remy Wilbur Whitcraft

Paul Marye
Carroll Wright

Elizabeth Wright

Adalyne Marye

Edith Fairfax

BARCROFT STATION
ca. 1908
(above)

1908-1909 - First students of Barcroft School, taught by Miss Beulah Adams in new building next-door to Mrs. Fairfax, at Arlington Avenue and Brook Street (now Buchanan St. and 8th St., So.), rented from the Methodist Church Society of Barcroft for \$5.00 per Month.

Front, 1.-r.: Pauline Palmer, ---, Margaret Handy, Edith Fairfax, Adalyne Marye, Elizabeth Wright. Second, 1-r: ---, Paul Marye, Carol Wright, ---. Third, Lila Pepper, Dorothy Payne, ---, Fanny Morgan, ---, Remy & Wilbur Whitcraft.



MISS MARY EASTLACK
1894-1975

1914-1918 - Teacher for four years First,
Second and Third Grades. From home in
D.C. rode Steam Train daily to Barcroft.



1918 - Lower Grades, Front Row, l.-r.: Lola Shreve, William Armstrong, Lawrence Froyd, Lottie McDonald. Second Row: Ruth House, Florence Howard, Mildred Handy, Gladys Shreve, Arnold McDonald. Third: Kathryn Rider, Marion Howard, Evelyn Zylinski, --- , Braudus Shreve.



Mildred Handy
Ruth House



1917 - Miss Elizabeth Hancock and Fourth,
 Fifth & Sixth Grades. First Row l.-r.:
 Lola Shreve, --- , ---McDonald, Margaret
 Froyd, --- Paturzo, Minnie Patterson,
 Second Row: Arnold McDonald, Johnny
 Paturzo, Patrick Bradley, --- , William
 Pepper, Frederick Handy, Otis Printz,
 Richard Roseberry, Ivan Printz, ---
 Tilden Hopkins. Third Row: Lawrence Froyd,
 Evelyn Zylinski, --- , --- , Florence
 Howard, Myrtle Hopkins, Jane Hopkins.
 Fifth Row: Nelson Head, Julian Tapp,
 Wendell Gibson, Gladys Shreve, Broadus
 Shreve, Miss Hancock, Mildred Handy,
 Marion Howard, Ruth Houseknecht, William
 Bradley.



ca. 1919 - Barcroft School pupils.
Robinson-Lee-Bradley-Babcock house in
background



BARCROFT SCHOOL

ca. 1920-21

Erected ca 1908. Used as School 1908-1925. Second room added in rear in 1913. Building first rented by Methodist Society to County in 1908. Students demonstrate Physical exercises, newly authorized by School Board, in yard, for visiting Board members.



1920 - Barcroft School - Note wooden shingles. Teacher's car, on lower left, was parked across street. Oak Tree in Northwest corner was planted in ceremony about 1916.

1921 - BARCROFT SCHOOL, showing "Church Windows", rear room added 1913, porch (no roof).



1. Minnie Dunavant, School House at Barcroft, and Children exercising.



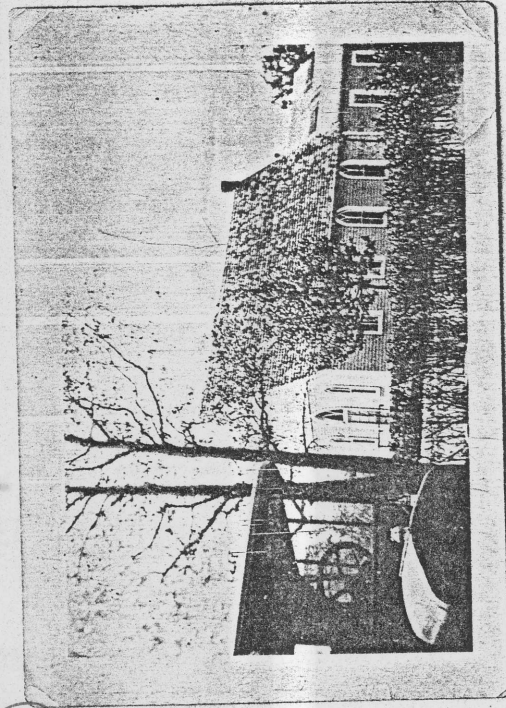
3. Minnie Dunavant - Teacher for 1920-21



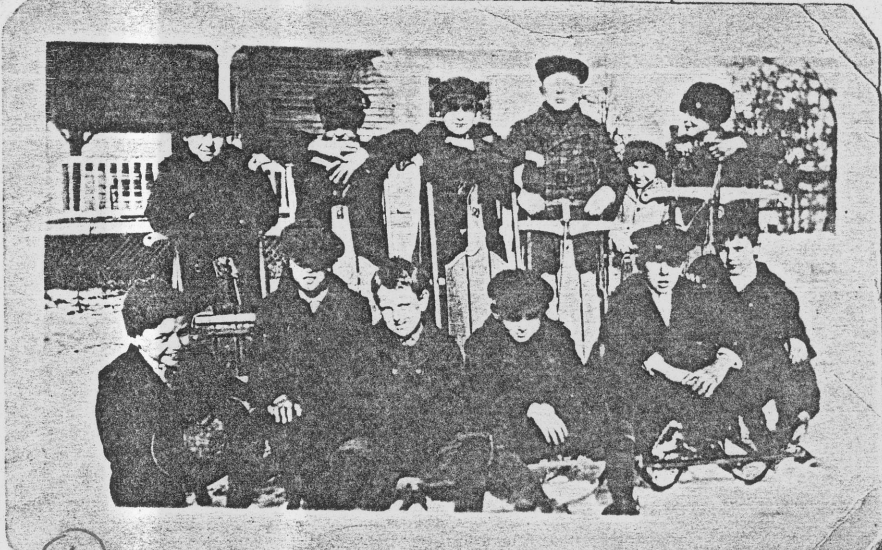
2. Ruth Roseberry, Mildred Handy, Helen Weeks, and ??? who



4. Sled club for Barcroft School 1920-21



Minnie Dunavant 1922



6.

5.

These photo-copies are to show you what pictures we have of Minnie Dunavent, and of Barcroft School. I put what was written on the backs of the pictures. However, I cannot identify Minnie D. in picture #1, as the only tall person is a man (where the picture is streaked with light). (In #3, she is the one wearing the Middy-dress with the tie, standing in front of the window.) #4, she is sitting in a child's wagon, but it's a very good picture of her.

Head & Shoulders!



1921 - Helen Weeks, Jane Hopkins, Mildred
Handy, --- , Ruth Roseberry



1920 - Miss Minnie Dinnavant and some of
Barcroft Students. A few identified:
Tom Hazel, Lawrence Froyd, Christine
Armstrong, Annie McAlester, Ruth House,
Mildred Handy, Jane Hopkins.





1921 - "Sled Club" - Front Row Howard
Woodruff, Richard Roseberry, ----?
Ivan Printz, Tom Hazel, Otis Printz, --?

CONTRACT WITH TEACHERS (FOR COUNTIES)

This Article of Agreement, Between the SCHOOL BOARD OF Arlington

District, Arlington County, State of Virginia, of the

first part, and Miss Minnie Dunavant of the second part:

WITNESSETH, That the said party of the second part, under the supervision and direction of the said Board, but subject to the lawful authority of the Division Superintendent, agrees to teach in The schools of Arlington County school for the term of 10 school months, or 200 days, commencing on September 19th, 1921, at a compensation of

\$80.00 dollars per school month, for a lawful school; provided that any

failure on the part of the said teacher to report correctly to the Superintendent the daily average as required, shall vitiate this contract—the said amount to be paid on the last day of each calendar month for the total value of the services rendered during the said calendar month, or as soon thereafter as a proper voucher can be forwarded to the Clerk of the Board by the Division Superintendent, the Board reserving the right to dismiss the said party of the second part at any time, for cause, paying for services rendered in accordance with this agreement to the date of dismissal. In the event the Board finds it necessary to shorten the school term it may terminate this contract, after giving reasonable notice to the party of the second part. In case schools are closed temporarily on account of epidemic or for other necessary cause, the Board may pay the teacher for the time lost or may extend the school term.

It is also agreed that the said party of the second part shall open school at 9 in the morning and close school at 3 in the afternoon (a school day shall consist of 5 hours and 0 minutes, and a school month of four weeks of five school days each). The said party of the second part shall give daily recess in accordance with the following schedule 15 minutes at 10:30 1 hour at noon.

The party of the second part shall obey all school laws and regulations, and make monthly and term reports to the Division Superintendent according to forms furnished.

It is further agreed that the fires shall be made, or caused to be made, and the floors shall be swept or caused to be swept by the said* Board, the Board providing fuel, brooms and brushes therefor; and that the actual possession of the schoolhouse shall be considered by both parties as being and remaining at all times in the said Board or their successors.

It is further agreed that the chairman and clerk of said School Board shall deduct monthly from the salary of the said party of the second part a sum equal to one per centum of the said salary, to be placed to the credit of the Retired Teachers' Fund and to be applied and expended as provided by law.

It is further agreed that the said party of the second part shall exercise due care in the protection of all buildings, furniture and supplies of said school, and promptly report in writing to the party of the first part and the Division Superintendent all needed repairs, furniture or supplies

The Board reserves the right to change said teacher from one school to another, or from one class or grade to a different class or grade as the efficiency of the system may demand, or the judgment of the Board may determine, and in the event of such change it is understood and agreed that the salary of said teacher shall not be less than the amount named in this contract.

The said teacher hereby swears or affirms allegiance and loyalty to the Government of the United States.

SPECIAL COVENANTS The party of the second part agrees to be in school at 8:45 A.M. The party of the first part agrees to pay to the party of the second part a bonus of \$25.00 at the expiration of the school term.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereunto have set their hands and seals, this 17th day of May, 1921

John Lyons [L. S.]
Chairman of the Board
J. W. ... [L. S.]
Clerk of Board
Minnie Dunavant [L. S.]
Teacher

*Insert "Board" or the name of the teacher according to the terms of the contract

COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP:

MRS. R. E. ROSEBERRY, CHAIRMAN

ROADS, HIGHWAYS:

K. D. MCRAE, CHAIRMAN

ENTERTAINMENT:

J. H. BREWER, CHAIRMAN

Barcroft School and Civic League

Barcroft, Va.

June 3, 1922

REGULAR MEETING, FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

COMMITTEES

HEALTH:

THOS. H. ARMSTRONG, CHAIRMAN

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS:

JULIAN C. TAPP, CHAIRMAN

EDUCATIONAL:

J. G. PEPPER, CHAIRMAN

Dear Miss Dunavent:

At the regular monthly League meeting on June 1, 1922, the matter of requesting you to teach next year in our school was brought up. Several members spoke highly of your faithful, conscientious and effective work with the children, and we all sincerely hope you will elect to remain in Barcroft during the next school year.

With best regards, I am

Cordially yours

T. L. Woodruff

Secretary

Miss Minnie Dunavent,
Barcroft, Va.



1922 - "The Knickerbocker Snow" Glen Avenue,
now 8th Road, So., looking East in front
of Handy home.



Mrs. Hunter (left) Principal & teacher
of 4th, 5th and 6th grades.
Miss Elizabeth Butts (r) 1st, 2nd and 3rd
grades. The last teachers to teach in
Barcroft School in the Community House.
Photo 1925 on back steps of the school.

W. K. HANDY, PRES.

MRS. K. D. MCRAE, VICE-PRES.

R. A. ROSEBERRY, TREAS.

T. MARSHALL KEELY, SEC'Y.

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Cordially yours
H. H. Woodruff
Secretary

Miss Minnie Dun
Barcroft, Va

1922 - Letter from Barcroft School & Civic League to Miss Minnie Dunavant encouraging her to remain another year. Letter-head shows officers for year 1921-22.



23-24
 ca. 1917 Top Row, Center: Mead Palmer, Right
 end = Tilden Hopkins. (~~Possibly Frederick
 Handy in front of Mead.~~) Others not
 identified. ~~4 in front of Mead, center~~
 Front row - left - Susie Hunter

1923-24
 Rob O'Hara, ~~Levy~~ Al Handy, _____, _____, Mead Palmer, _____, _____, _____, _____, Tilden Hopkins
 _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
 _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
 Susie Hunter, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____

Some unidentified who may be in picture:
 Otis Printz, Bill Pepper, Ida Pepper, Pauline Beach
 & see picture - Mrs Hunter & Miss Butts - 1925 - last to teach in bldg
 furnished 1/26/1982 by Susie Hunter-Weisman

Washington Ave (Buchanan St.)

porch
(No Roof)

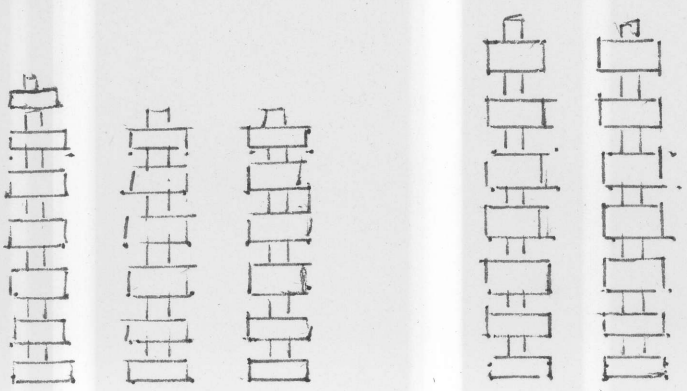
coat hooks

Bookcase

Bookcase

Table

BARCROFT
School
(ca. 1920-21)
Six Grades
(Three Per Room)



