

BARCROFT

A RESEARCH PROJECT FOR
HISTORY 693
"Historic Preservation"
Professor Ramirez
George Mason University

Barbara J. Perry
December 16, 1987

Barcroft is a quiet residential community with an intriguing history. But vital to its continual growth as a community, and vital to the maintenance of its reputation as a "friendly" community¹ is the realization that its story needs to be shared so that Barcroft can continue to make history. The ultimate purpose of this research is to stimulate community interest in Barcroft's history which in turn will hopefully aid Barcroft's active civic association's goal of neighborhood conservation.²

HISTORY

Early in the 1700's the area which is now Barcroft was owned by John Todd.³ Doctor Michael Dunghill (Dangill?)⁴ lived on Todd's land as Todd's tenant because most property owners did not live on the land they accumulated. "Doctor's Branch", a stream which ran just east of South George Mason Drive, was named for this doctor. Although there is no visible stream today where there once was, there is a small park across from Barcroft Apartments on South George Mason Drive named "Doctor's Branch". Doctor's Branch, the stream, was dammed up by a man named Piper to build a lake.⁵

With the continuum of time, George Washington obtained this tract of land along Four Mile Run. Some say George Washington adopted his grandson, George Washington Parke Custis, after John Parke Custis died. In any event, George Washington Parke Custis inherited the Four Mile Run tract from Washington. G.W.P. Custis also inherited one-third of the Abington estate his father had purchased. He built a home on this property and called it "Arlington". Mary Anne Randolph Custis married Robert E. Lee in 1831. She was the heiress to "Arlington" which meant Robert E. Lee would become executor (or master-but not owner) of the estate.

In 1836, George Washington Parke Custis built a grist mill on his tract of land at Four Mile Run and Columbia Pike. (Columbia Pike was chartered by Congress in 1808 to connect Washington, D.C. with Little River Turnpike. Because Columbia Pike was also a turnpike, tolls were charged for its use.) G.W.P. Custis died in 1857. According to C.B. Rose, Jr., the Custis grist mill was destroyed during an attack on a Federal outpost by a Confederate scouting party on June 2, 1861.⁶ Other sources say the mill was destroyed as the supposed property of Robert E. Lee, but to continue with the story Custis Lee inherited it from his Custis relatives.

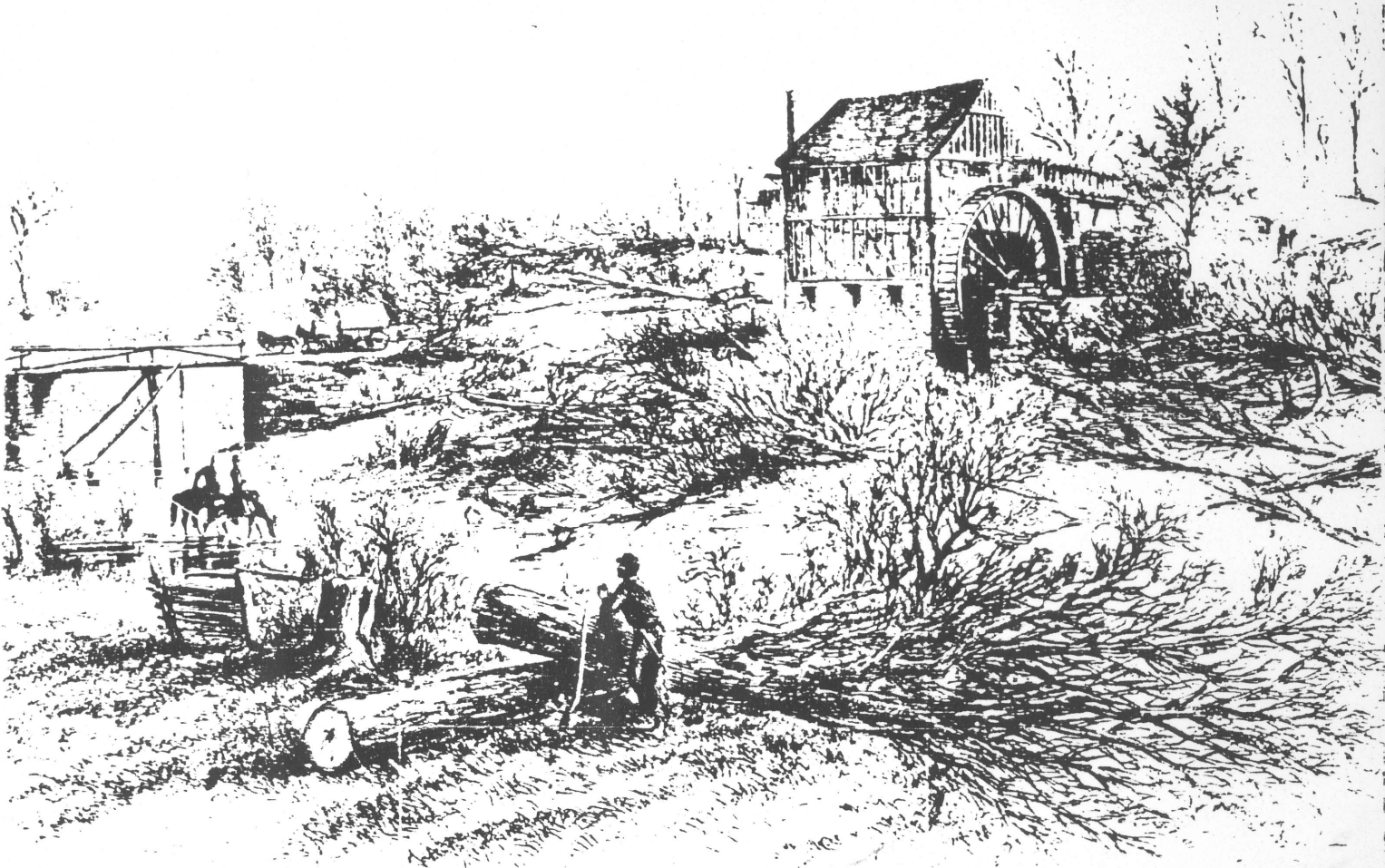
Dr. John W. Barcroft moved to Fairfax County, Virginia in 1849, where he built, owned and operated a mill approximately five miles from where the Custis mill was built.⁷ One can still see the effect of Barcroft's move to Fairfax County. Many things in Fairfax County along Columbia Pike bear his name: Lake Barcroft, Barcroft Plaza, Barcroft Plaza Apartments, Barcroft Terrace and Barcroft View Terrace. (The last two listed are street names.) During the Civil War, his mill was destroyed and Dr. Barcroft returned to his native New Jersey. He returned to Virginia after the Civil War and in 1880 he bought the Custis mill from Custis Lee. Barcroft built a new mill on the foundations of the Custis mill. Also, Barcroft built a house up the hill from the mill, north of Columbia Pike, between Greenbrier and Dinwiddie Streets.⁸ (A shopping plaza now replaces the Barcroft home.)⁹ The Barcroft home discussed above is west of Four Mile Run, outside the present Barcroft community boundary, but since it is the namesake's home it deserves mention. Barcroft operated the mill, but twice rented it out to a Mr. Newlon. In 1886, Barcroft built a home for Mr. Newlon, then operator of the mill.

The railroad had been established in Arlington County since 1850. The station (of the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad) at Barcroft was originally called Arlington Mill Station (1865), then Arlington Station (1900) and finally Barcroft Station (1903). The dates supplied here are taken from maps which the Arlington Central Library possess and copies of these maps are included in this report.

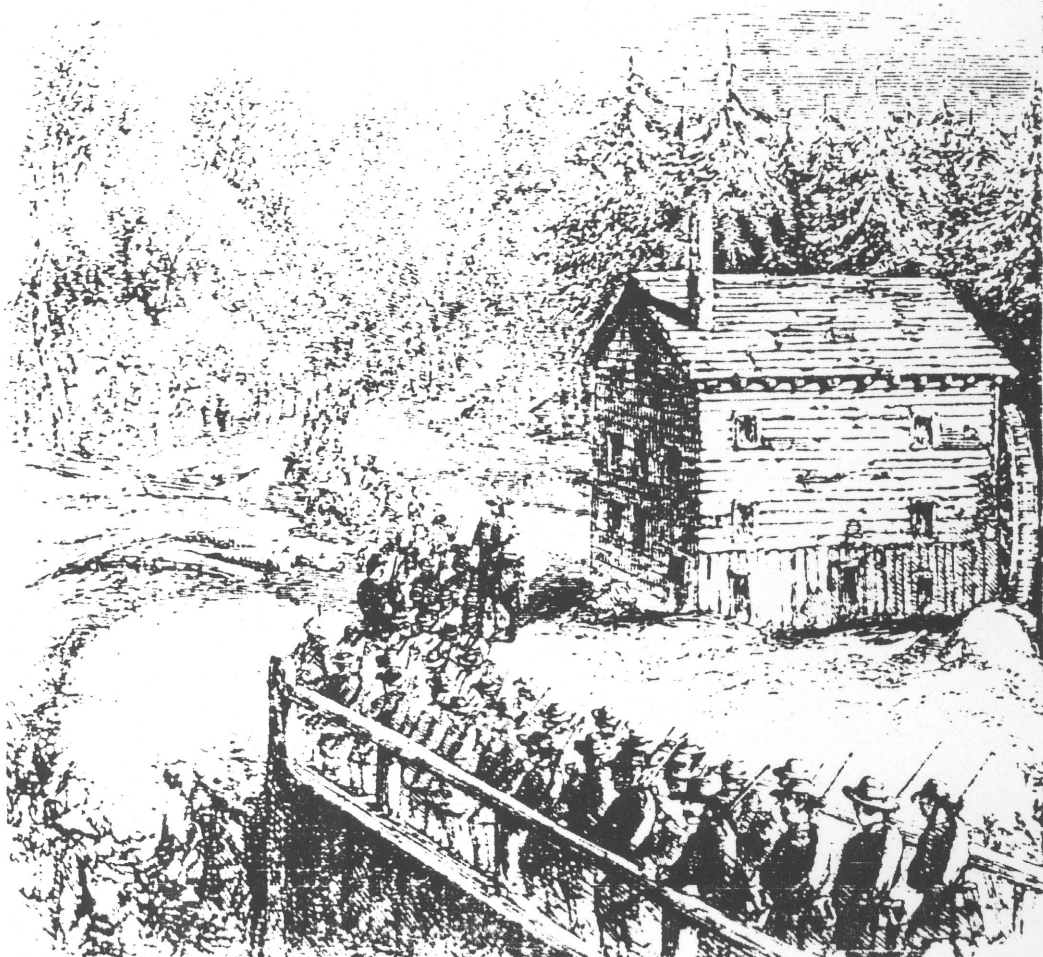
At this point, I would like to make some recommendations concerning the continued research of the history of Barcroft. First, one source far from exhausted is the Arlington Historical Magazine. This magazine contains several articles on Barcroft which I was unable to study in depth due to lack of time. The bibliographies and footnotes of the sources used in this report should be examined, for what one person did not utilize, another may see as a rounding-out element, a fact that may complete or polish (add finess to) the history.

Also, research should be conducted at the National Archives--especially for those families who had relatives whom worked for government agencies. While no information on particular people may appear in the original sources, one never knows what he may discover on a community, the agency itself, etc. and still be something that pertains to his research. Plus, any information discovered would be from primary sources instead of secondary sources. If one knows which government agency and the time period to be researched, the archivists can easily find the record groups that may be valuable to your research. The Department of Agriculture records at the National Archives could be researched for the year 1928 when Columbia Pike was concreted as a test program (influenced by Walter Handy, a resident of Barcroft). It may be that research at the National Archives would prove unfruitful, but it remains an unexplored source. The Library of Congress would be another valuable effort of research, especially since Congress chartered Columbia Pike across the Custis Estate in 1808, and for the mere fact of the volume and variety of their possessions.

A continuation of Barcroft's history can be found in the text below entitled Historic Development.



ARLINGTON MILL . . .
Ruins after the Civil War.

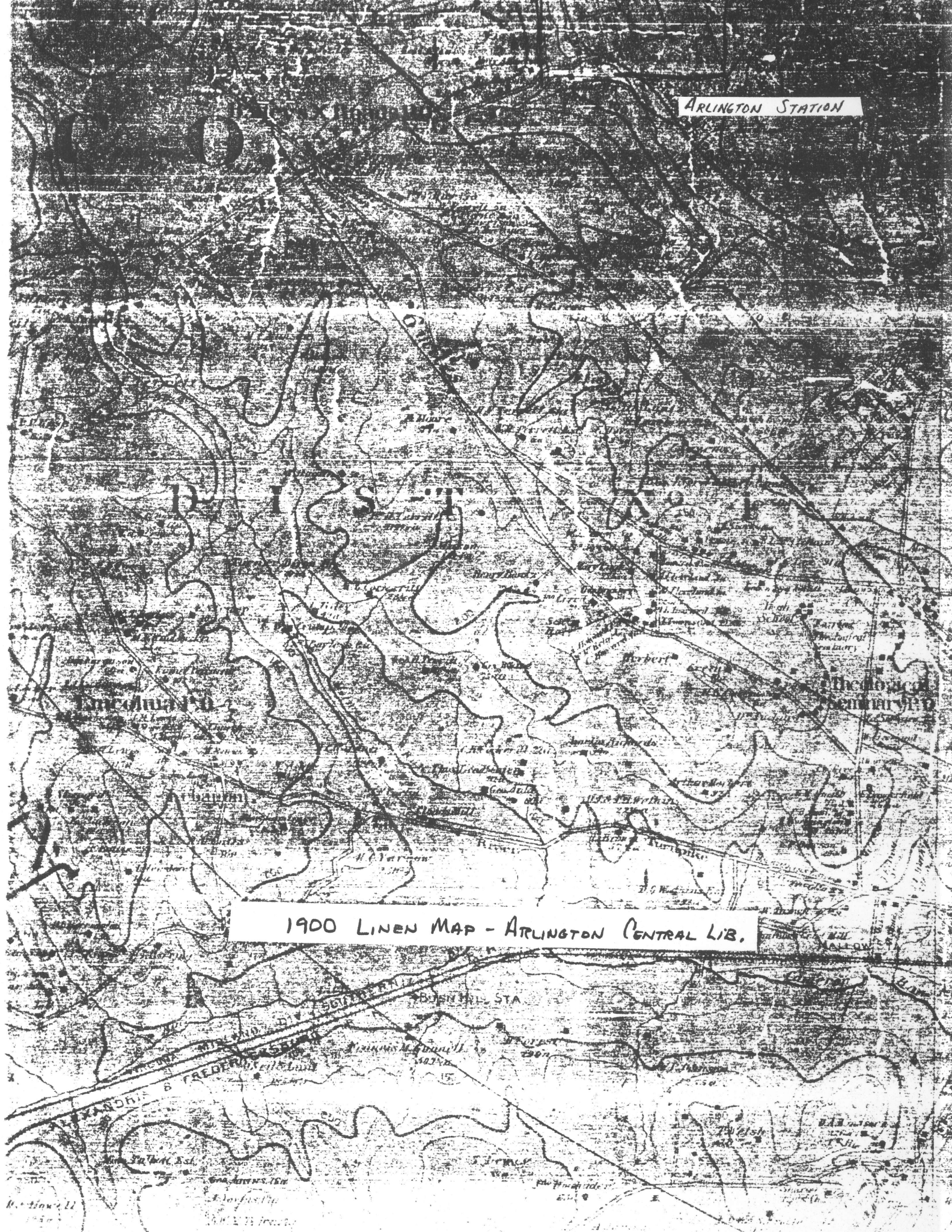


ARLINGTON MILL . . .
Brigade passing the mill on
its way to occupy Munson's
Hill.

ARLINGTON STATION

DISTRICT

1900 LINEN MAP - ARLINGTON CENTRAL LIB.



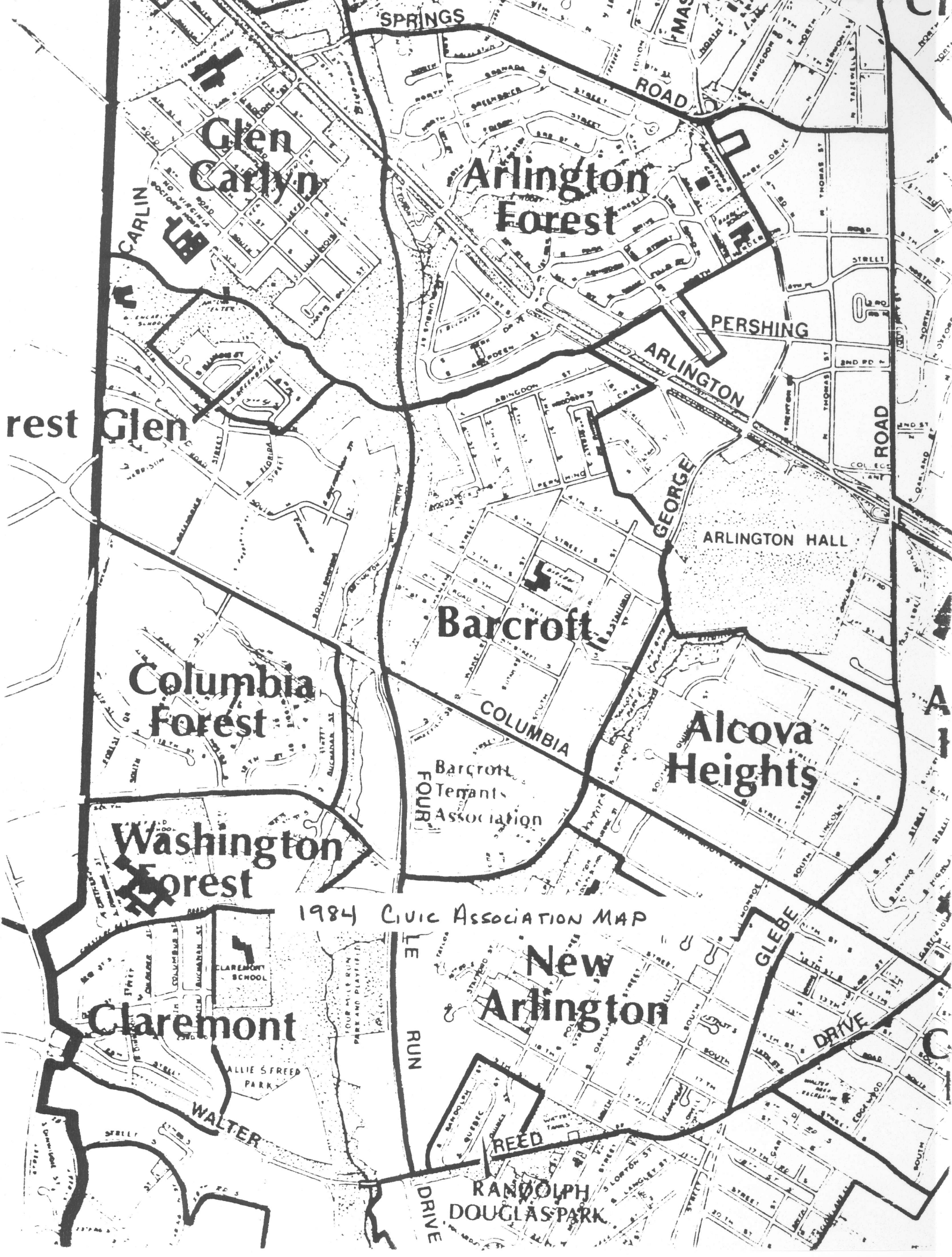
SIZE AND APPEARANCE

Barcroft is located between South George Mason Drive (as its eastern boundary) and Four Mile Run (as its western boundary). South George Mason Drive bends to intersect with Four Mile Run to form Barcroft's southern boundary. The northern boundary of Barcroft consists of an invisible border between S. Aberdeen Street and S. Abington Street (S. Abington being within the Barcroft community).