Blackboard

Blackboard

Piano

pot bellied
stove

Desk

wood

water cooler

cupboard

coat hooks

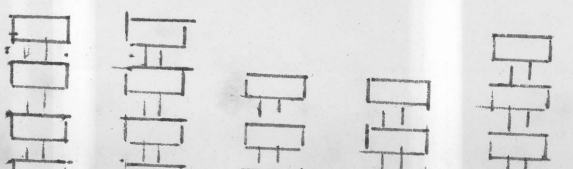
hooks

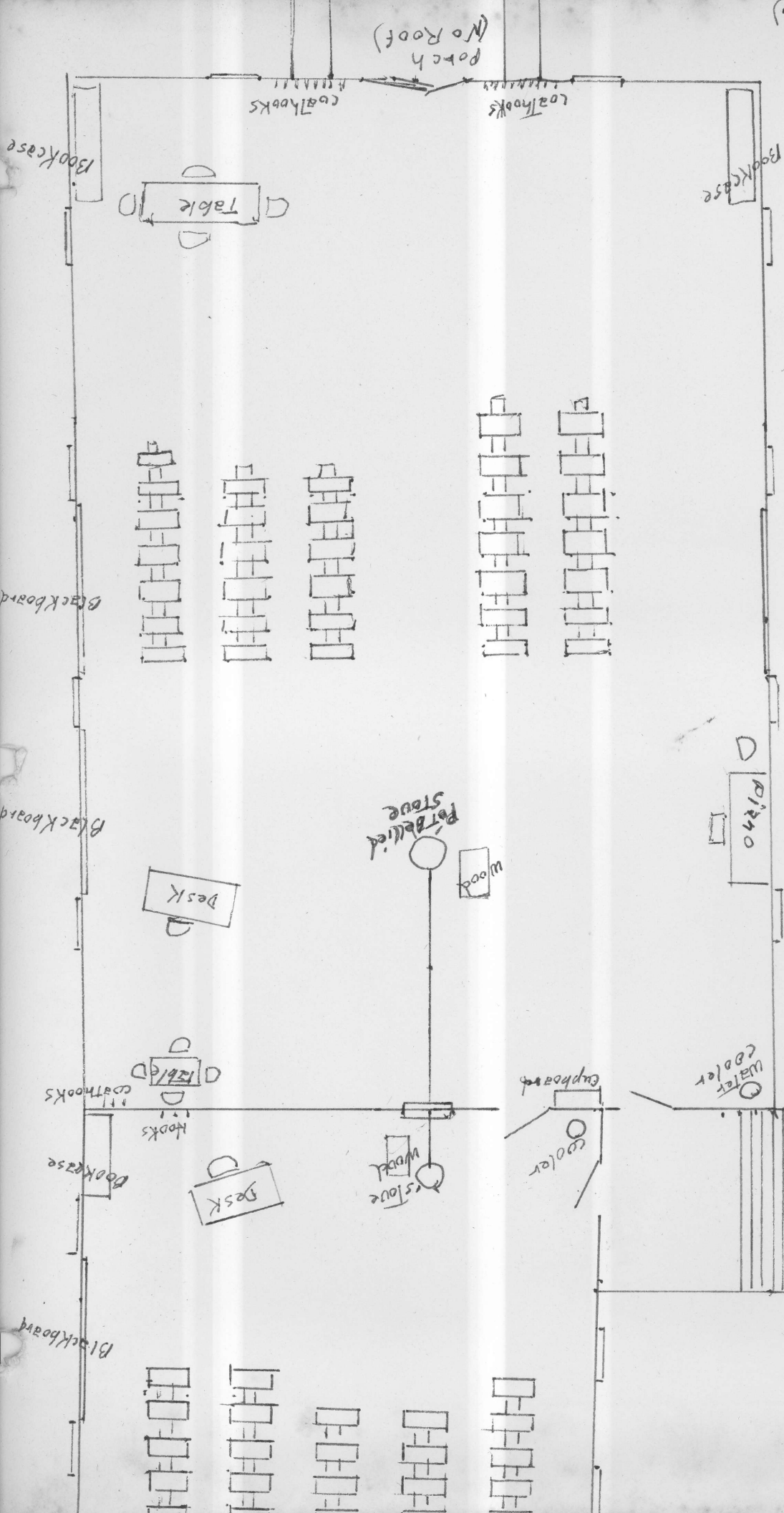
stove
wood

Desk

Bookcase

Blackboard





BARCROFT SCHOOL

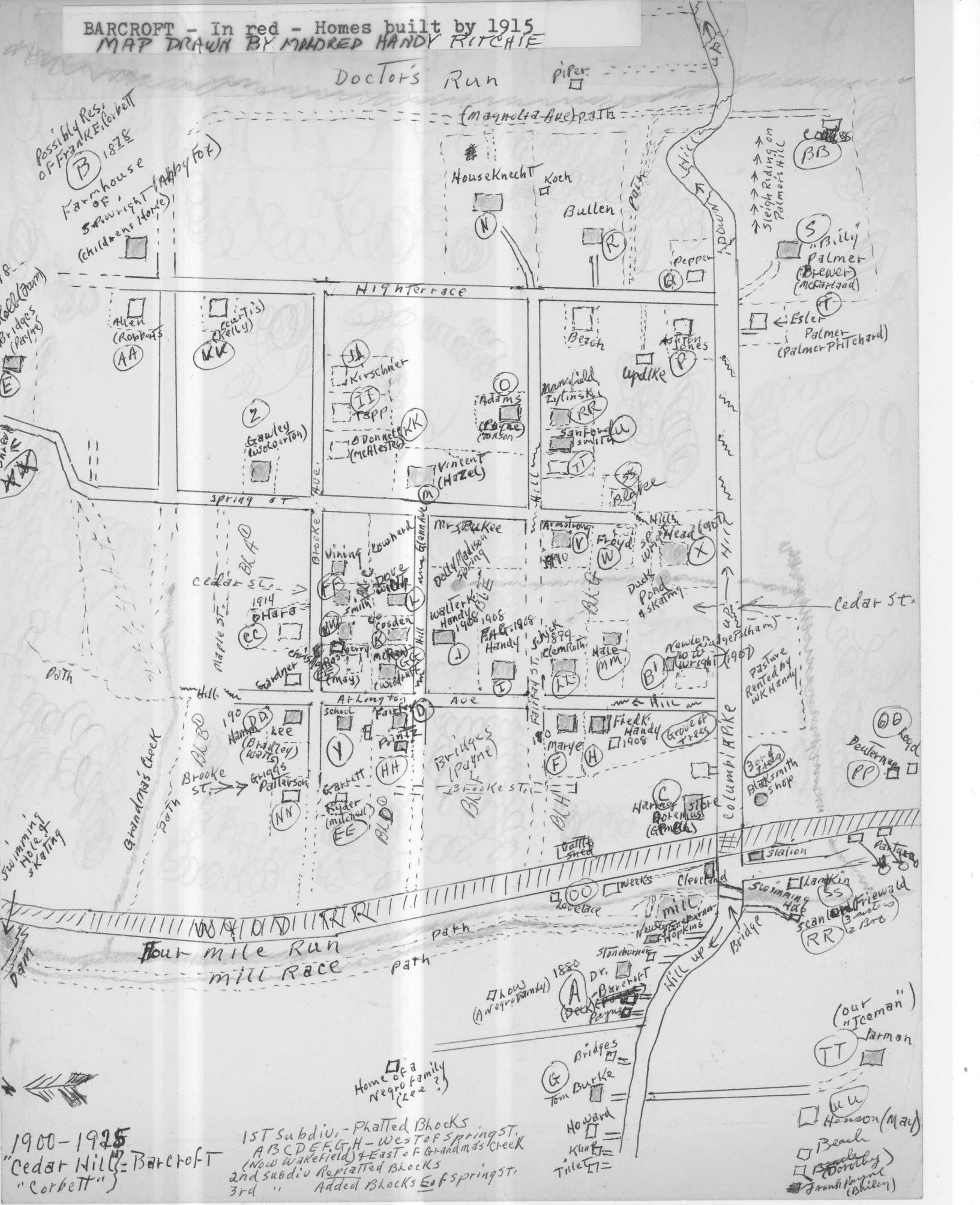
Interior diagram of 2-room Barcroft School. (about 1920-21). Student population burgeoned during World War I, included pupils from near Baileys Crossroads, for a mile down Railroad, and even some from Glen Carlyn. (About 55-60)

BARCROFT
 School
 (ca. 1920-21)
 Six Grades
 (Three per Room)

Atlington Ave (Buchanan St.)

Line of Mrs. Fairfax

BARCROFT - In red - Homes built by 1915
MAP DRAWN BY MARGRED HANDY RITCHIE



Possible Res.
 of Frank E. Corbett
 (B) 1828
 Farmhouse
 of
 SW Wright (Abby Fox)
 (Childrens Home)

8-
 Bridges
 (Paying)
 (E)

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑
 Sleigh Riding on
 Palmer's Hill

Swimming
 Holes &
 Skating

1900-1925
 "Cedar Hill" - Barcroft
 "Corbett"

1st subdiv. - Platted Blocks
 A B C D E F G H - West of Spring St.
 (Now Wakefield) + East of Grandmas Creek
 2nd subdiv. Replatted Blocks
 3rd " Added Blocks E of Spring St.

Home of a
 Negro Family
 (2002?)

"Our
 'Teeman'
 Jarman
 (TT)

Hanson (May)
 Beach
 (Burdock)
 Frank Hanson
 (Chilney)

WRITTEN BY
MILDRED HANDY RITCHIE

January 10, 1983

1. Building Name: The Barcroft Community House
2. Address: 800 South Buchanan Street
Barcroft, Arlington County, Virginia
3. Original Owner: Trustees, Methodist Episcopal
Church of Barcroft
4. Original Use: Church
5. Present Owner: The Barcroft School and Civic
League
6. Present Use: The Barcroft School and Civic
League Meetings: rentals by that
Organization for use as a Church
and for various Community affairs
7. Legal Description: Lots 3, 4, Block D, in the Subdi-
vision of Barcroft as per plat of
same duly of record in the Clerk's
Office of Alexandria County, Vir-
ginia, in Deed Book Number 110,
page 53 one of the Land Records of
the County, save and except the
rear 15 feet of each lot, the
amount of ground hereby conveyed
being 14,500 square feet, May 23,
1908 (Vol. 118, page 187). Also
described August 21, 1914 (Vol. 44,
page 159)

8. Description and History:

The Village which became Barcroft was first established as a subdivision of a small portion of "Cedar Hill Farm" on Columbia Pike at Four Mile Run in 1892. At that early date it had, within its boundary, two residences. One was the home of the Mill operator, John Newlon, erected about 1886

a block East of the Railroad. The other, erected in 1890 on a six-acre tract beside the Railroad, was the home of Oscar Haring. In a large front room planned for the purpose he opened a general store. Both of these residences faced South along Columbia Pike. A station, first known as "Arlington", then "Corbett", then "Barcroft, stood on the Southwest corner of the crossing of the Pike and the Railroad (later the W&OD Ry.) which ran from Alexandria to Bluemont. Beyond his Subdivision Frank E. Corbett lived in the old farmhouse on the Northeast corner of his "Cedar Hill Farm" of 262 Acres.

In 1892, Annie Doremus, sister-in-law of Oscar Haring, purchased the first two lots in the Subdivision of "Barcroft" on top of the hill on Arlington Avenue, and by 189³/~~4~~ had erected the first house. This was rented until she and Sidney T. Marye married in 1901, when they made it their home.

Frank E. Corbett died in 1898 and his executors sold two lots across from the Doremus house to Edgar Klemroth who erected his imposing home in 1900.

The farm estate and remaining unsold lots of the subdivision were sold in 1903. The subdivision was resurveyed, resubdivided, and named "Barcroft" in 1904. The new owner,

Mrs. Abigail Fox, with her son-in-law, Stephen P. Wright, as developer, laid plans for erecting homes on their new lots to attract city dwellers "to the fresh country air". Stephen erected and occupied a home East of the Newlon house..

After the establishment of the Barcroft Post Office in the general store, people living in the area surrounding the subdivision and using it as a mailing address began to consider themselves as living at Barcroft. Among these was William Palmer, Sheriff of Alexandria County. His home stood on a hill on the Pike, opposite the Southeast corner of Corbett's farm. Several railroad workers occupied small homes between the railroad track and the Creek. To the West, beyond the Mill and Dr. Barcroft's home at Four Mile Run, there were six or seven more homes in the County to the Fairfax County line. Then, North of the boundary of Cedar Hill Farm, on a six-acre parcel of the estate of James Ball, lived Charles Kolb at "Woodmeade".

Stephen P. Wright sold his new home to James W. Head in 1906. He then brought in a builder, B. F. Perrow, and carpenters. His brother, W. W. Wright, purchased the Newlon home in 1907.

By 1907, construction of new houses in the subdivision of Barcroft was proceeding well. Milton and Amy Fairfax, with three little girls, bought the first of these on lots 1 and 2, Block D, at Arlington and Glen Avenues (Buchanan Street and Eighth Road, South), on April 20, 1907. Other families taking up residence were those of Martin, Hamm and Grigg.

The nearest schools and churches were at Columbia and Glen Carlyn, over a mile away. With no transportation in either direction the need for both had grown with the increase in population. Older children walked the long distance or took the steam train to the city for education. But small children of many families moving in were too young to go so far alone. The need for action grew more apparent during the summer.

Alexandria County School Board Minutes record that at a regular meeting of the Board on October 7, 1907, the Clerk read a Petition from the Citizens of Barcroft, requesting that a school be established in Barcroft. It was ordered that the Clerk write a letter (as contained in the minutes) to The Citizens Association of Barcroft:

"Rosslyn, October 10, 1907
Mr. Stephen P. Wright, President
Citizen's Association of Barcroft, Virginia

It is inexpedient at this time to open a school at Barcroft as we have a capable teacher at Glen Carlyn, Virginia."

Most of the children in need of schooling were under the age of seven and to reach the Glen Carlyn School it would require that they walk along the railroad track, a distance of over a mile, or three miles over dirt roads. There was no transportation. The Board's action was immediately protested by the Barcroft residents. On October 19, 1907, the Board instructed Mr. C. B. Munson, Chairman of Arlington District of the Board, to look into the matter and see what the expenses would be to maintain a school at Barcroft.

At a Regular Meeting of the Board on November 30, 1907, it was reported that those present were Chairman, C. B. Munson, Ralph Baldwin, William A. B. McPhea, Clerk, Mr. S. P. Wright, Mrs. Amy Fairfax and Miss Lucy Lynn. A letter had been filed from the Barcroft citizens stating that Mrs. Amy Fairfax had been contacted and had consented to rent a room in her home for \$10.00 per month for a school. She further agreed to accept employment as a teacher and to provide janitor service for \$25.00 per month until January 30, 1908. On the same date Mrs. Fairfax was entered on the payroll. On January 25, 1908, the minutes note the following:

"Mrs. Amy Fairfax is elected to teach at Barcroft as Teacher the balance of the school year, 1907-08."

Pupils in that first class taught by Mrs. Amy Fairfax were Carol, son of W. W. Wright; Paul and Adalyne, children of Sidney T. Marye; and Edith, daughter of Amy Fairfax, all of the Barcroft Subdivision. A group of at least ten was required for approval as a school. Thus, to these were added Pauline, daughter of Sheriff Palmer; Percy and Charles Tillett, children of a Mill worker; Beulah and Damon Loveless, children of a railroad worker; and Dorothy Payne, related to the Barcrofts.

On May 23, 1908, Lots 3 and 4, Block D, adjoining the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fairfax, were purchased by Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barcroft. During the summer months, residents of Barcroft affiliated with the Arlington Methodist Church and others interested, joined in erecting a small one-room frame Church on a stone foundation. Work on the structure was done lovingly and reverently, even to equipping the little building with mullioned windows, rounded at the top like those of a church. Plans for such a project had begun about 1904 and many fund-raising affairs had been held in the community toward that end. Much more would be needed to keep the church a going concern.

Sales of new homes increased in 1908. During the summer, while the Church was under construction, parents and the School Board learned that Mrs. Fairfax would be unable to teach during the next term and that her home would not be available. Among applications received to teach was

that of Miss Beulah Adams of Hunter Station in Fairfax County. On October 3, 1908, a letter was read at the School Board Meeting from Mr. Sidney T. Marye, Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barcroft, accepting the terms of the School Board for rent of the Church Building for school purposes at \$10.00 per month. This agreement was approved by the Board and it was ordered that Mr. Marye be notified. On November 8, 1908, Miss Beulah Adams was accepted by the Board as Substitute Teacher at Barcroft. She remained to teach for the full term, the first in the new building.

On September 17, 1909, although contracts had not been made, Miss Adams was ordered to teach at Clarendon, and a new applicant, Miss Margaret P. Handy, was ordered to report as teacher at Barcroft, and their names were placed on the payroll.

Miss Handy, living with her parents, Major and Mrs. F. A. G. Handy, who purchased their home on Arlington Avenue at Fairfax Street in April 1908, thus became the second to teach in the Barcroft School. Her brother, Frederick C. Handy, had purchased a home the same month, adjoining Mr. Marye, and her brother, Walter K. Handy, purchased the home adjoining his father, but facing on Glen Avenue, in July of that year. Pupils and teacher of that term recall a disastrous storm which ripped off a goodly portion of the School roof.

Until repairs could be made, school was held for some time in a nearby home.

The school which began with ten First and Second Graders grew gradually with, eventually, seven Grades in one room. More space and the assistance of a second teacher became necessary. By 1913 a small second room was added in the rear of the original structure. School Board records show that two teachers were regularly employed to teach at Barcroft from December 1913 to 1925, when the School was closed in June.

Oil lamps, hung from the beams, were first used in the Community House, as they were in private homes. In 1912, spurred by efforts of Walter K. Handy, a Petition of fourteen residents was presented requesting that poles be added to extend electric lines from Columbia to Barcroft. In 1913, he with the help of his brothers and neighbors wired those first fourteen homes as well as The Community House.

The "Citizens Association of Barcroft" of 1907 evolved into "The Barcroft School and Civic League" in 1908 at the time the new Church Building was occupied and known as "The Barcroft School House". Untranscribed Minutes of early meetings exist, taken in Pittman Shorthand by Major Handy, a Congressional Correspondent, prior to his death in 1912. In 1914, The Barcroft School and Civic League

obtained State Certification of Incorporation. On August 21, 1914, the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barcroft sold the building on Lots 3 and 4, Block D, Barcroft, Virginia, to The Barcroft School and Civic League.

The original roof with its wooden shingles, a dangerous fire hazard, was replaced in 1926. At that time, too, the front stoop, or small porch, was repaired and a small, protective porch roof was added. Excavating under the original room provided space to install a furnace, replacing the pot-bellied stoves that had provided heat up to that time. Plumbing was installed in 1937 when facilities were added in the basement to replace the cold little "Chick-Sale" house that had long occupied a corner of the back yard. At that time, also, a new ceiling was installed, adding to summer and winter comfort. Originally, the space above the huge cross-beams rose to a peak under the roof, the underside of which was covered with grooved panelling, matching the chair-rail height panelling around the lower part of the room.

The small room has lost some of its space since the stairway to the basement was installed there, and some furnace ducts were also run through it. The original larger room remains essentially the same.

Although originally planned as a Church, the Barcroft Congregation was not large enough to support a regular Minister. Reverend Pierpoint, Minister of the Arlington Methodist Church, assisted in the construction and served as Minister when he could spare the time. Over the years Bible Study groups met there, and many young students of the Episcopal Theological Seminary gained preaching experience and helped with young people's groups. Other Ministers who gave time and service were Maurice E. Derr and Lionel Capers, Episcopal; W. L. Purier, Baptist; D. E. Day, Methodist; and David Hicks, Congregationalist.

In addition to religious groups the Building has served as a meeting place for various organizations, among them:

- Boys Club
- Kiwanis Boys Band
- Camp Fire Girls
- Girl Scouts
- Rod and Reel Club
- South Arlington A.A.'s
- American Legion

Sponsored by the Barcroft School and Civic League, Community groups helped to raise funds for care of the Building by presenting home talent plays, card parties, social evenings, square dances, and lectures on subjects of interest. Young people had dances for which High School and College Bands played.

Through the years, The Barcroft School and Civic League has held its meetings at The Community House. Guest speakers are frequent visitors, coming from various Departments of the County or State Governments or from one of the many Organizations eager to offer information in our diversified area.

At least three members of the first class, held in the home of Mrs. Fairfax, still survive. Many present residents of Arlington and the nearby area attended school in the little building rented by the County from 1908 for seventeen years for use as a School.

The Barcroft Community House has served Barcroft and Arlington County well for Seventy-five years as a Church, a School, a Community gathering place, and as headquarters for The Barcroft School and Civic League. It is probably best and most lovingly remembered, however, by the many pupils who attended it as "The Barcroft School" where its dedicated teachers guided many young feet on the paths to education. It is believed to be the only original little one-room wooden School Building remaining in Arlington County.

References:

Alexandria/Arlington County Court Records.

Alexandria/Arlington County School Board Minutes and Payroll.

Mildred Handy Ritchie, "Barcroft, Arlington County, Virginia - A Village Metamorphosis", The Arlington Historical Magazine, October 1980, Vol 6 (corrected to 7), No. 4.

Grateful acknowledgement is offered for assistance, with information, of Mrs. Adalyne Marye Robertson and Mrs. Charlotte Maupin Manning.

11/10/82

Part of Home of James W. Heald
(From 1906 - ca. 1940), Columbia Pike
& So. Wakefield St., Barkscoft, Ark. Co.

Erected ca. 1904 by Stephen P. Wright
(Occupied by him about 2 years),
Developer of Barkscoft. For his
mother-in-law, Mrs. Abigail Foy.
(Negatives for reproduction available
from Mildred H. Ritchie.)





1975

Early homes remaining in
Barcroft.

Left: Home of Sidney Marye

Center: Home of Major Fred'k
A. G. Handy

Below: Barcroft School -
"The Community House"



Barcroft School - showing
white door - Taken by MAR 1975.
Borrowed 6/3/84 by Margt. Davis to
have copies made by N.P.S.



Above: Home of Walter K. Handy

Below: (Across from School)-
Home of Chrismon-
Roseberry-May (left)
Home of McRae-
Woodruff-Keeley
Beyond grove of
Walter Handy - Home
of Maj. F.A.G. Handy.



Barcroft, Arlington County, Virginia

A Village Metamorphosis

by

Mildred Handy Ritchie

Arlington Historical Society
Historic Arlington Days

2 pm - 5 pm
Civic Association Tour

Sunday, October 10

The civic associations listed below will hold Open House on Sunday, October 10, 1982, from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. They invite you to drop in any time during those hours. There is no charge. Many of their meeting places are historic buildings. The important role civic associations played in the development of Arlington is well described by the article by Beth Sundquist, excerpts from which are printed inside this program.

ALSO: on this date the Miniature Show at the Arlington Museum located in the Old Hume School Building, 1805 South Arlington Ridge Road will be open to the public. In addition to the entries by local enthusiasts on loan to the Museum will be the Arlington House doll house and one which belonged to Alice Roosevelt Longworth.

(Numbers beside the associations correspond with their location on the map on the back of the program.) OPEN THE PAGE.

1 NORTH HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION - Taft Street
Now that I66 is completed it can be reached from Lee Highway by Vietch Street to 21st Street and then to Taft. The Dawson-Bailey stone house where this association meets may be much older than the 1859 carved beneath a window.

2 WOMAN'S CLUB OF ASHTON HEIGHTS
On Irving Street just off Pershing Drive

3 BARCROFT CIVIC LEAGUE
Located on South Buchanan Street between Columbia Pike and Arlington Blvd. this community house has served the Barcroft neighborhood as a school, a church, and meeting house for 80 years.

4 GLEN CARLYN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Carlin Hall, located at 5711 South 4th Street, is the first community house built in Arlington.

5 MUSEUM 1805 South Arlington Ridge Road

BETH R. SUNDBQUIST, a valued member of the committee for The 18th Annual Historic Arlington Day died in April of 1982. Beth had worked in establishing the theme for this year's House Tour and her help is missed greatly. The following excerpts from an article Beth wrote for the Arlington Historical Magazine, October 1981, Vol. 7 No. 1, develops that theme.

ARLINGTON: CAPITAL REMNANT by Beth R. Sundquist

Arlington County's interest in preserving its historic landmarks came almost too late to save the few relics of its early life as a part of the ten-mile-square district set aside in 1791 to be the capital of the new nation. Its ten unique boundary marker stones, its twenty-two Civil War forts, and many of its notable houses were allowed to disappear or were bulldozed almost unnoticed as the rampant growth of the national government during and after two world wars spilled across the Potomac River and filled the tiny county's area with suburban homes.

Not until well into the Twentieth Century did Arlington approach any degree of mastery of its own fate.

As late as 1742, when Fairfax County was created, including the present-day Arlington County, the area was sparsely inhabited, isolated and forgotten on the banks of the Potomac River.

When the government was moved to the District in 1800, . . . No more than a thousand people lived north of Four Mile Run, the present Arlington County boundary, making their livings from farms and mills. . . .

Alexandria lobbied for retrocession, and in 1846 it was successful; . . . What is now Arlington was not receded to Fairfax County, but remained part of the New County of Alexandria. . . . But the county still bore the name of its sister city retaining the name of County of Alexandria.

In 1898, the county built its second courthouse on Ft. Myer Heights, the site of the present Arlington County Courthouse. . . . Finally, in 1920, the county gained its separate identity. It took a new name, borrowed from the Arlington Plantation, once the home of George Washington Parke Custis, whose daughter married Robert E. Lee in 1831. That mansion remains the county's most impressive landmark even with changing modern skyscraper silhouettes along the shore.

. . . Arlington was one of Washington's main suppliers of farm produce, and throughout most of the 19th century wagons crossed the bridges to the Saturday Farmers' markets in the growing city.

As transportation across the river improved, Arlington was gradually transformed from an agricultural hinterland into a residential suburb. . . .

Arlington's commercial and residential centers grew along the transportation corridors leading to the bridges . . . Lee Highway . . . Wilson Boulevard . . . Ball's Crossroad . . . Columbia Pike . . . Glebe Road . . . Little Falls Road . . . Military Road was just that, cut through in a matter of a few days when the Federal army was building the forts and line of forts across Arlington.

The forerunner of Arlington's many planned subdivisions was Glencarlynn, a cooperative of 360 houses centered on the site of a once popular resort--Carlin Springs--when it closed in 1888. . . . The . . . Railroad line

along Four Mile Run, which had served the recreation area, made it possible for the new suburban dwellers to get to jobs in the District with ease. A model for other developments that followed, Glencarlynn had its own parks, school and community center. The latter, a small frame structure survives today as one of Arlington's historic sites.

As electric rail lines were extended down the corridors from the Potomac bridges, other small self-sufficient neighborhoods appeared.

. . . those that developed along the corridors had strong identities, expressed in civic associations. Out of the local groups grew the Arlington County Civic Federation, which assumed the role of community watchdog and promoter of civic pride, particularly during the decades of rapid growth between 1940 and 1970, when the population expanded from 57,000 to 175,000. . . .

During its period of hectic growth, Arlington unfortunately paid little heed to the loss of its early landmarks. Not until 1956 was the Arlington Historical Society founded. It opened the old Hume School as its museum on Arlington Ridge Road. The Ball-Sellers House, one of the oldest in the county, was restored by the historical society.

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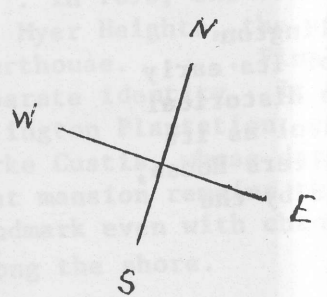
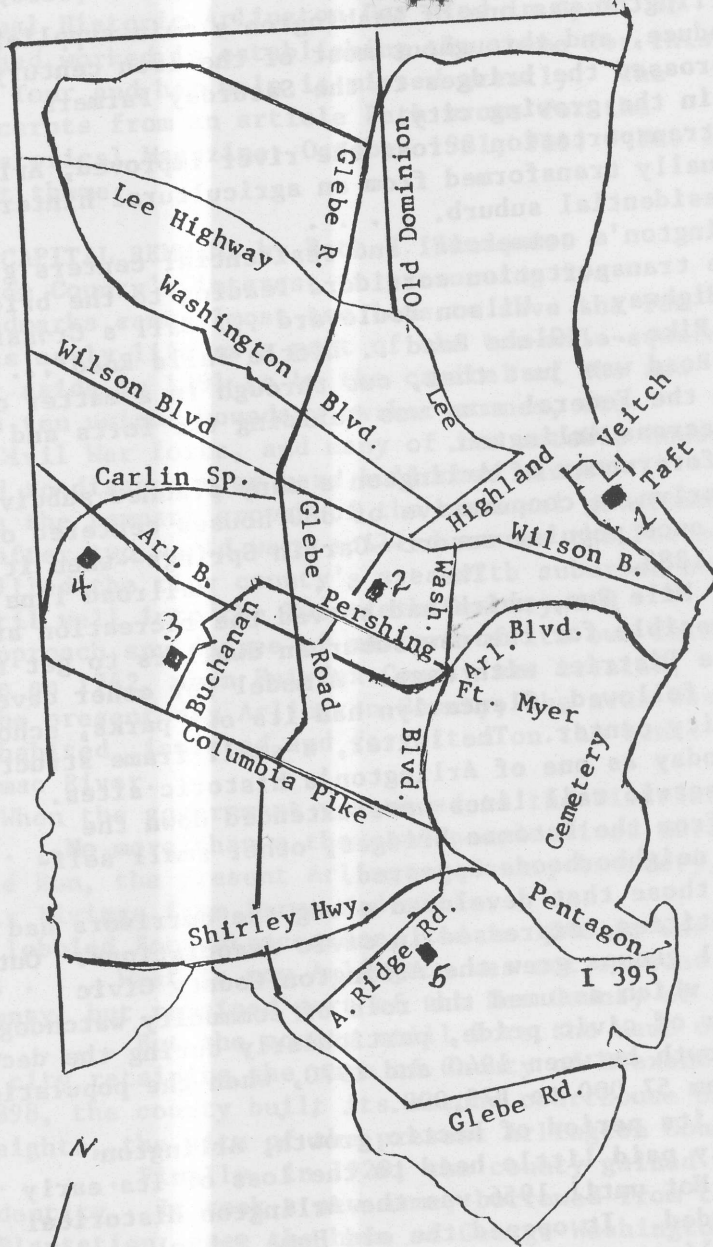
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BARCROFT NEWS