The Barcroft residents should be proud of the appearance of their community for their homes are neat and well-groomed although many of the homes are "compacted" together which does not allow for much yard to landscape for purely aesthetic purposes. Only four of the single home dwellings are visibly deteriorating (to the point of offensive) and need reparations. Unfortunately one of these properties in need of repair is one of the eight properties still remaining of those built between 1905-1908. The apartment complexes, shopping plaza and commercial centers along Columbia Pike, while not beautiful or unique in an artistic or architectural sense, are well-maintained.

There are some families that can claim lineage from the first families of Barcroft.¹⁰ But as Barcroft expands, it is becoming a transient neighborhood one reason being Barcroft is part of the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area, which means people are constantly locating and relocating to conduct their business near the nation's capital. The apartment complexes(4) in Barcroft along Columbia Pike were possibly built as a response to the needs of the growing community and area.

Another interesting facet of Barcroft is the Asian population now residing there, evidenced in commercial and social aspects of life, such as the Asian church on Wakefield Street and the sushi bar on Columbia Pike. Perhaps an interesting topic of research for the Barcroft community would be the migration of its Asian population into Barcroft.



Glen Carlyn

Arlington Forest

rest Glen

PERSHING

ARLINGTON

ARLINGTON HALL

Barcroft

Columbia Forest

Alcova Heights

Barcroft Tenants Association
FOUR

Washington Forest

1984 CIVIC ASSOCIATION MAP

New Arlington

Claremont

CLAREMONT SCHOOL

ALLIE SFREED PARK

LE RUN

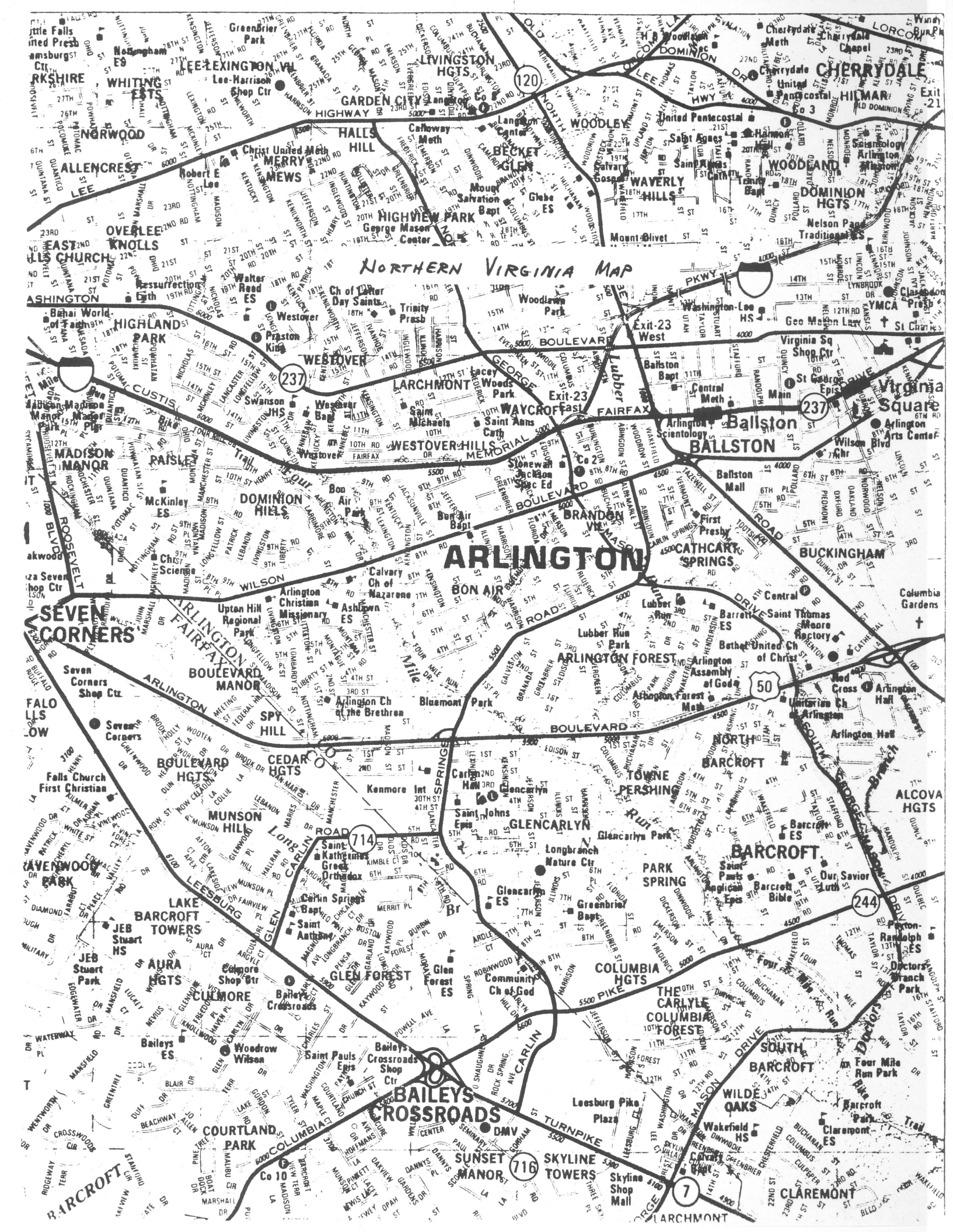
GLEBE

DRIVE

WALTER
DRIVE

RANDOLPH DOUGLAS PARK

REED



HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

East of Four Mile Run and the Barcroft mill, Frank Corbett owned a 162 acre farm called Cedar Hill. He and his father and brothers came to Northern Virginia in 1850. About 1892 he subdivided part of his farm on the northern side of Columbia Pike and sold lots (size of each lot being approximately 50 by 100). This subdivision of Cedar Hill had four north-south running streets and one east-west street. (See illustration.) In 1898, "Corbett" as the community was called was officially a postal village.

In 1893, Charles and Lisetta Kolb bought the north edge of the Cedar Hill estate and they called their home "Woodmeade". In 1895, Annie Doremus built a house on Arlington Avenue at Fairfax Street (now Buchanan and 7th Street S.). She married Sidney Marye. In 1899, Edgar Klemroth moved across from the Maryes.

After Frank Corbett died, his estate was sold (1903) to Mrs. Abbie G. Fox, who re-subdivided the subdivision and now the community was renamed Barcroft. (See 1901 and 1903 maps below.) At this time some of the street names of the neighborhood were changed.

Across from the Cedar Hill estate, along Columbia Pike--but to the east--lived Sheriff Billy Palmer. (Barcroft Apartments was Palmer's cow field.) Sledding parties in the winter begun on Palmers cow field and ended down the hill near Doctor's Branch. In 1903, Barcroft was a quiet agricultural community. According to Mildred Ritchie, Barcroft at this time consisted of the mill, railroad station, six scattered houses, a blacksmith and a grocery-dry goods store run by Oscar Haring.¹¹ Oscar Haring's store also served as the post office. Barcroft claimed two swimming holes--one being at Barcroft's mill. The children used the water wheel to dive off. It is said that this water wheel was the largest on the eastern seaboard. Behind the mill was a quarry.

Eddie Haring published the first local paper "The Barcroft News" in 1904. As the community continued to grow, it grew to the north of Columbia Pike on higher ground.

Two builders came to Barcroft. Steven P. Wright, son-in-law of Abbie Fox brought B.F. Perrow into the community. Perrow was to have built several rock houses in the Barcroft area. In 1904, Wright advertised two-story summer cottages with two and three bedrooms in the Barcroft News.¹² The other builder prominent in the area was Walter O'Hara, who added the northern Barcroft division. Between 1914 and 1925, 150,000 houses were erected. Many of these were "bungalow types".¹³

In 1909, Barcroft extended east. Two north-south streets were added from Columbia Pike (now Taylor Street and George Mason Drive). Brooke and Fairfax Streets were extended eastward.

The Handy's arrived in 1908. Frederick Handy purchased a home south of the Maryes. His son, Walter, built a home next to his, but facing Glen Avenue. Walter Handy was an active resident. He was a charter member of the Barcroft School and Civic League. (Stephen Wright was President of The Citizens Association of Barcroft.) With the support of this group, the Community House was built in 1908 and was used as a school and church and for social events like Saturday evening dances. It was utilized as a school until 1924 when the present Barcroft school was built. Barcroft still has an active civic association with a membership of about 250.¹⁴

Walter Handy was an electrician by trade. In 1914, he wired houses in Barcroft for electricity. Another technological advance that came to Barcroft in 1917-1918 was the telephone. Six customers signed up per line.

Since many of the houses were heated by wood or coal, fires were to be expected and so many of the original Barcroft properties have been lost:

1916--Large home beyond Corbett farm destroyed by fire

1919--Corbett farm house destroyed

1925--Presbyterian church built by Frank Hale in 1903 destroyed

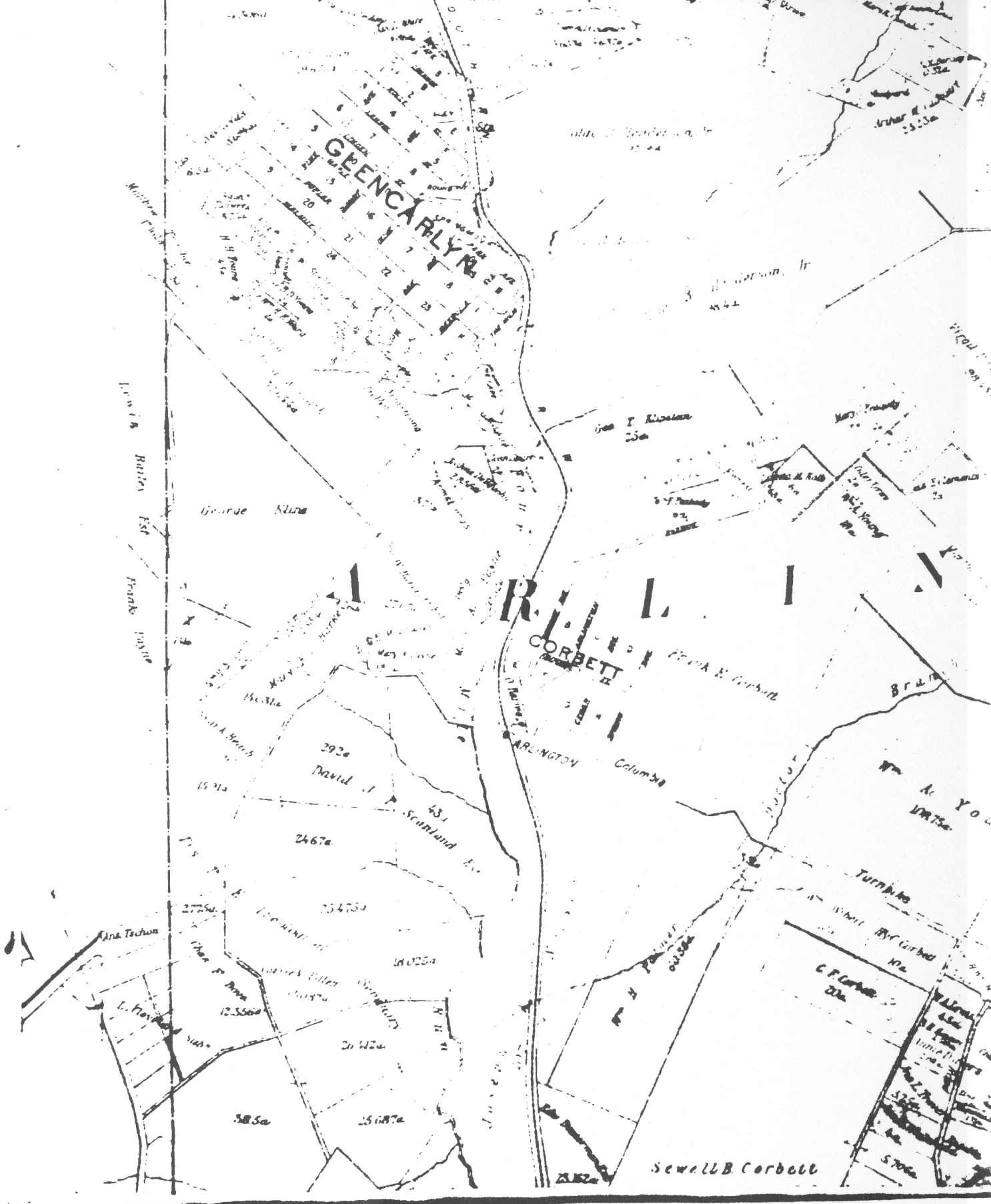
1926--The old Barcroft mill was completely destroyed

Robert May moved to the community around 1919-1920. He and his wife started the A B & W bus line. They installed a gas pump in their back yard and carried people to D.C. along Columbia Pike in a station wagon. He charged five cents for one trip into D.C. and often took school children free of charge. He eventually sold the line to Metro. Macadam had not come to the area yet, but in 1928 Walter Handy persuaded contacts at the Department of Agriculture to use Columbia Pike as part of a test program using concrete as a road surfacing technique. Columbia Pike before that had been a dusty road.

More development occurred after the thirties. A new use was found for the foundations of the mill as an ice house. Barcroft Apartments were built in the 1930's and 1940's by the DeLashmutts. Thomas DeLashmutt was an engineer who came to Northern Virginia at the turn of the century and saw a need for colonial village garden apartments.

There are a few final notes about the community's development. In 1940, a shopping plaza was built. Residents of the community donated George Mason Drive and five acres across the drive to the Park System. A 1950 Planning report is enclosed in this report. In comparison to today's Barcroft, two changes have occurred...George Mason Drive is now completed and the number of homes have increased.

For a complete narration of particular individuals who built in the Barcroft area see Mildred Ritchie's article in the Arlington Historical Magazine Vol. 6 No. 4 entitled Barcroft, Arlington County, Virginia: A Village Metamorphosis.



1901 MRP - ARLINGTON LIBRARY

Map Division
DUPLICATE
 City of Boston

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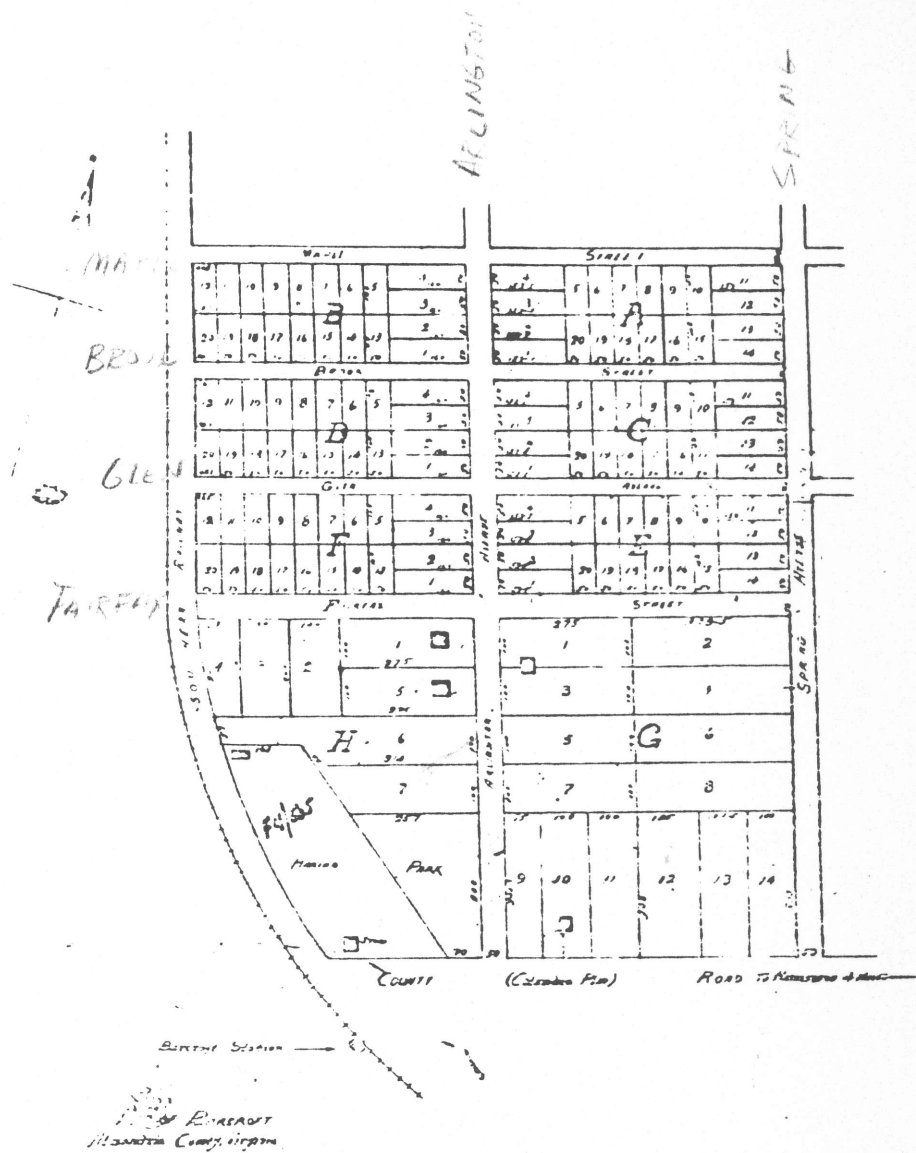
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 ne through Alexandria
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 the river.

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 in an "S" shape to reach
 higher ground.

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 ek, and on the north side

built here by George
 . To turn the immense
 astern Seaboard, which
 been constructed on the
 erted by an earthen mill
 From the race to the top
 wood, later, of metal.
 ohn Wolverton Barcroft
 five miles beyond, also



"Subdivision of Barcroft" - 1903, formerly the "Subdivision of Corbett", a part of "Cedar Hill" Farm, Alexandria County, Virginia.

Many of those early records are incomplete or unavailable. The following list has been compiled from School Board Books, supplemented by personal knowledge of former pupils and of some of the teachers themselves.

Teacher-Principal	Teacher	School	Year
Mrs. Amy Fairfax		Fairfax Home	1907-1908
Miss Beulah Adams		1 Room	1908-1909
Miss Margaret Handy		1 Room	1909-1910
Miss Annie Beattie		1 Room	1910-1911
Miss Annie Beattie		1 Room	1911-1912
Miss Annie Beattie		1 Room	1912-1913
Miss Annie Beattie	Miss Grace Crowell	2 Room	1913-1914
Miss Grace Crowell	Miss Mary Eastlack	2 Room	1914-1915
Miss Grace Crowell	Miss Mary Eastlack	2 Room	1915-1916
Miss Grace Crowell	Miss Mary Eastlack	2 Room	1916-1917
Miss Elizabeth Hancock	Miss Mary Eastlack	2 Room	1917-1918
Miss Elizabeth Hancock	Miss Minnie Dunavant	2 Room	1918-1919
Miss Alma Barefoot	Miss Minnie Dunavant	2 Room	1919-1920
Miss Julia Banks	Miss Minnie Dunavant	2 Room	1920-1921
Mrs. Eppa Tracey	Miss Minnie Dunavant	2 Room	1921-1922
Mrs. Eppa Tracey	Miss Alice Snyder	2 Room	1922-1923
Mrs. Susie Hunter	Miss Elizabeth Butts	2 Room	1923-1924
Mrs. Susie Hunter	Miss Elizabeth Butts	2 Room	1924-1925

These dedicated women taught in the period from 1907 to 1925, in a home and in "the Barcroft Community House" from the time a school was first authorized in Barcroft until the opening of the new brick school in 1925.⁶



The Barcroft School. 1921. Calisthenics for Pupils.

the employment of a second
e grades, while Miss Beattie,

s, serving the last three as
ry Eastlack of Washington,
18.

Miss Minnie Dunavant taught the lower grades for four years, 1918-22.
During her teaching years she resided with her sister, Mrs. Yates, on the Pike
and later on Spring Street. Now in her 80's, she lives with her son and his family.

Form C. No. 3-30 M

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
206 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 there-
for, 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.