Vol. 12 No. 2

Oct., 1982

Tonie Copeland

Editor

892-6979

BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Pres: Donna Anderson

892-5939

Chairperson: Donna Anderson

BARCROFT NEWS

Vol. 11 No. 7

March 1982

BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE

Pres. Donna Anderson 892-5939
Vice Pres. Phyllis Kinsey 892-5962
Sec'y. William Peine 521-3821
Treas. Ira Belcher 892-6929

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Christopher, Anne Noll,
Phyllis Kinsey, Pauline Storey,
Donna Anderson, Chairman

MARCH MEETING: March 4th, 1982 7:30 p.m. at 800 S. Buchanan Street
Frankie Bradshaw of the County Manager's Office will speak on
"The Importance of Tourism to Arlington". This will be a slide
presentation accompanied by a lecture of interesting and surprising facts.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

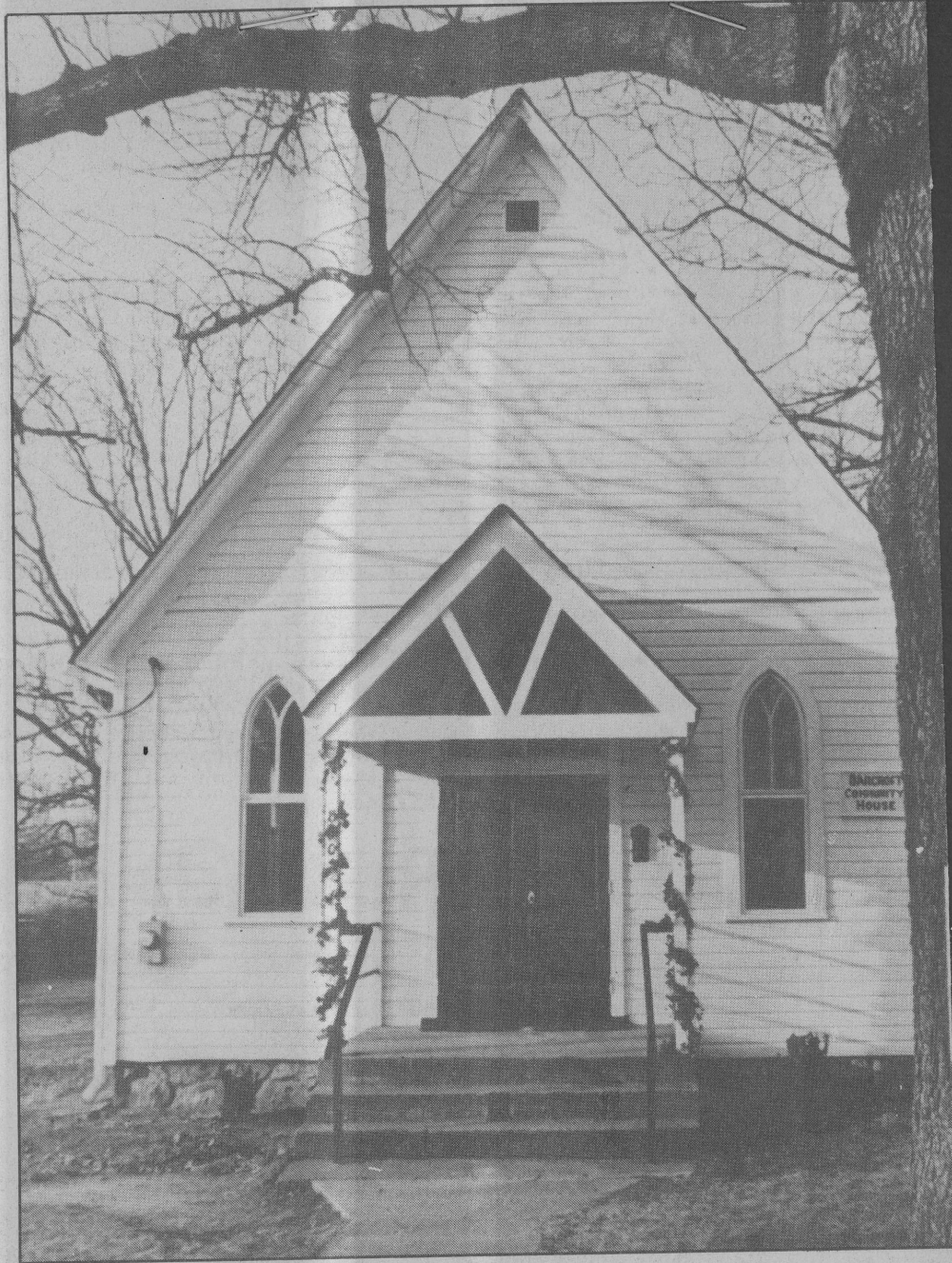
CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION COURSE

When: March 16, 17, 24, 31
Time: 7 - 10 p.m.
Where: Community House
800 S. Buchanan Street
Cost: \$ 5.00 per person -(inc. books)
Reservations must be made before March 5th.
Call Donna Anderson 892-5939
Phyllis Kinsey 892-5962

The Red Cross will provide the
instruction and materials for a minimum
of 6 persons

Mel Note
(postponed to May 6 mtg.)
APRIL MEETING: Start looking in your
photograph albums - attics - papers etc.
for things out of Barcroft's past. We
are planning a Show-And-Tell about
people, places, and things to enhance
the histories already written. Per-
haps this will lead to another project
of interest. Costumes of the era
would be appropriate attire, but not re-
quired that evening. This could be a
SUPER EVENT! Call Phyllis Kinsey if
you have something to share at this
meeting - 892-5962.

I am sorry so many members missed
an excellent presentation on pest control
last month. Slides were shown on the



"BARCROFT SCHOOL"

Erected 1907-08 with plans for use as a Church, This building was in use as the BARCROFT SCHOOL from 1908 to 1925, continuously. As a meeting place for the village, owned by the Barcroft School and Civic League, became known as Community House.

(Prepared by MHR as guideline for Ann Noll) Feb. 21, 1983

C O P Y

(Date)

Historic Affairs and Landmarks
Review Board of Arlington County
c/o Mrs. Sara Collins
1015 North Quincy Street
Arlington, Virginia 22205

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the History of The Barcroft Community House, under date of January 10, 1983, which was recently submitted to the Historic Affairs and Landmarks Review Board for consideration as an Historic Building worthy of Preservation.

The Barcroft School and Civic League, a Citizen's Association, is a duly constituted member of the Arlington County Civic Federation. It was organized about 1908 and has been in constant operation since that date. The original Certificate of Incorporation is dated June 8, 1914. On August 26, 1932, a Certificate of Incorporation for a Non-Stock Corporation of the Barcroft School and Civic League was granted. The organization elected some years ago to retain the full original name, "The Barcroft School and Civic League", for Historical purposes.

It is the earnest desire of The Barcroft School and Civic League that the Building of which it is the owner, known as "The Barcroft Community House" be placed on the National Register for Historic Preservation, and that it be so marked..

A location Map and recent photograph of the Building is attached for your information.

Your consideration will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
The Barcroft School and Civic League

25% COPY

By Michael Hardy Retchie

Bulgarian Church Finally Finds a Home

BY E. YODER
Staff Writer

unlikely marriage of Old and new immigrants.

St. George Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church is the most exotic date in one of the Barcroft historic buildings — a church owned by the Barcroft Association.

Building on South Buchanan which once served as an Army school, was built by immigrants in 1908. Its past included churches, and t and American Legion

very happy with the Building said Donna Anderson, which rents out the building. congregation moved in held its first service Dec.

ge broke off from a larger an-area Bulgarian church came under Communist control, according to Konstantin, president of the new church board.

Communist control was unacceptable. We are Americans," said Furness.

gregation, which includes regular members, was 70 years ago, he said. At a meeting in a chapel of All Saints Cathedral in Washington, members were looking for a way to own when they learned the association building might

members have immigrated

civic association building.

The congregation planned two Christmas services, Furness said — one Dec. 25 for the more Americanized members and a second Jan. 7, the traditional date of Christmas in Bulgaria.

"We had been feeling around for a new tenant," said Anderson, who cited "communications problems" as the reason for evicting the former tenant, St. Paul's Anglican Episcopal Church.

"We were quite shocked that they would tell us to go on such short notice," said Thomas Kleppinger, the Anglicans' minister. He admitted, though, that 30 days' notice was within the lease's terms.

The civic association has always stipulated to tenants that the building must be available to it for week-day meetings.

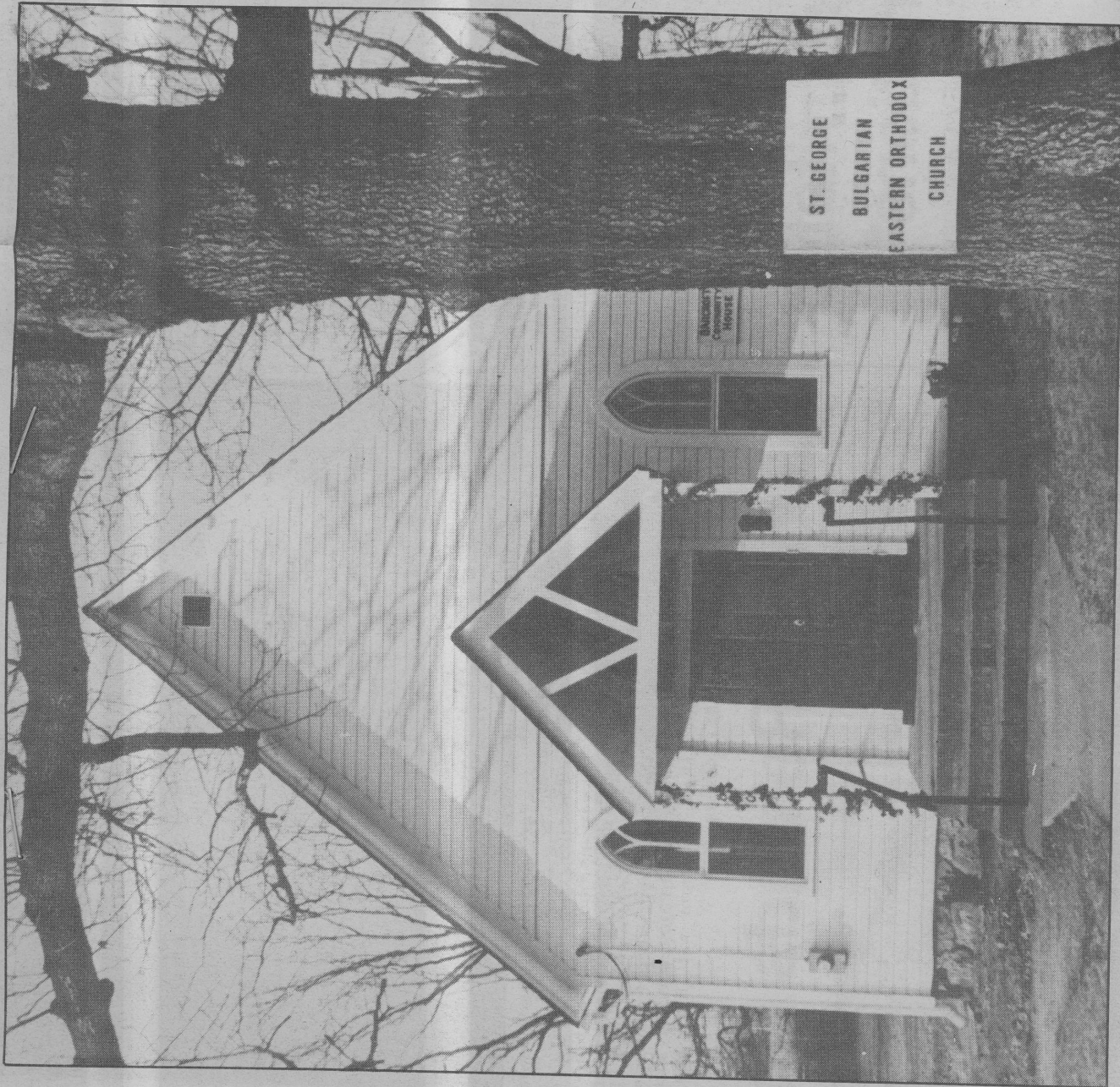
Anderson said the Anglicans "had not been cooperative" and that they were unable to shoulder utility bills, which had doubled in the past year.

Two groups wanted the building when St. Paul's moved out — the Bulgarians and a local Episcopal group seeking a home for its alcohol counseling service, said Anderson.

"Both groups looked very good, but our board of directors finally decided we would have better access ourselves with the Bulgarians." She said the Board voted unanimously to give them the lease.

So far the association has received no complaints about its choice, she said.

Furness foresees a happy marriage between his immigrant group and the historical building. "We are not a



St. George Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church: A home at last

Staff photo by Tracy Woodward

Doctors Run Piper



Possibly Res. of Frank Elwell 1876 Farmhouse of Sawright (Abby Fox) (Childrens Home)

18- Kell (Army) Bridges (Payne) (E)

Houseknecht Koch

Bullen

Pepper

Sleigh Riding on Palmers Hill

BB

S Billy Palmer (Brewer) (McCarton)

Esler Palmer (Palmer Pritchard)

Allen (Roberts) AA

Cart's (Kelly) KK

Kirschner (TAPP) IF

Adams (C. E. Mason) O

Berch

Updike P

2 (Crawley) (Woolerton) Z

Donnell (McAlister) KK

Vincent (Hazel) M

Manfield (Zylinski) RR

Sanford (Smith) U

Blanche

1914 (Harris) CC

Vining (Lowndes) FF

Mr. Burkee Daily (Malcolm) JJ

1890 (Freyd) WW

Hill (Head) XX

Path

190 (Hanna) (Lee) (Bridley) (Watts) DD

At Long to (School) YY

Bridges (Payne) HH

1908 (Fick) (Handy) FF

1908 (Harris) (Wright) BB

Pasture Rented by W.K. Henry

Peuterman PP

Swimming Hole of Skating

Grandma's Creek

Griggs (Patterson) NN

Garrett (Mason) EE

13 (Bridges) (Payne) HH

1908 (Harris) (Wright) BB

Handy (Baker) (GMB) CC

Blacksmith Shop

DAM

Four mile Run mill race

Path

1880 (A) Deck (Burckhart) (Payne)

Bridges Tom Burke

Howard Kling Tilt

Swimming Hole (Hankin) (Scanlon) (Friend) (Burt) RR

Our (H) Jeeman Farms TT

Hanson (Ma) Beach (Bridges) (Frank to Hill) (Chilby)

1900-1925 Cedar Hill - Barcroft "Corbett"

1st subdiv. - Platted Blocks ABCDEFGH - West of Spring St. (Now Wakefield) + East of F Grandma's Creek
2nd subdiv. Platted Blocks
3rd Added Blocks E of Spring St.

Home of a Negro family (Lee?)

MAP DRAWN BY MAPPED HANDY RITCHIE

Doctors Run

High Terrace

Possible Res. of Frank Kitchie Farmhouse of Sarah (Thompson) (Thompson) 1828

House Knucht Kohn

Bullen

Pipe

Sleigh Riding on Palmer's Hill

18-19-20
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1900-1925
"Cedar Hill" Barcroft
"Corbett"

1st subdiv. - Platted Blocks
A B C D E F G H - West of Springs St
(now Wakefield) East of Grandmas Creek
and subdiv. Re-platted blocks
3rd " Add'l Blocks of Springs St

Home of family
(Lee?)

Bridges
Kidd
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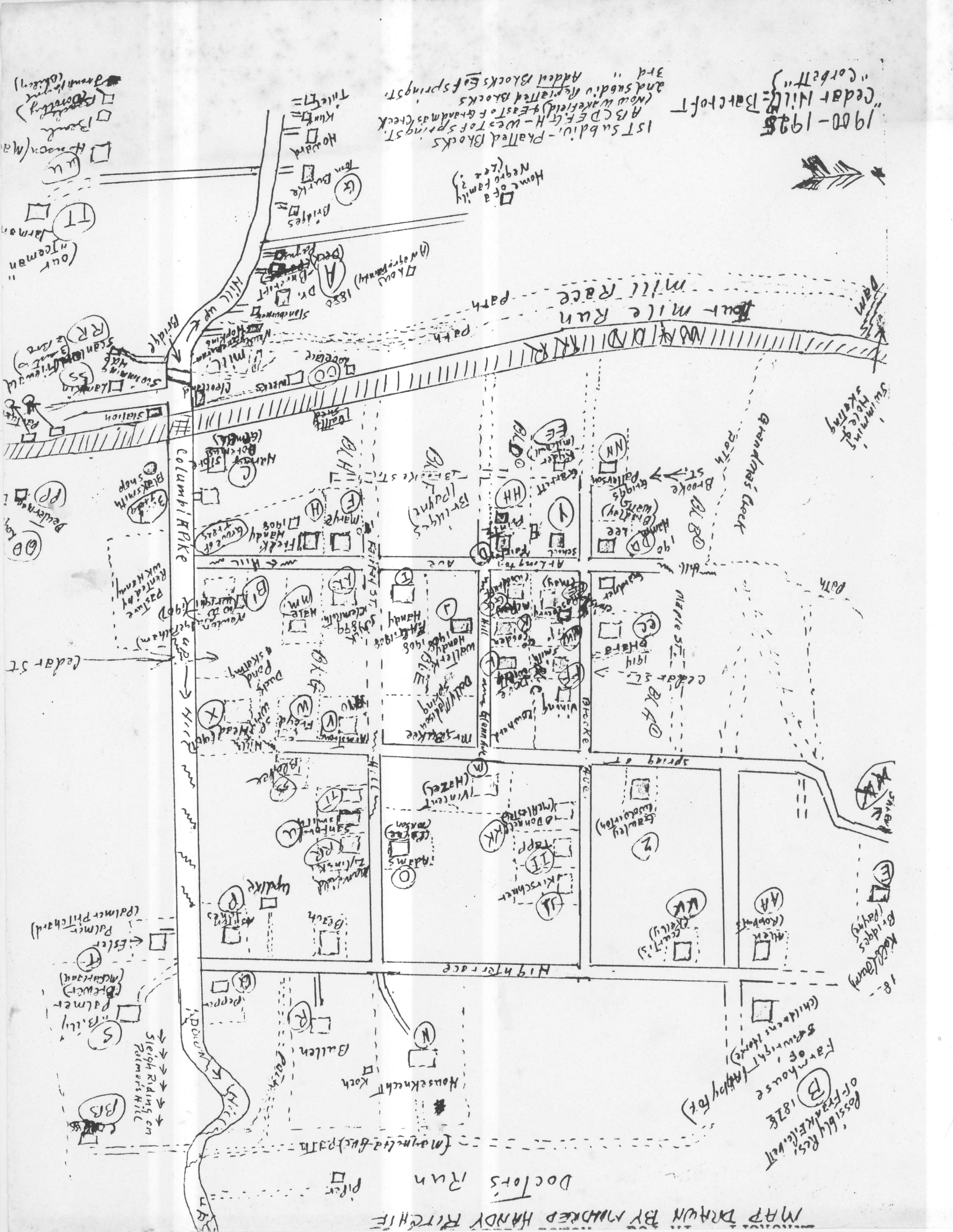
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Barcroft Association Older Than County

(Editors note: The County Board and Civic Federation have proclaimed April as Civic Month. The following article is another in a series prepared by Mrs. Alice Campbell describing the activities of the various member units of the Federation. Today's article is about the Barcroft School and Civic League).

The Barcroft community, first known as Arlington Heights, was among the earlier residential developments of the county.

In fact, the Barcroft School and Civic League was organized 49 years ago and is 14 years older than Arlington County. The area served by the League is bounded by Columbia Pike, the County line, Arlington Boulevard, and Doctor's Run.

The present community house at Eighth and Buchanan Streets, was built by the Rev. William Pierpont, a Methodist minister. It has been used by several religious faiths and church services are still held there every Sunday.

The building has also been used as a school since it was built. The first school in the community was started with 10 pupils in a small frame residence next door south of the community house and only recently torn down. The school was moved into the community house in 1908 and was continued there until 1925 when it was moved to the present site of the Barcroft elementary school. A kindergarten school among many other activities is still conducted in the community house.

Only one or two people in the community remember the earlier leaders in the organization of the League. Minutes of meetings prior to 1930 are lost or destroyed. Sidney T. Myre was chairman of the first board of trustees. Both Fred Handy, an attorney and his brother, Walter K. Handy, retired and still living in the community, was also active in the organization of the League.

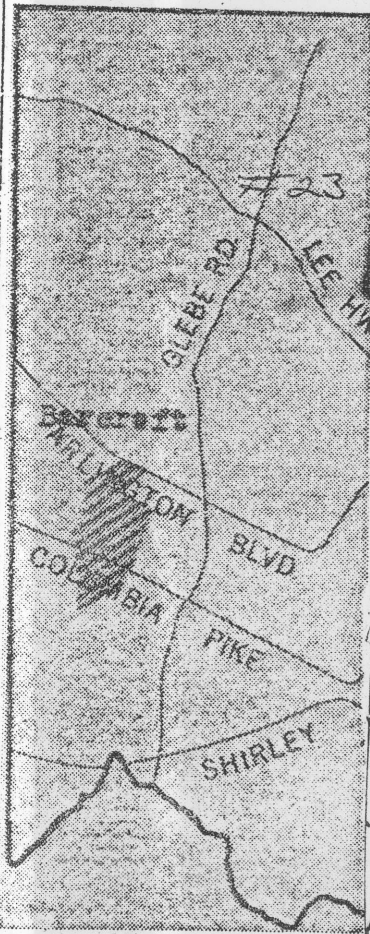
The long and dinteresting history of the League parallels the development of the county. Members were active in getting streets paved, street lights, water and

sewer lines installed. The League was active in 1933 in getting streets uniformly renamed. It is a charter member of the Arlington Civic Federation.

Members of the League pushed their efforts again in 1946 and 1947 in getting sidewalks, curbs and gutters throughout the community, the first installed by the county after World War II.

In more recent years the League bought and distributed white spore powder to fight the Japanese beetles, and led the fight against the heavy traffic and other nuisances created in the community by Arlington Hall Station.

Present officers are: Lance C. Hooks, president, Justus C. Ward, vice president, and Kirkley S. Coulter, secretary-treasurer.



1. Barcroft, first was a part of "Cedar Hill Farm" of Frank Corbett, its designation as Arlington Heights is not known.
2. The group of citizens requesting a school at Barcroft was termed Barcroft School Civic League by Stephen Wright, the developer, in 1907.
3. The portion of Washington D.C. lying in Virginia and known as Alexandria County, was returned to Virginia in 1857. The city of Alexandria within the County limits became an incorporated city in 1870, with its separate court system & government. The County Court Building was still in the town until a new building was erected at its present location near Wilson Blvd. in 1899. From that date much confusion existed between the governing bodies and powers of Alexandria County and Alexandria City - entirely separate entities. County citizens, tired of the confusion, voted in 1920 to rename the County of Alexandria. At that time it became Arlington County.
- Barcroft Community, had its beginning in 1892 as "Corbett", in Alexandria Co. It was renamed "Barcroft" in 1903, still in Alexandria Co., and of course has been in Arlington Co. since the change of name.
4. Residents of Barcroft who had attended the Methodist Church at Columbia Pike at (present) Walter Reed Dr., with the help and encouragement of Rev. Wm. Pierpont minister of the Arlington Meth. Ch., erected the present community house, intending to establish a church. It lacked a sufficient congregation for support. The lots were purchased May 24 1908.
5. The building erected during the summer months, it was offered to the County School Board and rented to the County from Nov 1908 to June 1925 as a school. The Barcroft School & Civic League, meeting there from its opening, purchased it from its Methodist trustees in 1914.
7. Sidney T. Myre

Myre 7.

Columbia Pike was one of the routes of march of Federal forces enroute to first battle of Bull Run, Manassas. Pres. Theodore Roosevelt traversed it on one of his long distance horseback rides.

The Scanlan Family may be worth mentioning: There were five children who never married. The girls were Miss Jennie, Miss Belle, and another girl--name not remembered--who was a cripple, and two boys, Henry and Edgar. They lived on a farm bordering the west side of Four Mile Run, and the southern of Columbia Pike. There was a great chestnut tree near Columbia Pike on Four Mile Run that the children and people used to gather chestnuts from. The lowlands along Four Mile Run were planted in crops and watermelons that local boys would occasionally raid. (Names not mentioned!)

The lot termed Park on the sub-division plat on the corner of Buchanan St. and Columbia Pike was a playground for the children and the grove of trees on the Handy property the site of lawn fetes of the community held during the summer.

The Martins were an old family who lived just to the rear of the Fairfax family. At the Community House, when they would hold dances, music was usually provided by those who could play the piano, and interestingly enough, the married men were always

2

interested in dancing with the younger girls and taught them what they knew about dance steps, and the wives taught the young boys. The young babies slept on the seats.

The Pattersons were a family who lived across from the Ryders. And Mrs. Watts, widow, and her children lived in the old Lee house, whose children's names were Andrew and Laura.

A family by the name Beech built and operated a little store across from O'Hara's. They had a son, Elmer, who clerked in the store for his father and ran it after his father's death.

Walter O'Hara, who developed north Barcroft, was anxious to get transportation to the area in order to expedite the sale of lots and houses he was building. He suggested the idea to Mr. and Mrs. May, and offered to buy them their buses and get them started if they would operate them for the community. Mr. May, formerly a motorcycle policeman attached to the White House, was then doing hauling, and his wife, who had been a trained nurse, agreed, and this was the beginning of the busline that later merged with others and became the A.B. & W. busline (Alexandria, Barcroft and Washington.)

The Miller family were an old family in Barcroft, who lived across from where the Mansfield and Trenary families lived.

The Blake family was an old family who lived across from the Armstrongs and Froyds.

The Pritchards lived at the top of Palmer's Hill. She had

63

been one of the Palmer girls and had been given the land by her father. They built the house, subsequently this property was aquired by her brother, Estler, where he lived for some years.

The Brassee family lived in Barcroft; also the Kirchners were also an old family. Had two girls, little boy was Bernie, another boy was Alexander who became an electrical contractor in Arlington.

The Prince family operated a store in the building just west of the railroad tracks west of Columbia Pike which had formerly been the warehouse for Perrow when he was building. Prince was also Postmaster. Afterwards, Richard Cleveland took over the store and operated it; then later he moved into the old Haring's store. Produce was sold by farmers raising it who would come around in their wagons, and meat was often supplied by George Ferguson, in a screened meat wagon that was followed by most of the dogs in the community. Milk was sold by people who had extra to sell. No pasteurization was required, of course.

At times when a fire would be set along the railroad near the school, the school would be let out so that the older children could help fight it. I remember doing that.

When the Post Office was discontinued, Vernon Lynch became the mail carrier for a number of years. ('til '32)

The only black family in the neighborhood was a family by the name of Low who had a small cabin near where the milled dam

was located, back in the woods.

When there was no high school in the county, children would walk from Barcroft to Columbia Pike and Fillmore Street where they would catch a trolley to Rosslyn, VA, then walk across Key Bridge, then up 35th Street to Western High School, and repeat the route in the evening. As a boy, I could catch rides on the milk trucks or other wagons which helped me get home earlier in the afternoons. My sisters, of course, did not have this option! They were not allowed to ride with these drivers.