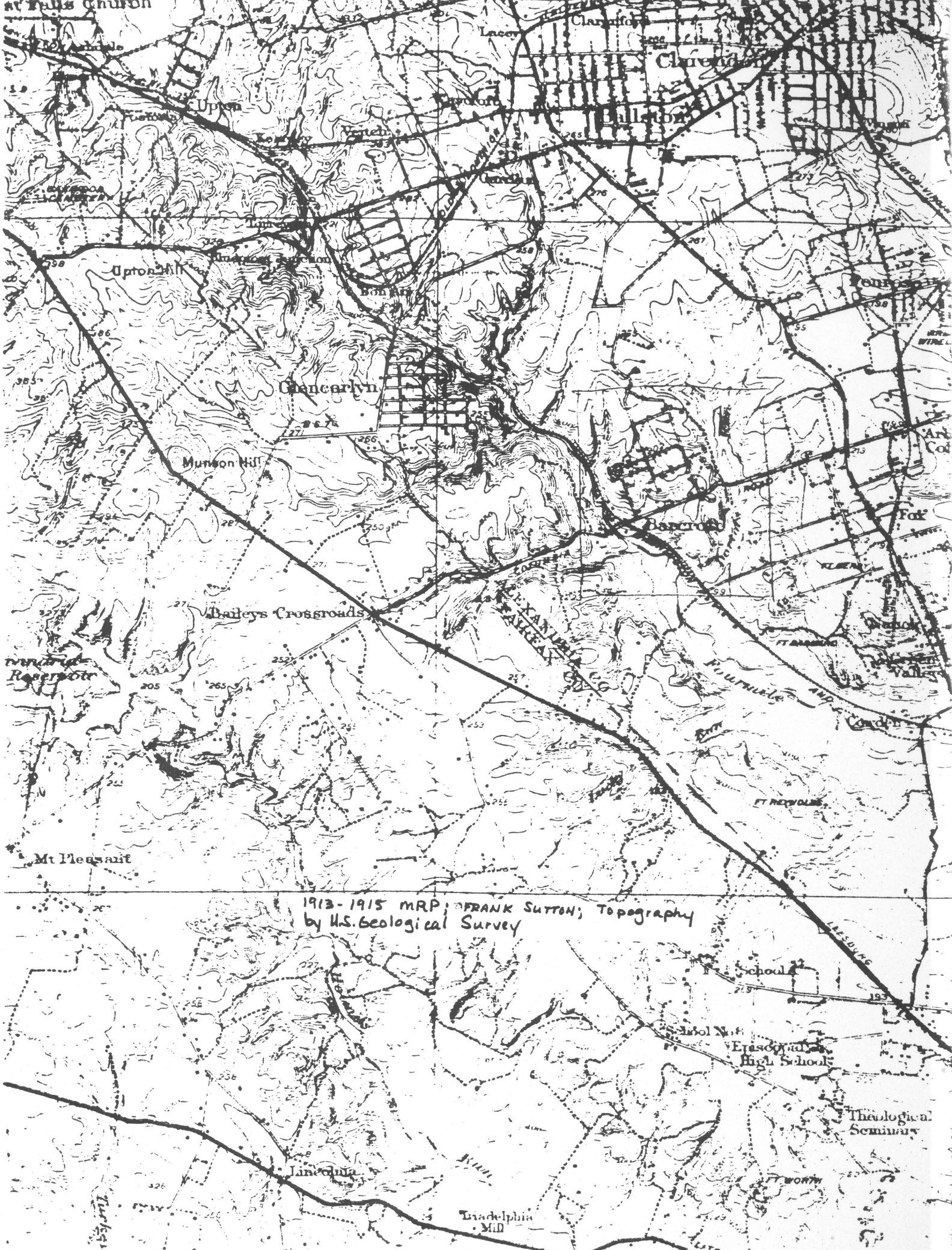
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set their hands and seals, this 17th day
of May, 1921.

John H. [Signature] [L. S.]
Chairman of the Board
Mary [Signature] [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

Teacher's Contract — 1921. Barcroft, Alexandria County, Virginia.

TAKEN FROM RITCHIE ARTICLE IN ARLINGTON HIST. MAGAZINE
1980, Volume 6, Number 4.



1913-1915 MRP; FRANK SUTTON; Topography
by U.S. Geological Survey

School
Episcopal High School
Theological Seminary

Lincoln
Philadelphia
Mid

STREET NAMES OF BARCROFT, THEN AND NOW

NEW

S. TAYLOR
WAKEFIELD
BUCHANAN
PERSHING
S. GEORGE MASON DRIVE
9th Street
4th Street
3rd Steet

OLD

HIGH ST., HIGH TERRACE
SPRING DRIVE
ARLINGTON AVENUE
CATHCART ROAD
MAGNOLIA AVENUE
CEDAR
OAK/POPLAR/PINE
SPRING ST./MAPLE ST.

1932 STREET NAME CHANGES

(taken from M. Ritchie's article in the Arlington
Historical Magazine, 1980, vol. 6, no. 4)

Arlington Avenue became S. Buchanan
Spring Avenue became S. Wakefield
Fairfax became Ninth St. S.
Glen Avenue became Eighth Road S.
Brooke St. became Eighth Street, S.
Maple St. became Seventh St. S.

PLANNING DISTRICT NO. 21

BARCROFT

IDENTIFYING FEATURES

This district is well defined by its boundaries. Arlington Hall and the Four Mile Run Valley limit access to this district. Single family residences make up this area. Barcroft School is its focal point.

Shopping facilities are presently found on Columbia Pike and in Arlington Forest. There may be some difficulty in using the Arlington Forest center, however, as Arlington Boulevard becomes limited access.

George Mason Drive, which is not completed through this district, is expected to carry much of the traffic that now winds its way through this area along Pershing Drive, Wakefield and Buchanan Streets.

Recreation facilities are found on the west of this District in the Four Mile Run Valley and on the east in a recently purchased parcel of land from Arlington Hall Military Reservation.

BOUNDARY

Beginning at the intersection of Glebe Road and Arlington Boulevard, thence south along the boundary of the Arlington Hall Reservation and said line extended to Columbia Pike, thence to George Mason Drive, thence west on Columbia Pike to the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad, thence northwest along the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad to the branch of Four Mile Run between Aberdeen and Abingdon Streets, thence north along this stream valley to Arlington Boulevard, thence east on Arlington Boulevard to the point of beginning.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Gross Area	342 Acres	% of Gross Area - Vacant Land	7.3%
Vacant Parcels	25.1 Acres	Population 7-1-55	2,600
No. of Vacant Lots	61	Potential Population under present zoning	3,000

County-Owned Facilities

Schools

Barcroft Elementary	5.2 Acres	
Total School		5.2 Acres

Parks & Playgrounds

Arlington Hall ✓	2.6 Acres	
Park Glen	<u>8.0 Acres</u>	
Total Parks & Playgrounds		<u>10.6 Acres</u>
Total County-Owned		15.8 Acres

MAJOR PLANNING PROBLEMS

Provision of the George Mason Drive route between Arlington Boulevard and Columbia Pike through a portion of Arlington Hall that will have minimum deteriorating effect on residential values.

Minimize effects of Arlington Hall activities on the surrounding area. Parking by Arlington Hall employees throughout surrounding residential areas has created a most serious deteriorating effect on those surroundings.

Active recreation areas are needed by the further development of existing sites.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this area retain its basic land use pattern, that it be classified a conservation district and that it be placed in Priority Class IV for study.

✓ Agreements have been made to purchase an additional 8 acres of land from Arlington Hall Reservation which will bring this figure to 10.6.

IDENTIFICATION OF PROPERTIES

Barcroft is mostly a newer (1950 to present) residential community--especially the northern sector which consists of many brick, two story symmetrically balanced homes. There are some newer homes with their own distinct personal style. (See pictures.) Another part of the newer section is Barcroft Estates (townhouses) and one-floor ranch-style houses(along Pershing Drive going towards Arlington Boulevard).

Around Barcroft school, many of the homes are cottages(or bungalow-type see footnote thirteen) probably two-story, with one and two dormers. Some are wood frame and others were made with brick.

Three churches are in the community: an Asian church on Wakefield, a Lutheran church on Taylor Street and an Unitarian church on 1st Place. As for commercial enterprises in the area, most businesses are located along Columbia Pike, for example several service stations, a sushi bar, and the Food Star plaza which has a barber and a Rite Aid and laundry facilities located in it. A Seven-Eleven is located across from Barcroft Apartments on George Mason Drive. The (1924) Barcroft School is located on Wakefield. An addition was added to the school in the 1950's.

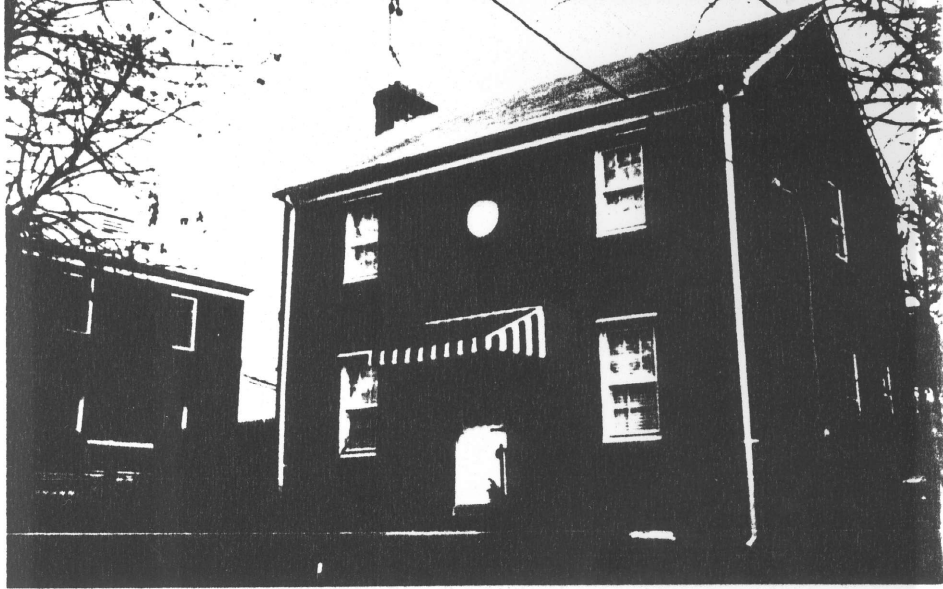
Four apartment complexes stand along Columbia Pike. Buchanan Gardens, brick apartment buildings, is located on the west side of Buchanan Street. On the east side of Buchanan, across from Buchanan Gardens is Columbia Park, which has multi-levels compared to the bi-level Buchanan Gardens. Wakefield Towers stands along Columbia Pike across from Barcroft Apartments. Wakefield Towers is also multi-leveled compared to Barcroft Apts. which consist mainly of bi and tri-level garden apartments. In the 1930's Barcroft apartments were constructed of brick; the 1943 section of Barcroft was constructed of wood which incurred many problems and was of a poor quality. The later sections of Barcroft apartments were constructed of steel beams and cinder block.