MRS. A.M. ROBERTSON
902 S. Buchanan ST.
ARLINGTON, VA 22204

920-1948

Robey (M. iborne)	809 S. Buchanan ST.	✓ 23-036-001
Steigel / Mansfield Sellers	4406 - S. 9 th ST.	✓ 23-038-012
Cowles / Louisa	4701 - S. 8 th Road	✓ 23-036-013
Woolverton	701 S. Wakefield	✓ 23-022-002
Hazel / Vincent Campbell	819 - S. Wakefield	✓ 23-035-003
Wilson / Demik	4405 - S. 9 th ST.	✓ 23-035-019
? Bukey / Dove Davis	4713 S. 8 th Road	✓ 23-036-016
Kinchelow / Bucklin	4708 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-036-003
Roadhouse / Keys	4700 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-036-004 -036-004
Vining / White	4616 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-036-005
Kirshner / Wood	4318 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-035-008
Robberts / Melia	4303 S. 6 th ST.	✓ 23-013-023
<u>Siegel</u>	509 S. Taylor	✓ 23-014-001
Blake / Friedman	822 S. Taylor	✓ 23-035-014
Brasse / Pflug	4404 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-035-007
Nightengale	4301 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-022-020
Nelson	4620 S. 6 th ST.	✓ 23-023-007
Ohara	4705 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-024-015
Newman	4812 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-006-032
Marye	902 S. Buchanan	✓ 23-006-004
W.K. Handy	4712 S. 8 th Road	✓ 23-045-004
F.A. Handy / Shea	831 S. Buchanan	✓ 23-045-003
F.C. Handy / Augusta Trustee	910 S. Buchanan	✓ 23-006-003
Loutenheiser / Tapp	4500 S. 8 th ST.	✓ 23-035-006
Hale / Kennedy	4838 S. 9 th ST.	✓ 23-006-006
Maupin / Marines Ives	✓ 4508 S. 8 th ST.	23-035-005
House Knecht	902 S. Taylor	

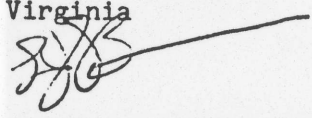
A. Robertson 2/27/91

BSCV
Copy

November 2, 1983

TO: The County Board of Arlington, Virginia

FROM: Larry J. Brown, County Manager



SUBJECT: Request to Advertise for the January 7, 1984 public hearing Historic District designations for four properties: 3550 Wilson Boulevard (Maury School); 800 South Buchanan Street (Barcroft Community House); 1005 South Quinn Street (Harry W. Gray House); 4527 17th Street, North (The Glebe House).

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize, on the Board's own motion, for a January 7, 1984 County Board public hearing, Historic District designations for 3550 Wilson Boulevard, 800 South Buchanan Street, 1005 South Quinn Street and 4527 17th Street North.

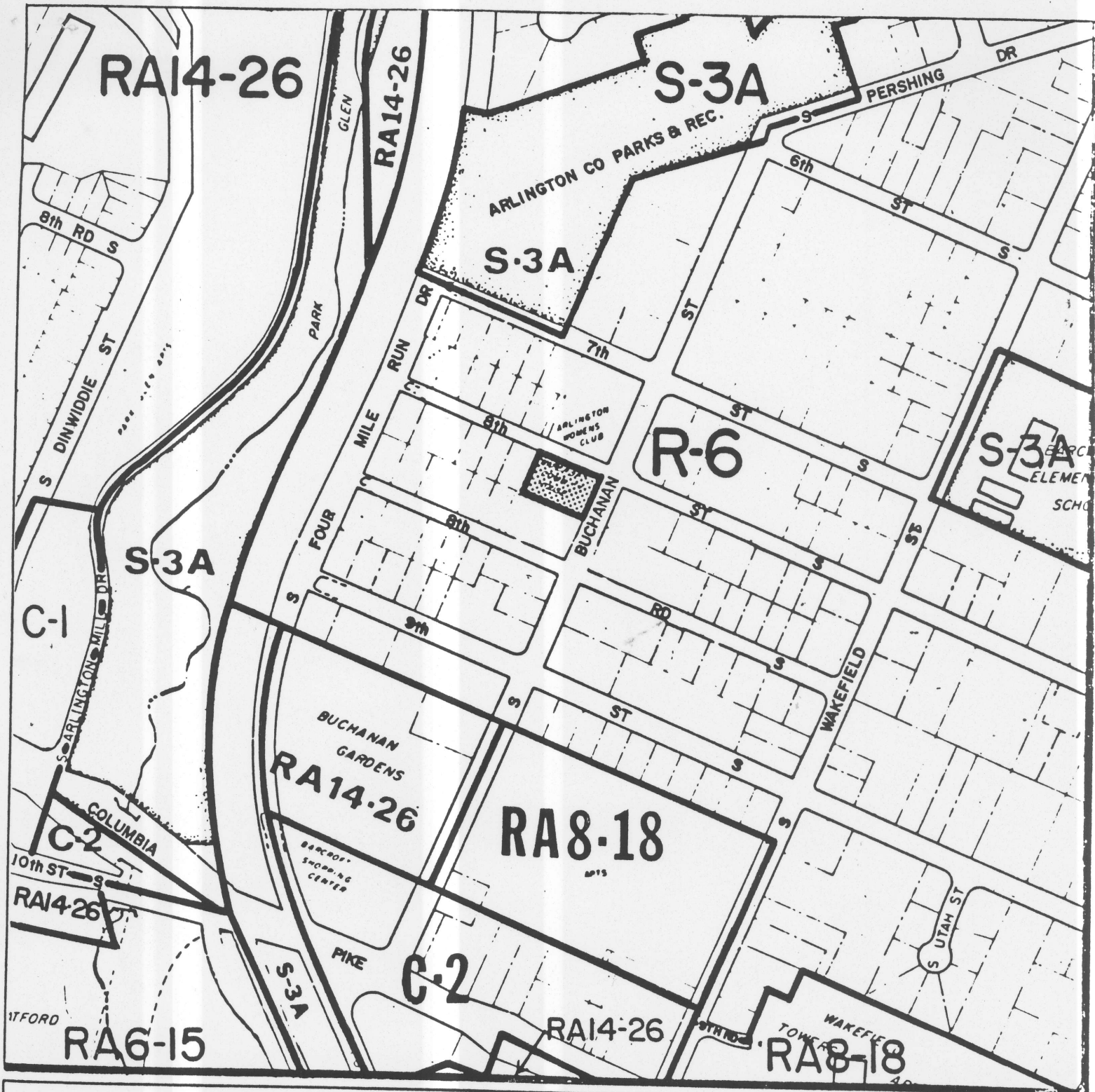
ISSUE: None

The Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB) has determined that currently four properties merit the historic district designation. At the review board's public hearing of July 6, 1983, the HALRB voted unanimously (10-0) to recommend historic district designation for properties at 3550 Wilson Boulevard, 800 South Buchanan Street and 1005 South Quinn Street. The HALRB held a public hearing on September 14, 1983 to consider historic district designation for 4527 17th Street, North (The Glebe House). At their regular meeting on September 21, 1983, the HALRB voted unanimously (12-0) to seek historic district designation for 4527 17th Street, North. The four properties are described as follows:

1. 3550 Wilson Boulevard: The subject property includes the former Matthew Maury School Building (now the Arlington Arts Center) and Maury Park, a two-acre site. The subject property is owned by Arlington County. The property is currently zoned "S-3A" (Special District) and has a General Land Use Plan designation of "Public". The subject property is located within the Virginia Square Metro Station Area and the Ashton Heights Neighborhood Conservation Area. The request for historic district designation was initiated by staff of the Arlington Arts Center and the Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HD-111-83-1).
2. 800 South Buchanan Street: The subject property includes the Barcroft Community House and its 14,500 square foot lot. The subject property is owned by the Barcroft School and Civic League. The property is currently zoned "R-6" (One-Family Dwelling District) with a General Land Use Plan Designation of "Low" Residential (1-10 units per acre). The request for historic district designation was initiated by the owners of the property (HD-112-83-1)

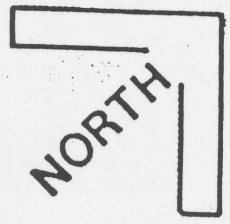
STAFF: Lynda Stanley, Comprehensive Planning

29y



Historic District
(Request to Advertise)

Barcroft Community House (HD-112-83-1)
800 S. Buchanan St.



1" = 300'
scale:



Photos by Ray Lustig—The Washington Post

Landmark Status Proposed for Homes

These two Arlington structures—the Gray House, right, at 1005 S. Quinn St. and the Barcroft Community House, above, at 800 S. Buchanan St.—have been proposed as Arlington County historical landmarks and are on the County Board's Saturday's agenda.

The Gray House was built in 1881 by Harry Gray, the son of slaves, and was the first red-brick town house in Arlington. The home has been in the Gray family until the last few years. It is still privately owned.

The Barcroft Community House was built in 1908 as a church and also served as a public school until 1925. It is no longer a church and is used as the meeting house for the Barcroft School and Civic League.

If the homes are designated historic districts, no exterior changes, other than repairs, can be made without approval of the landmark review board. The county has received no opposition to the proposal.





VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
SURVEY FORM

File no. 00-19
Negative no(s). 5653

Historic name Barcroft Community House	Common name AKA St. Paul's Episcopal Church
County/Town/City Arlington County	
Street address or route number 800 South Buchanan St., Arlington, Va. 22204	
USGS Quad Alexandria Quad	Date or period c1907
Original owner Barcroft School & Civic League	Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use School, Church, & Civic Center	
Present owner Barcroft School & Civic League	Source of name Barcroft Community
Present owner address 800 S. Buchanan St. Arlington, Va. 22204	Source of date Architectural evidence
Present use Community Center & Church	Stories 1 story
Acreage 14,500 sq. ft.	Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame wall construction.
	Roof type Asphalt shingle-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Structure and environs are in good condition.

State potential threats to structure
 Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

This high, one-story gable-roofed frame building derives its clean lines from the Vernacular Victorian style of architecture, popular during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and widely used in civic, educational, cultural, commercial, and religious buildings across rural America. Typically, the front door is located in the gable end, which faces the street. The entrance is sheltered by a small gable-roofed porch supported by square posts. The whole exterior is covered in channeled or German siding. The pointed-arch sliding sash windows on either side of the double-door entrance and along the (four bays long) north and south facades have tracery bars in the upper portion. The trim is plain and wide. The main hall rests on a stone foundation; while a two bays long frame addition rests on a concrete foundation. The property is fenced and the yard contains several old oak trees.

Interior inspected?

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

According to a published source, this building was constructed by the Barcroft School and Civic League about 1907 as a meeting place, school, and place where religious services could be held. Rental fees charged Arlington County for the building's use reportedly helped finance its construction. The building was used as a school until 1925 when...

Original use School, Church, & Civic Center

Present owner Barcroft School & Civic League

Present owner address 800 S. Buchanan St.
Arlington, Va. 22204

Present use Community Center & Church

Acreage 14,500 sq. ft.

Source of name Barcroft Community

Source of date Architectural evidence

Stories 1 story

Foundation and wall const'n Stone foundation; frame wall
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Roof type Asphalt shingle-covered gable roof.

State condition of structure and environs Structure and environs are in good condition.

State potential threats to structure
Note any archaeological interest

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

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Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

According to a published source, this building was constructed by the Barcroft School and Civic League about 1907 as a meeting place, school, and place where religious services could be held. Rental fees charged Arlington County for the building's use reportedly helped finance its construction. The building was used as a school until 1925 when Barcroft School was built.

The premises are apparently now shared between the Barcroft Community group and St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

ALBERT C. EISENBERG

January 25, 1984

Dear Mrs. Ritchie,

Thank you for your kind letter of support for the County Board's approval of my motion to establish the Bancroft Community House as a historic district.

I'm also delighted that you undertook the time-consuming task of moving this proposal through the process. So much of Arlington's heritage has been lost to the heavy pressures for urbanization in our County. I believe we must take a strong stand to preserve the historic places that remain - for they provide a link with our community's roots and help to shape our sense of identity as a community. You can be assured of my continuing strong support for historic preservation.

(over)

in Arlington County.

Thanks again for your thoughtful
words and excellent work.

Sincerely

Al Eisenberg,

Member

Arlington County Board

3205 North Pershing Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22201
January 16, 1984

Chairman and Members
Arlington County Board
Arlington County Courthouse
Arlington, Virginia 22216

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks for your consideration and approval on January 7, 1984, of my request that the Barcroft Community House, home of the Barcroft School and Civic League, be preserved as an Historical Area of the County. The tiny building, erected in 1908, was occupied as The Barcroft School of Arlington County with six grades for seventeen years. It is my hope that it, as well as others associated with our early heritage, will be included in the Register of the National Association for Preservation of Historic Landmarks.

Though our county is one of the smallest in the nation, there is much in which we can take pride. The Arlington County Board is to be commended for its careful protective guardianship of those areas of its heritage which would otherwise be lost forever to future generations in our fast growing community.

Sincerely yours,

Mildred Handy Ritchie
(Mrs. Don C. Ritchie)

3205 North Pershing Drive
Arlington, Virginia, 22201
January 16, 1984

Mildred Handy Ritchie

President, The Barcroft School
and Civic League
The Barcroft Community House
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear Sir,

I am deeply gratified to learn that the Arlington County Board on January 7, 1984, approved the designation of "Historic District" for the Barcroft Community House, thus placing it on the County's distinguished and elite list of buildings so honored for their preservation. It is my hope that it will eventually be included on the National Register for Historic Preservation.

My father, Walter K. Handy, and his brother, Frederick C. Handy, and my grandfather, Major F. A. G. Handy, were founding members of the Barcroft School and Civic League, and six children of the family were among students who received early training in the little building also known as The Barcroft School from its erection in 1908 to 1925. All have been proud of their association in the affairs of the community.

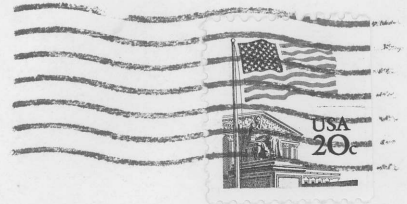
Over the years many fine people of the Barcroft community have worked through the Civic Association for the good of the area and of the County. In the care of interested and dedicated members may the Barcroft Community House continue to serve usefully and remain as a monument and example of diligence in our heritage.

Sincerely yours,

Mildred Handy Ritchie
(Mrs. Don C. Ritchie)

ALBERT C. EISENBERG
817 NORTH IRVING STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201

Recd. Feb 3, 84
Asst. Co. Board
Chairman
Re Basecroft



Mrs. Mildred Ritchie
3205 N. Peabody Dr.
Arlington, Va. 22201

RIT 05 200146C1 02/01/84

RITCHIE
2416 WRIGHT AVE '2 H T MOON
GREENSBORO NC 27403-1466

Chairman and Members
Arlington County Board
Arlington County Courthouse
Arlington, Va. 22216

File copies

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks to you for your ^{to the Arlington County Board} consideration and approval ^{on January 7, 1984,} of my request that the ^{and its grounds} Bancroft Community House, erected in 1908 ^{the building was} (and used ^{from that date} for seven term years as one of Arlington's earliest schools) be recorded as preserved as an Historical Area of the County. It is my hope that it, as well as other Historic Landmarks of Arlington County, will be included on the ^{national} Register of Historic Landmarks ^{as} worthy of Preservation. ^{our} County is one of the smallest in the nation. The Arlington County Board is to be commended for its careful ^{protection} consideration of those areas of its heritage which would otherwise be lost ^{forever} to future generations in our fast growing society.

11/6/84

I wish to express my appreciation and thanks for your consideration and approval on January 7, 1984, of my request that the Bancroft Community House, home of the Bancroft School and Civic League, be recorded as preserved as an Historical Area of the County. The ^{time} Building, erected in 1908, was, ^{occupied} from that date ^{with six grades} used as the Bancroft School of Arlington County for ^{seven} term years. It is my hope that it, as well as others associated with our early heritage, will be ^{national} included on the National Register of the Association for Preservation of National Historic Landmarks.

^{though} ^{our} County is one of the smallest in the nation, there is much in which we can take pride. The Arlington County Board is to be commended for its careful protective guardianship of those areas of its heritage which would otherwise be lost ^{forever} to future generations in our fast-growing ^{community} society.

Sincerely yours,
Mildred Handy Ritchie
(Mrs. Leon C. Ritchie)

(over)

✓ Letter to Sara Colman 11/17/84
✓ Addy Southerman 11/17/84
✓ Am Groel 1/15
✓ " Angelo Kinley 1/15
✓ " Bright & Board

11/17/84

Dear Sara, I have traveled to York Centre where I am
visiting my daughter, the Community Board's approval
of the Community Board's decision on the
provision of a day care center for the
parents of young children in the community.
I wish to express my appreciation to you and
the other members of the Community Board
for your part in this endeavor. I do not have
with me the reports of the progress of the
work on the day care center. I have
made known to them. I do not have the
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I have also traveled to York Centre where I am
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Jan 15, 1984

File Copies

Dear Phyllis -
news of the Board's approval on January 7th of the new Historic District designation for the Barcroft Community House has reached N.C. where I am visiting my daughter. I am pleased that it was accepted, and I hope the Barcroft School and Civic League will be also.

I would still like to find and examine some of those early minutes for Barcroft's early days. Hope to do so later if possible. Have had new eye problems this year which are most vexing but now have good doctors, both at home and here who have ^{been very} helped a great deal.

I want to thank you for your help and encouragement on the Barcroft project. It meant a great deal to me as well as to others.

Do you think a place could be found in the big room to hang the lamps you are preserving simply as a decoration and relic of the Building's early days? It seems to me it would be an interesting conversation piece to show off.

Hope you had a good Christmas.

The Barcroft School
President and Members of the
and Civic League,
The Barcroft Community House
800 South Buchanan St.
Arlington, Virginia 22204
Dear Sir,

1/16/84

I am deeply gratified to learn that the Arlington County Board on January 7, 1984, approved the designation of "Historic District" for The Barcroft Community House, thus placing it on the County's distinguished and elite list of Buildings so honored for their preservation. It is my hope that it will eventually be included on the National Register for Historic Preservation.

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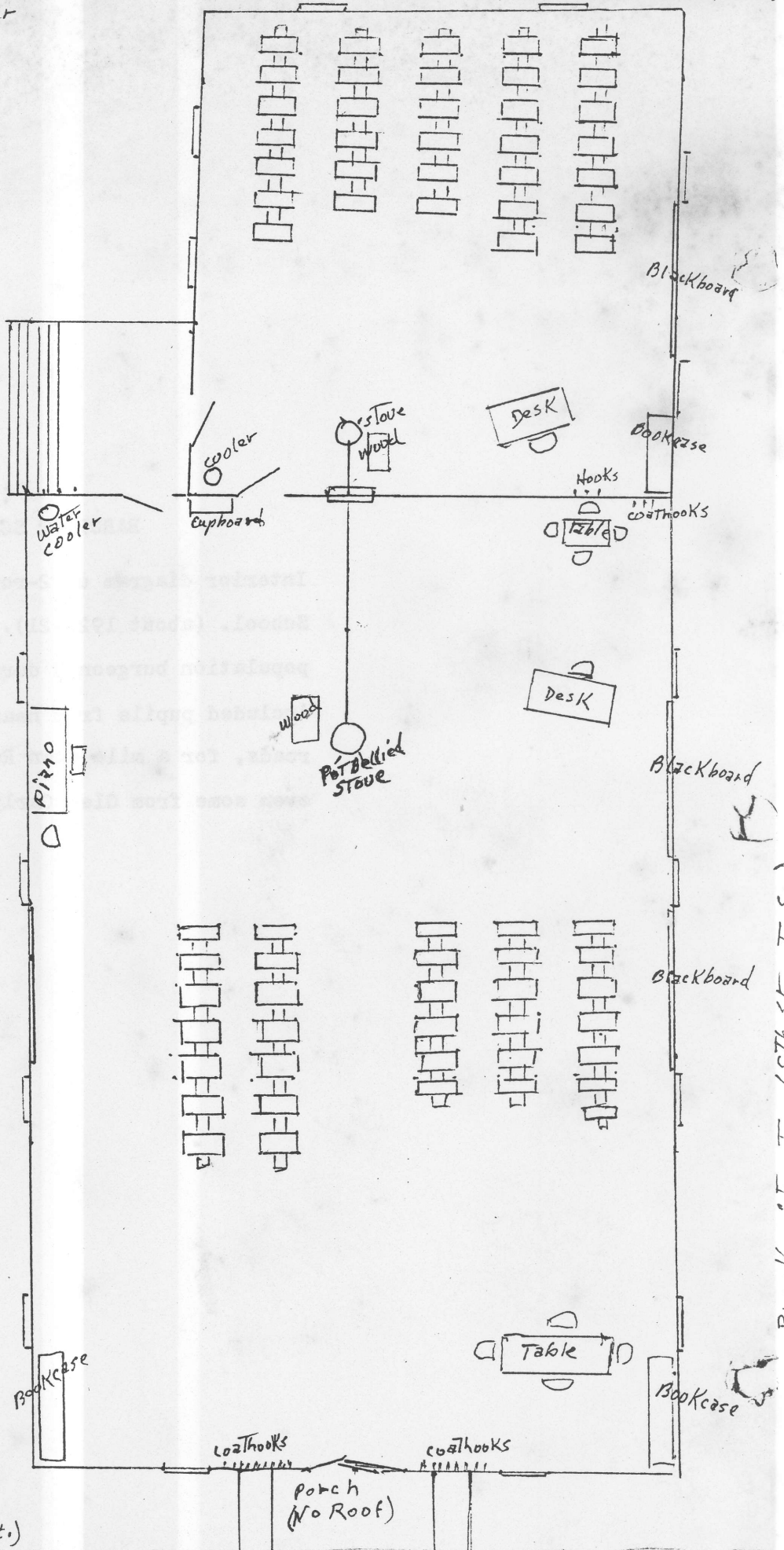
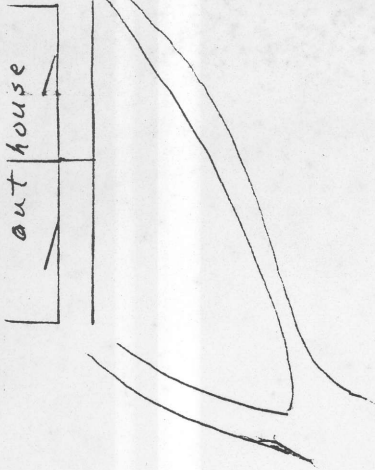
special guests made for me which he calls only a
 "stopgap contraption". They are strangely disturbing
 people are huge and everything looks like in going
 up hill. I don't know, since I can't see finally made
 the other things against it. I feel like I am among it's being
 I have rising much more our other things were
 was trying that so much. Hope something will be
 of those things. I feel like I have eye problems for
 let me to do it. I have had my glasses and am wearing
 the past year. I have had a good one and do have a long
 my last year.

1/15/84

Dear Ann:
 You had traveled to me in N.C. when I am visiting my
 daughter, of the County Board (opposite on Jan. 7th of the
 daughter of "The County Board" to the Board of Community
 Honor. I am happy that the students accepted and hope
 they will eventually regard that it be placed on the
 State and National Register for Preservation. I hope
 I hope, too, that the members of the Board of School
 and Local League, and members, are pleased with the
 organization. I hope you please on that the League and
 people receive my enclosed notes to them - so I do not have
 address with me for them.
 I have written to share the Board, and will also write Sara
 and Teddy for their help.

Please let Sarah have my much missed the Arthur
 wrote and hope I can get back to it - if there is any left.
 Added to my other problems, since the time I have had on
 infection of the side of the eye in which I have the contact. It is not
 contagious, but medication did not help for me with 20 years
 another eye. I hope that time was over. I have had a
 contact since September, could not see to read & could barely see people
 only a few feet away. I have been climbing the walls with tension!
 The reason I gave me the name of a my first Dr. I am who has
 been continuing treatment since my daughter - I've got me down
 the first of December. I no longer will and in fact had glasses
 made with a special lens, with the treatment today. I think
 allow me to read and see again. I have only a strength & vision.
 The call is a "stop-gap contraption". I have only about one kind of
 normal vision in the left eye which completely matters. I wish to
 have the contact removed also before long, but want the other to be fixed
 up. I hope you had a good Christmas.
 I'm afraid a lot more.
 I hope you had a good Christmas.
 I hope you had a good Christmas.
 I hope you had a good Christmas.

Line of Rider



BACROFT
School
 ca. 1920-21
 Six Grades
 (Three Per Room)

Line of Mrs. Fairfax

Arlington Ave (Buchanan St.)

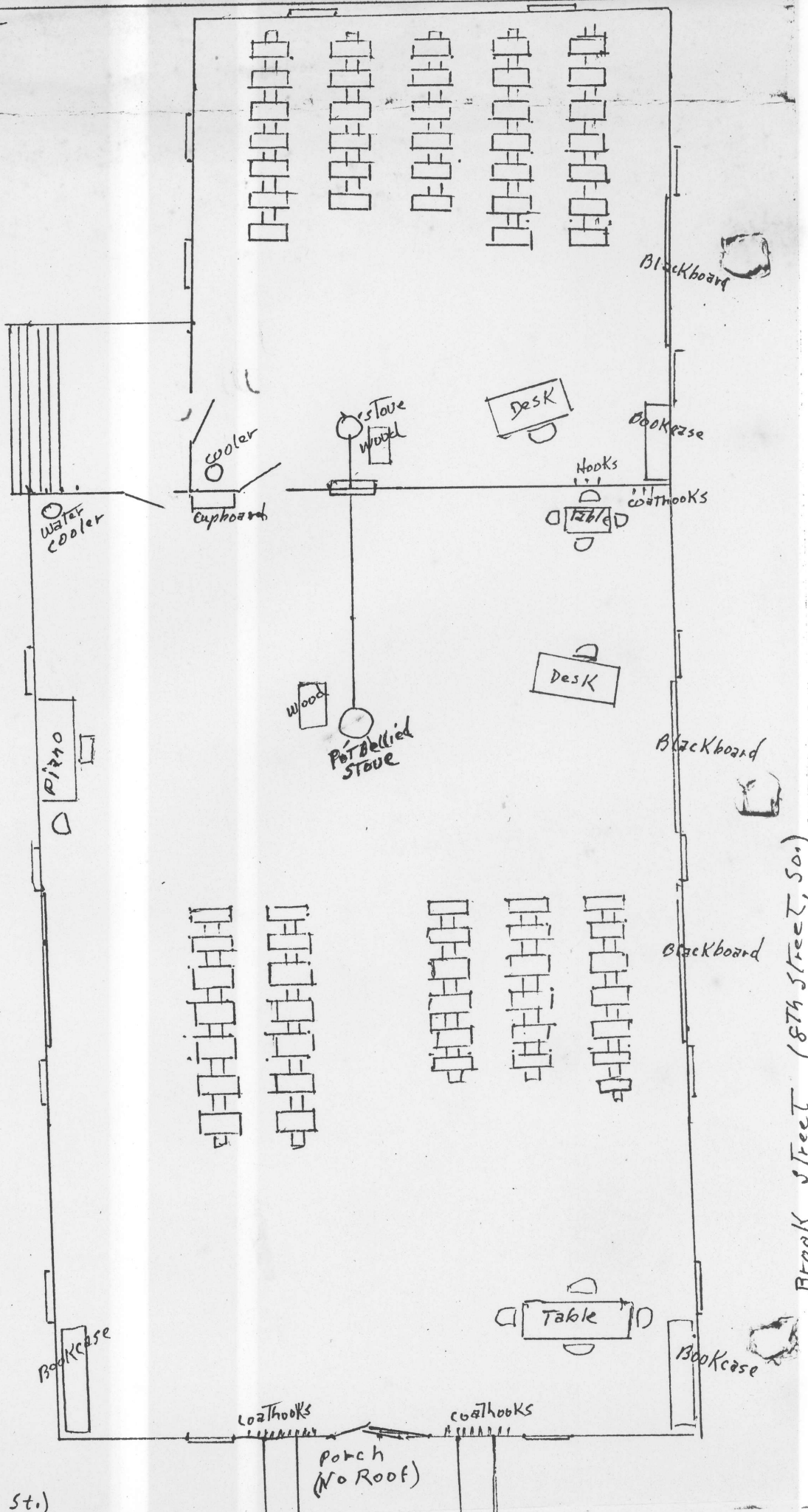
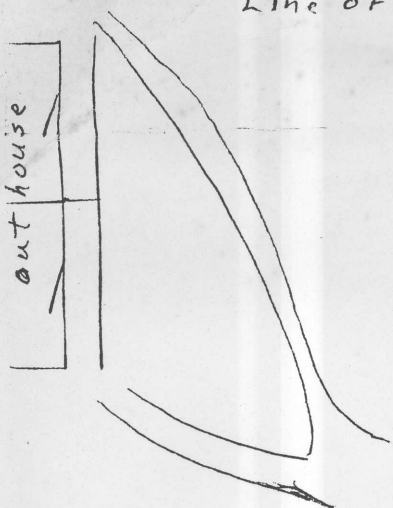
PLAN OF BACROFT SCHOOL