Two recreational facilities are located in Barcroft--one has already been mentioned, Doctor's Branch. The other is the Four Mile Run trail which is called the W & O D Railroad Regional Park immediately east of the 1940 bridge built over Four Mile Run on Columbia Pike.

Concerning historical properties, only eight of the original remain.¹⁶ Historical markers have been placed at the corner of Four Mile Run and Columbia Pike denoting the Arlington Mill and the neighborhood of Barcroft. Three houses built in the early 1900's remain on Buchanan Street, the Community House still stands, and a property behind the Community House remains. These houses are wood frame, two-story homes. 910 S. Buchanan has a wonderful double porch (or a porch and balcony) to its southern side. A part of an original property can be seen on Columbia Pike. The building is now a sushi bar, but if as you drive east on Columbia Pike you look back you can see the gabled roof of a wood frame two-story house. The Arlington/Barcroft mill is said to have stood where now Watson Motors is (4961 Columbia Pike). Watson Motors is a volkswagon garage which sits near the edge of a steep ravine looking into Four Mile Run.

BARCROFT'S NEWER
HOMES

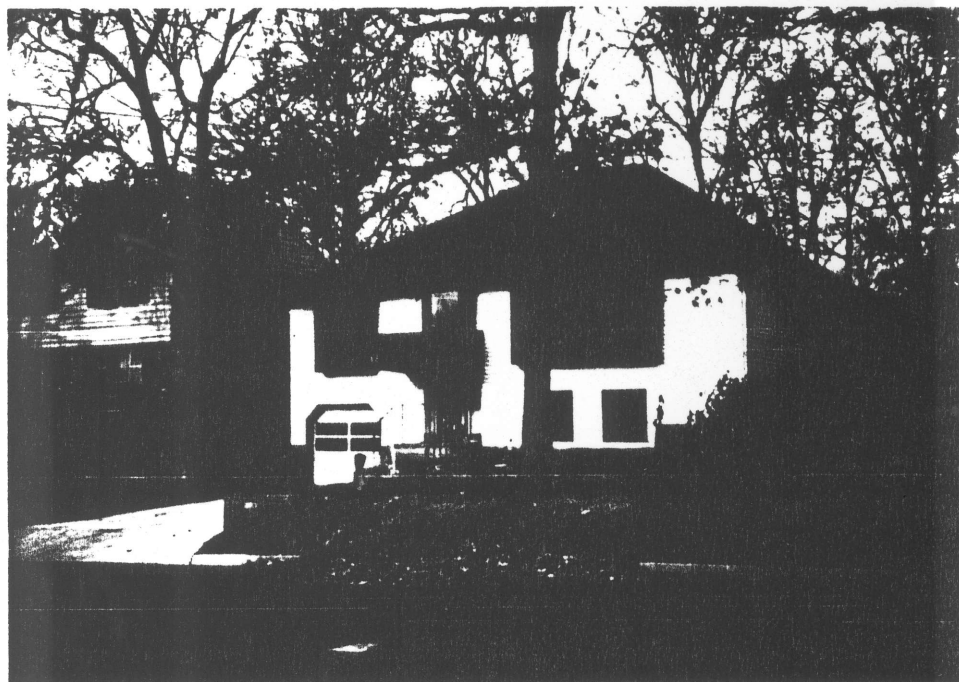
1.) 1st Street



2. 701 1ST ST. S.



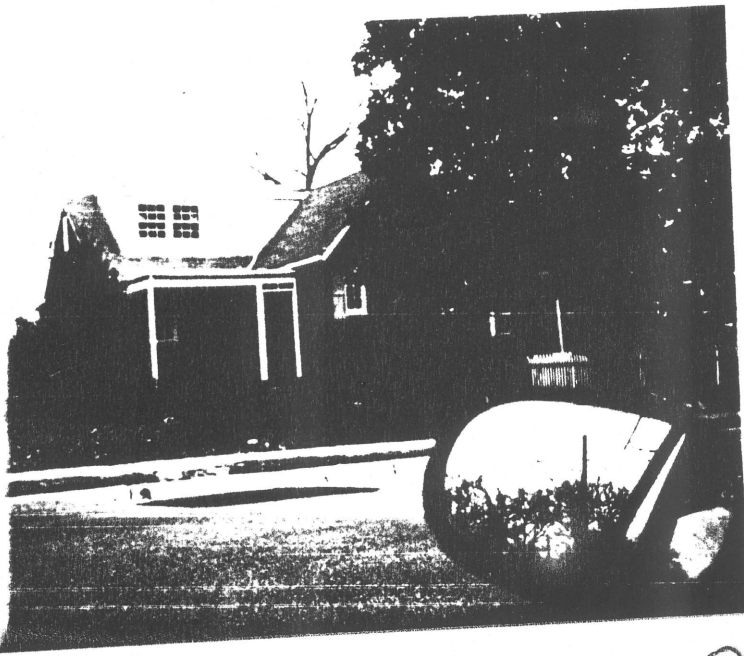
3.) 4811 9th St. S.





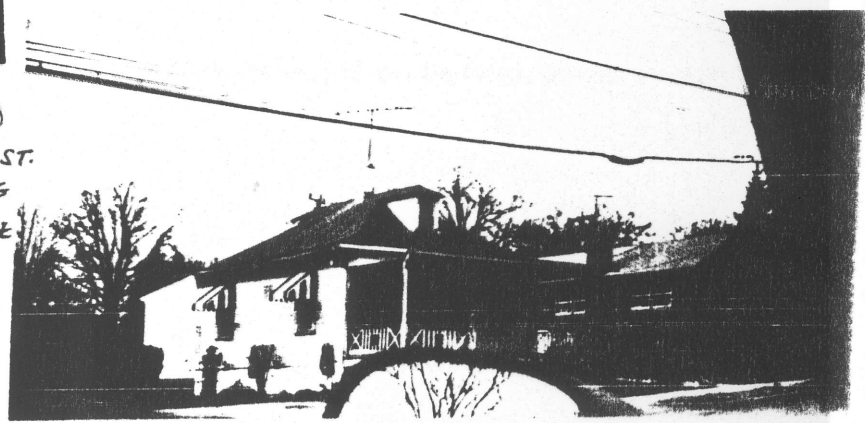
①
WOOD FRAME
CONCRETE FOUNDATION

②
624 WAKEFIELD
COTTAGE
2 DORMERS
Symmetrical
GAMBREL ROOF



③ WAKEFIELD ST.
COTTAGE / BUNGALOW
SIDE ENTRANCE
RED BRICK

④
WAKEFIELD ST.
WOOD SIDING
FRONT ENTRANCE
1 DORMER

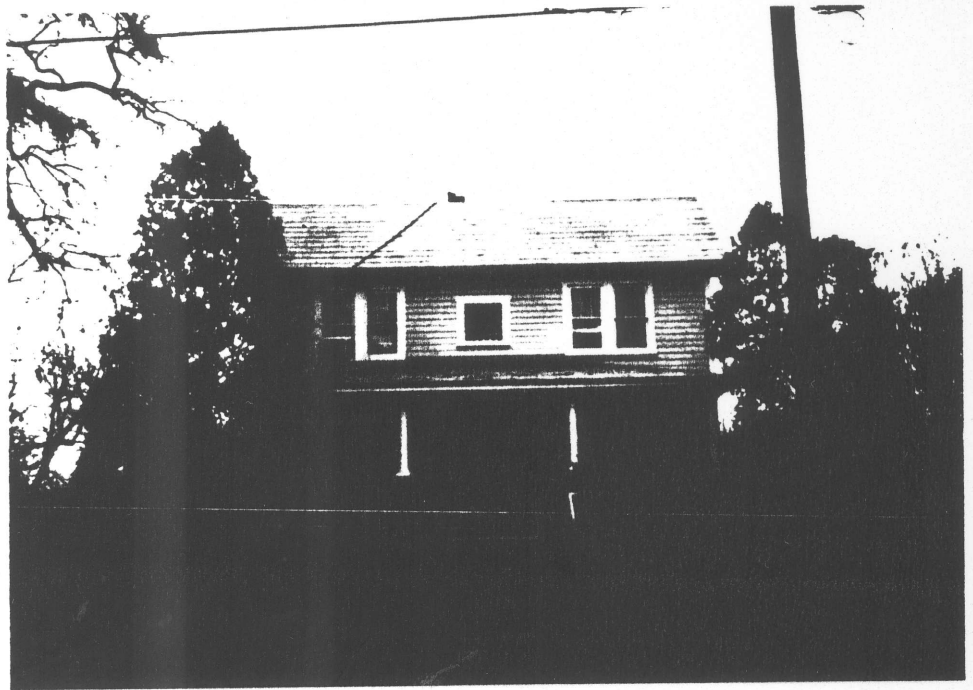




COMMUNITY CENTER (HOUSE)
S. BUCHANAN STREET



BARCROFT SCHOOL
WAKEFIELD STREET



614 S. TAYLOR STREET

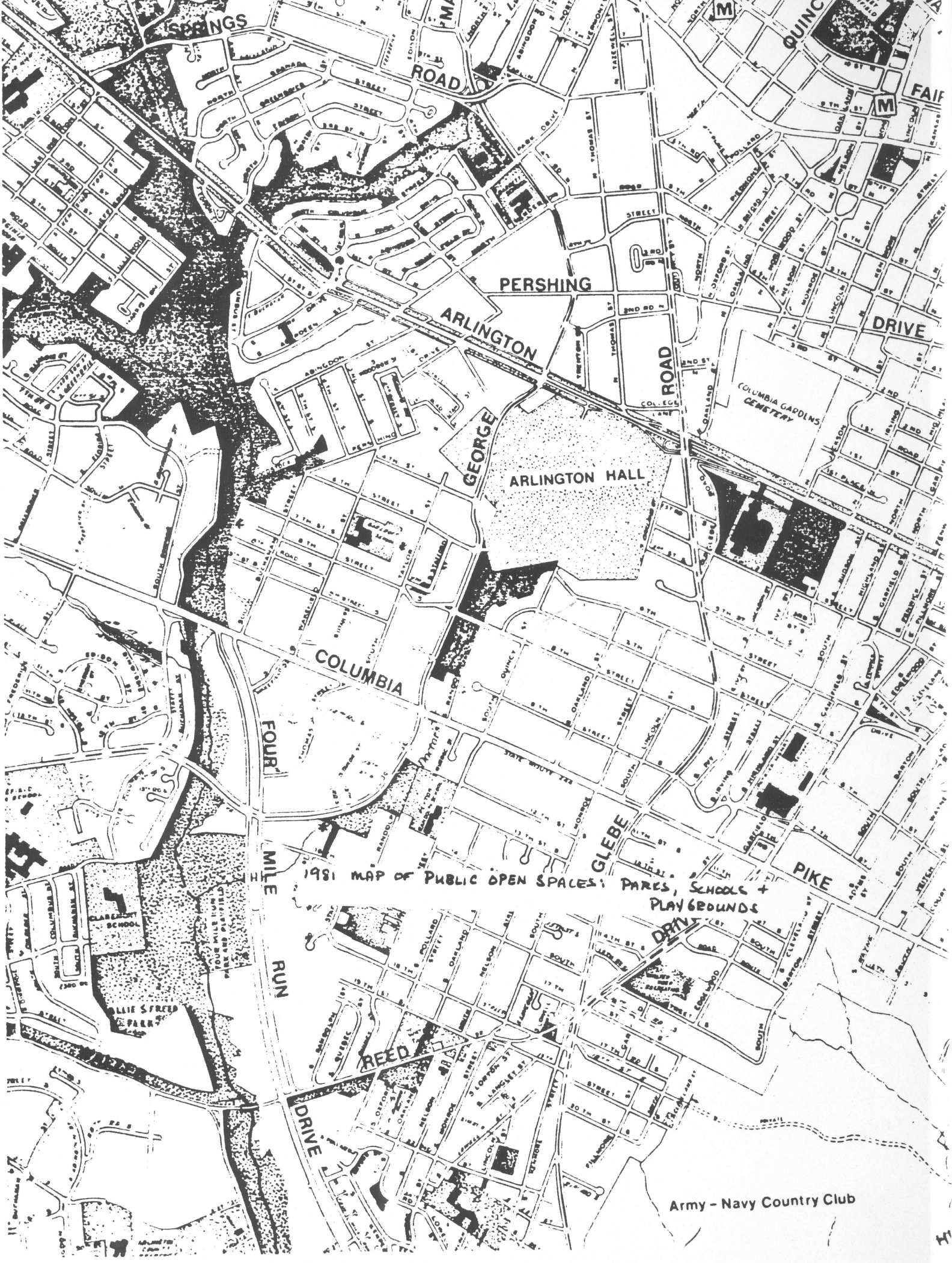
WOOD FRAME

FRONT ENTRANCE

FRONT PEDIMENT

SYMMETRICAL BALANCE

GABLE ROOF



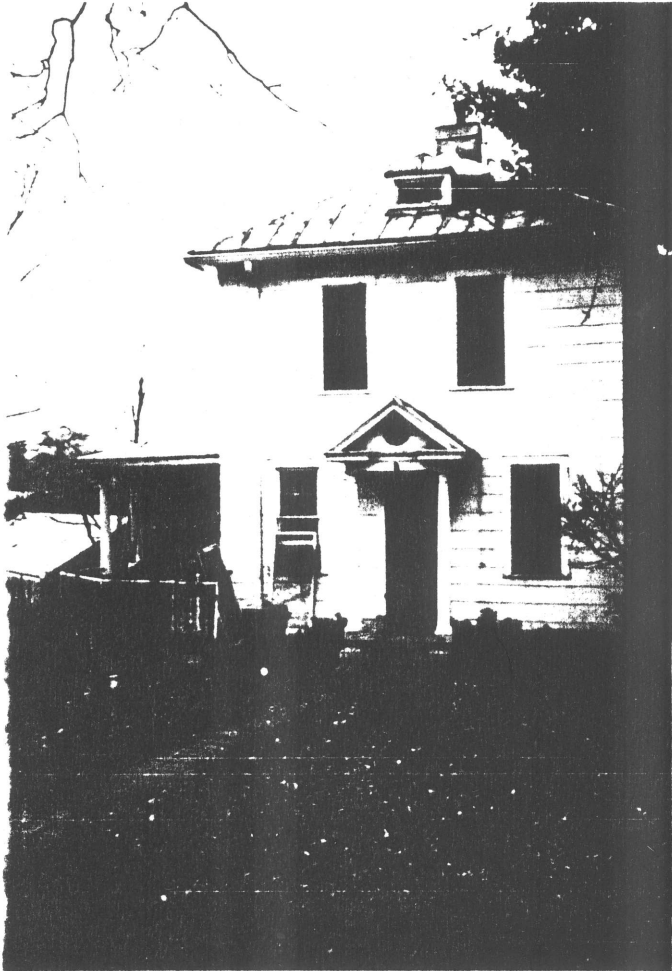
1981 MAP OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES: PARES, SCHOOLS + PLAYGROUNDS

Army - Navy Country Club

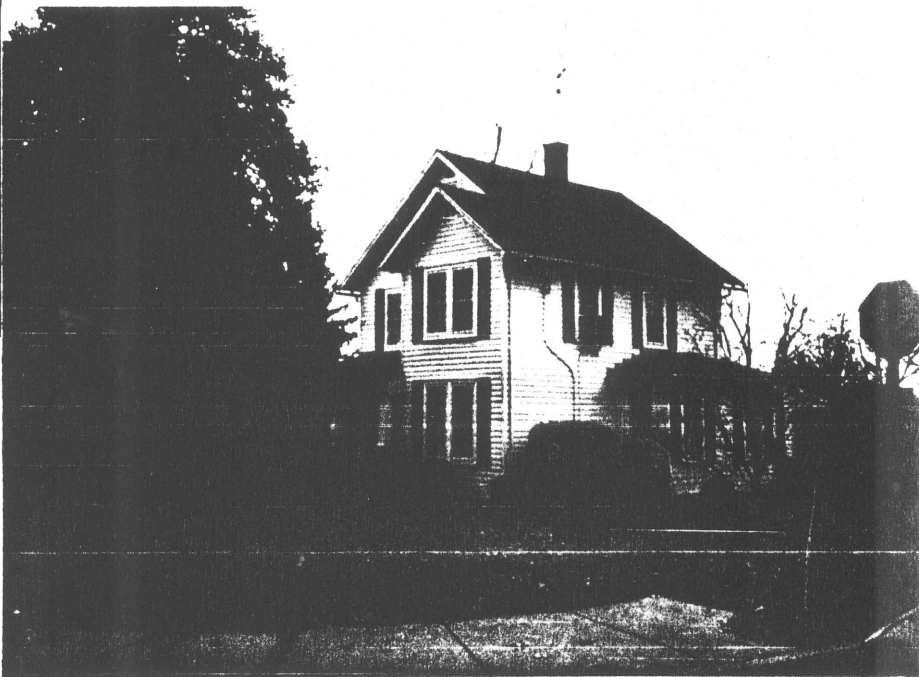
(800 BLOCK)
S. BUCHANAN STREET



910 (?) Buchanan
(Beside 902.)