BARCROFT SCHOOL

Interior diagram of 2-room Barcroft School. (about 1920-21). Student population burgeoned during World War I, included pupils from near Baileys Crossroads, for a mile down Railroad, and even some from Glen Carlyn. (About 55-60)

Line of Rider

out house



Bancroft
School
ca. 1920-21
Six Grades
(Three Per Room)

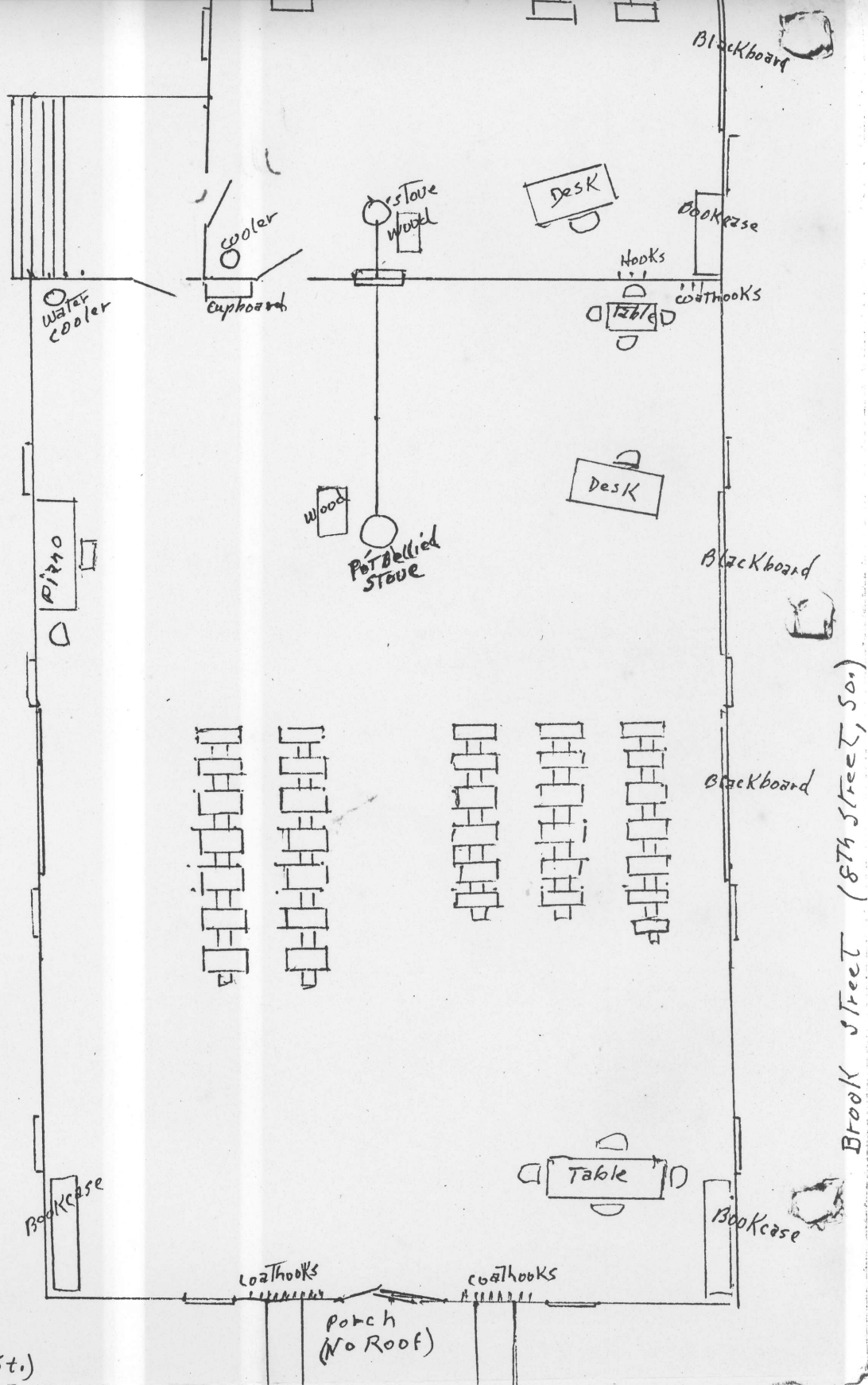
Line of Mrs. Fairfax

Brook Street (8th Street, So.)

Arkington Ave (Buchanan St.)

Line of Mrs. Fairfax

Barcroft School
ca. 1920-21
Six Grades
(Three Per Room)



Brook Street (87th Street, So.)

Arkington Ave (Buchanan St.)

BARCROFT SCHOOL

Interior diagram of 2-room Barcroft School. (about 1920-21). Student population burgeoned during World War I, included pupils from near Baileys Crossroads, for a mile down Railroad, and

4712 South 8th Road
Arlington, Virginia 22204
May 6, 1988

Mr. Patrick Roach, President
Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear Mr. Roach:

It is with pleasure that we are presenting the Barcroft School and Civic League with 150 copies of the article, "BARCROFT, ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA: A VILLAGE METAMORPHOSIS" in memory of it's author, MILDRED HANDY RITCHIE.

This article, which gives an interesting account of the early history of Barcroft, has been reprinted from The Arlington Historical Magazine published by The Arlington Historical Society, October 1980, Vol. 6., No. 4.

Due to the limited supply of booklets, we suggest that members be limited to one copy per household.

Sincerely yours,

*A. Elizabeth Handy
Addeline Marye Robertson*

Enclosures: 150 Booklets

5/39/99
BARRY
Notes

From ADDALINE & Me

Another 100+ booklets were
reprinted by us & given to the then
President in 1998 (I believe was the date)
?

AED

(1st Copies Tan)
(2nd "Green)

Maybe these could be sold at a
nominal price to help the Community House fund
Bitty

4712 South 8th Road
Arlington, Virginia 22204
May 6, 1988

Mr. Patrick Roach, President
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Sincerely yours,

A. Elizabeth Handy
Adeline Marye Robertson

Enclosures: 150 Booklets

Barcroft School and Civic League

8TH AND BUCHANAN STREETS, SOUTH
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204

June, 1988

Dear Members:

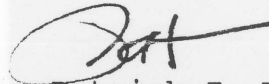
Through the generosity of two longtime ^{Robinson} Barcroft residents, Elizabeth Handy and Adaline Marye Robinson, we have been provided with reprints of an article on the early history of the Barcroft neighborhood. I hope you will keep and enjoy your copy, which is enclosed.

The article was written by Elizabeth Handy's sister, Mildred Handy Ritchie, and first appeared in the Arlington Historical Society's magazine in October, 1980. It provides a fascinating glimpse into a time when our neighborhood was a small settlement along Columbia Pike, surrounded by forest, with its own water-driven mill, tiny train station, and one-room school (the current Barcroft Community House).

I'm sure both old and new Barcroft residents will appreciate this gift, and join me in thanking Miss Handy and Mrs. Robinson.

Robinson

Very truly yours,



Patrick J. Roach
President

5/30/89
Roach

Note: When my sister mentions "Mr Handy" (without his full name) - she is referring to my father, Walter L. Handy. When she mentions "Mr Marye" she is referring to Adaline's father, Sidney. (Betty)

4712 L. 8th Rd

Arlington, Va
22204

Mrs Phyllis Johnson
Publications Sales Club

Arlington Historical Soc. (212518)

PO Box 412 - Arlington, VA
22201

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Please send me a copy of
the October 1980
} Vol 6 - 704 publication
issued by the Arlington
Historical Society, Inc.

It includes an article by
my sister Mildred Hardy Ritchie
about "Barcroft" where we
both grew up. In her memory,
some friends & I plan to have
the article reprinted & given
to members of the Barcroft
School & Civic League. My sister
was also instrumental in having
our Barcroft Community House

placed on the Historical Register.
Our father, Walter H. Handy
& my grand father moved to
Barroze in 1908 and were
Charter members of the Barroze
Civic League.

Although I have a copy of the
Dec 1980 issue, I want to be
sure I have a clear copy
for reprinting.

I am obtaining permission
for the reprinting.

Enclosed is my check for
\$4.00 + 4 1/2% tax + 1.50 postage
totaling \$5.68. Let me know
if I owe more.

Thank you. Sincerely,
Elizabeth Handy

William Armstrong was the oldest child of a family whose home was a large
clayboard house at present (1954) South Wakefield and Ninth St (S.W. corner),
next to that on the South. lived the Floyd family, home on 8th Street,
Doré and Donald ^{McLoughlin} (in and they) lived in a house on 8th Street,
east of Wakefield, later occupied by the ~~Stoutman~~ and ~~Hanning families~~.
In the Second row, Ruth Housenricht, whose name was later ~~changed~~ to
Baron of T. It overlooked the valley of the creek. Mildred Handy lived
on Glen Avenue, now Eighth Road, South, between South Wakefield and Buchanan
streets. Her house faces on Eighth Road. Her father owned all but two lots of
the north side of the block and her grandfather, in the lower frame
west on Buchanan, owned the South half of the block. J. Louise Dowd
lived on Columbia Pike in a home high above ^{the Pike} on a bank, about where
Magnolia ^{apartments} spreads over the hillside. Marion Howard, a cousin
(Third row) lived next door to her near the Fairfax County line & Barley's
crossroads. Third Row, the youngest child and daughter in a family with
Kathryn Rider, Third Row, the youngest child and daughter in a family with
three brothers lived in the house on Eighth Street adjoining the
of the school house grounds. (next is Marion Howard). Evelyn ^{Agilinsky}, top of hill
daughter of an Army officer lived on ~~Agil~~ Street, South side, ^{about 200}
halfway between Taylor & Wakefield streets. (name of next child?) Broadcross Street,
Mildred Handy, daughter of Walter R. Handy, and Ruth Housenricht, starting
to school together. The same day, were friends & playmates. Brown hair, parted
sixth grade when they separated to go to different schools. Long hair, parted
& plaited with "pig tails" turned under & tied with a high bow on each side,
was popular for little girls then, so were long-waisted dresses & high-topped
button or ~~lace~~ shoes, and long back stockings.



Back Porch of Barcroft School (Community House) 1917 (Spring). Shows separate doors for each room - necessary for children to reach outdoor which stood in S.W. corner of school yard. Water-cooler on corner of porch had to be filled each morning from near by neighbor's well pump. In winter cooler was inside to keep it from freezing. In spring & fall it was outside.

Lola, Gladys & Broaddus Shreve lived in a large old white clapboard house then at what is now (1984) So. Pershing Drive at Arlington Boulevard. There were 6 or 7 children in the family (others younger than these three). About 1918 the house burned to the ground & the family was destitute. The neighborhood supplied clothing & furniture & the family lived in the remodeled chicken house for several years. The old house was said to have been closed within 15 walls an old log cabin home of an early settler. A new, larger house was erected on the old foundation about 1922 after the property was sold. That was eventually covered with a rock siding. It had become the home of the Jeffersons after the tourist home of Mrs. Smith, now the location of many townhouses.

3rd Row: Katherine Rider, Marion Howard, Evelyn Zylinisky, Broaddus Shreve
 Mc Donald

2nd Row: Ruth Houseknecht, Florence Howard, Mildred Handy, Gladys Shreve, Donald ~~Broaddus~~
 Mc Donald

1st Row: Lola Shreve, William Armstrong, Lawrence Floyd, Lottie ~~Broaddus~~
 Mc Donald

[Pic. of Sil. - in color, taken 1975 } To be returned
 " of Sil. w/ old car in front of Sch. } She has not had them done yet.

called Margaret Davis 7/28 to ask about them.

2830 North Westmoreland Street
Arlington, Virginia 22213
February 24, 1988

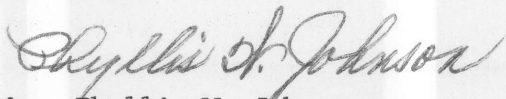
Miss Elizabeth Handy
4712 - 8th Road, South
Arlington, VA 22204

Dear Miss Handy:

I have composed a statement for you to type on Page 39 of Mildred's article before having it reprinted. You may also, if you wish, blank out the page numbers. We are happy to grant permission for this reprinting.

This article appeared in THE ARLINGTON HISTORICAL MAGAZINE, Vol. 6, No. 4 (October 1980), published by The Arlington Historical Society, Inc. Permission to reprint is granted by the Society.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Phyllis W. Johnson

Barcroft School and Civic League

8TH AND BUCHANAN STREETS, SOUTH
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204

July 26, 1984

Mrs. Mildred Ritchie
3205 N. Pershing Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22203

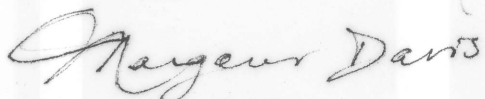
Dear Mildred:

We are ever so grateful to you for lending us the negatives from your collection which show the wooden steps which were part of the building when you were a girl. The prints will be used to design and install similar steps on the building, thereby serving a much needed function while restoring the site a little more to what it used to be.

The prints which you requested are enclosed as a small gift from the Barcroft School and Civil League in appreciation for your tireless assistance in collecting and preserving the history of the building and the community. The negatives are also returned herewith with our deepest appreciation.

Best wishes to you in your upcoming surgery, and a speedy recovery.

Sincerely,



Margaret T. Davis
Corresponding Secretary

Enclosures



1st Row: Robert James, William Armstrong, Lawrence Boyd, Lillian Smith (on the porch)
2nd Row: Ruth Doris Knecht (standing), Harold (standing), Lawrence Howard, Nicoletta Handl, Gladys Stone, Avelis Smith (on the porch)
3rd Row: Katherine Fisher, Marion Howard, Pauline Jackson
Back Row: Lillian Smith

Barcroft, Virginia - 1918

L.-R. Top Row: Katherine Ryder, Marion Howard, Evelyn Zylinski,
Middle Row:

Broaddus Shreve

Ruth Houseknecht, Florence Howard, Mildred Handy,
(Later Changed To House)

1st Row (Bottom): Lottie Shreve, William Armstrong, Lawrence Froyd, Lottie Smith

→ Gladys Shreve, Arnold Smith

Barcroft, Virginia - 1918

L.-R. Top Row: Katherine Ryder, Marion Howard, Evelyn Zylinski,
Middle Row: Ruth Houseknecht (changed to House), Florence Howard, Mildred Handy, Gladys Shreve, Arnold Smith
1st Row: ~~Lottie~~ Shreve, William Armstrong, Lawrence Froyd, Lottie Smith (or McDonald?)

Broaddus Shreve

→ Gladys Shreve, Arnold Smith
(or McDonald?)

(or McDonald?)