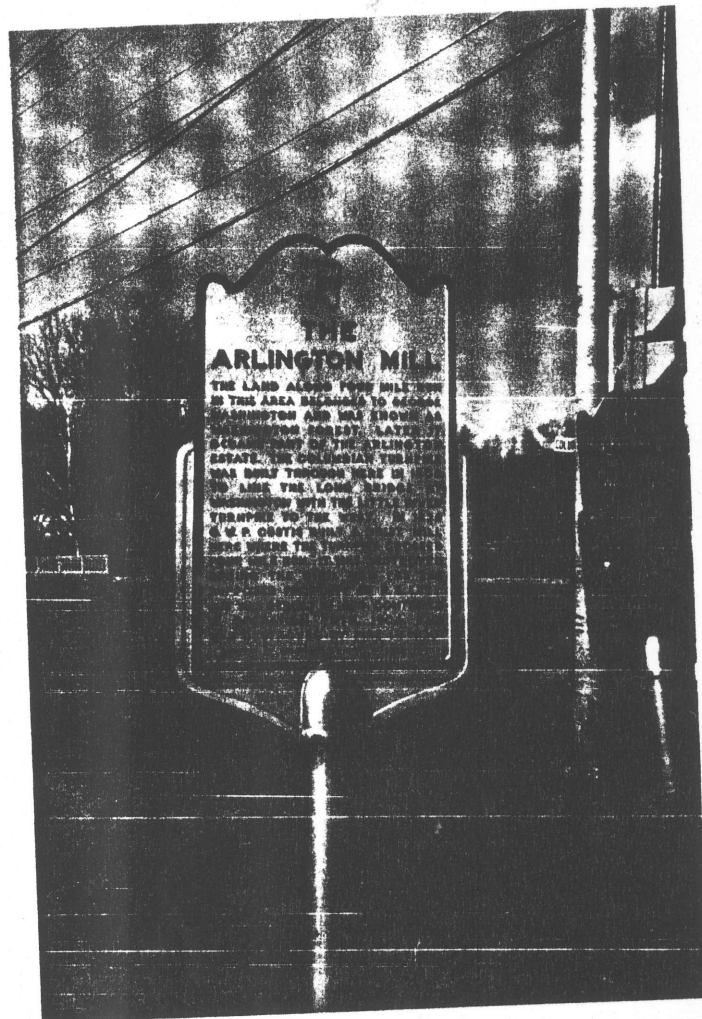
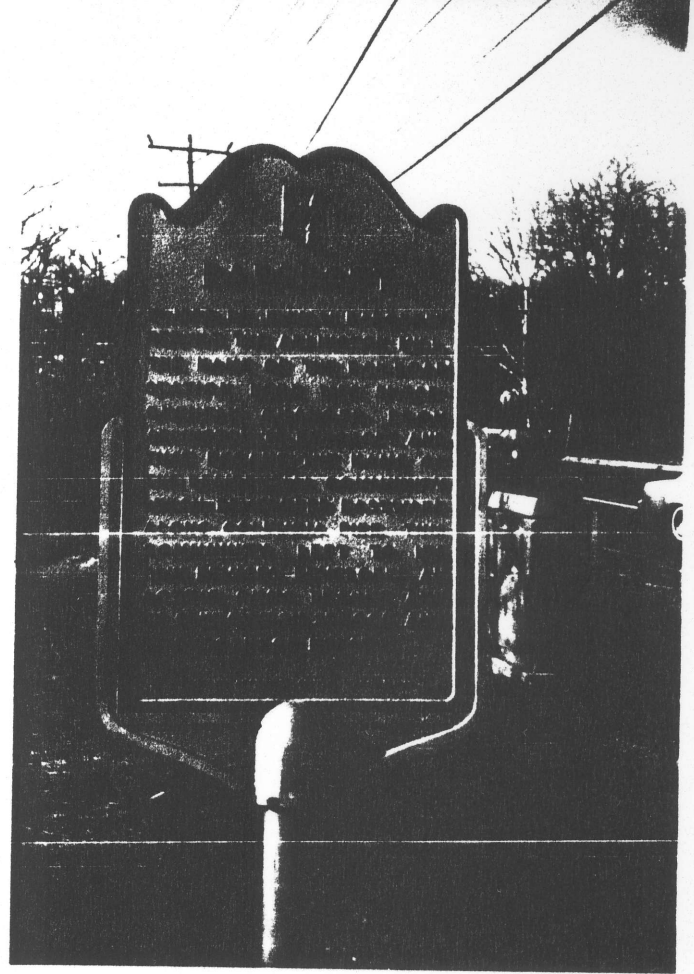


902 Buchanan



BARCROFT'S

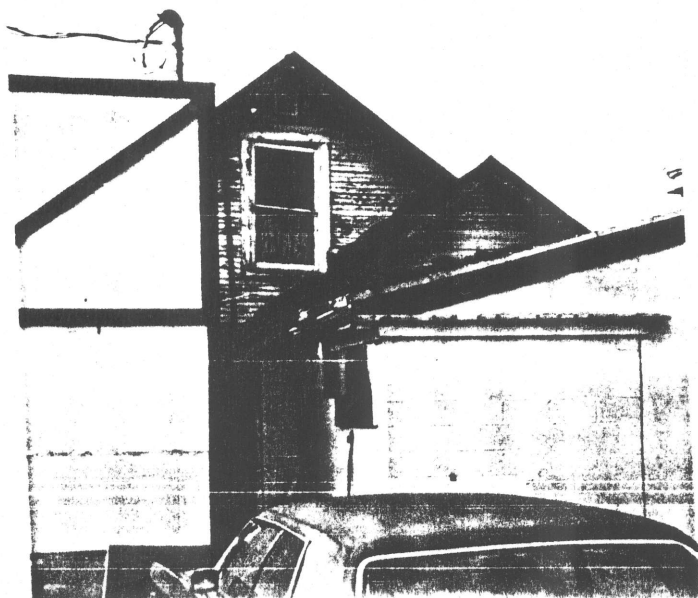
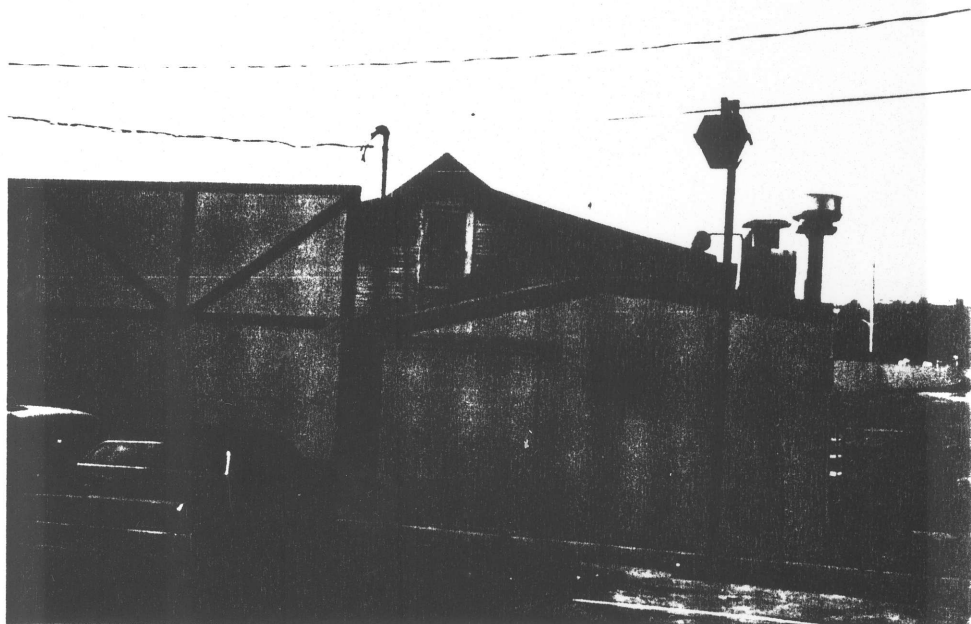
HISTORICAL MARKERS



JAPANESE AND KOREAN
RESTAURANT LOCATED
ON COLUMBIA PIKE.



THIS SHOWS PART
OF THE ORIGINAL PROPERTY
BUILT IN THE EARLY →
1900'S (1900-1910)

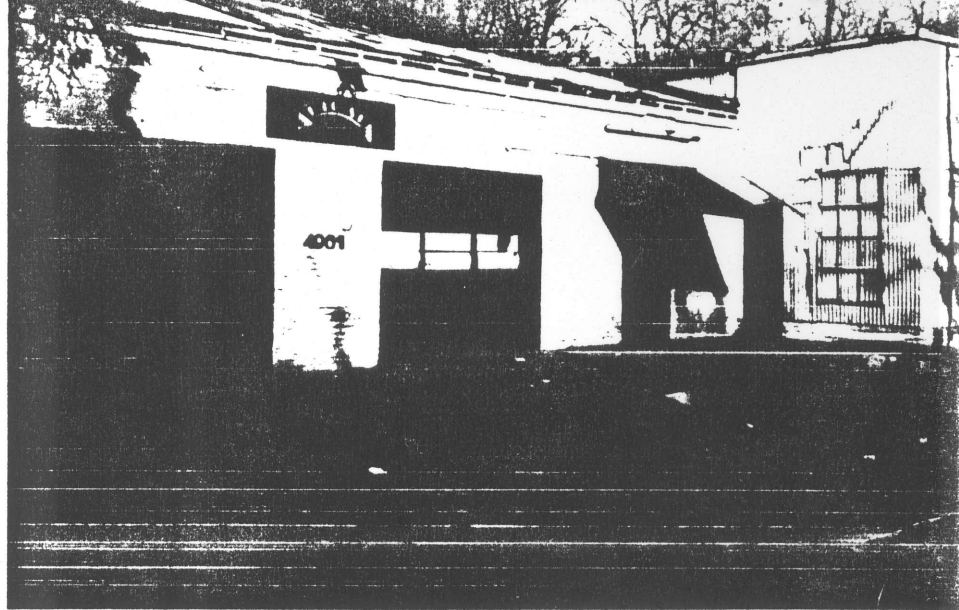


Another View:

It appears this property was a
two story, wood frame house with
a gabled roof with a small pediment
above the larger window.

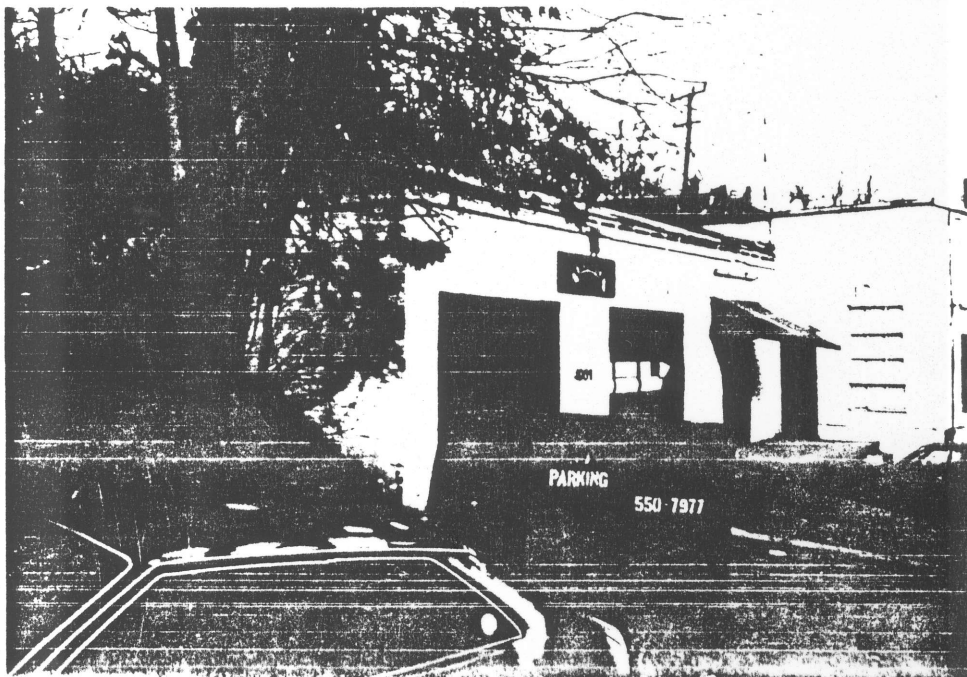
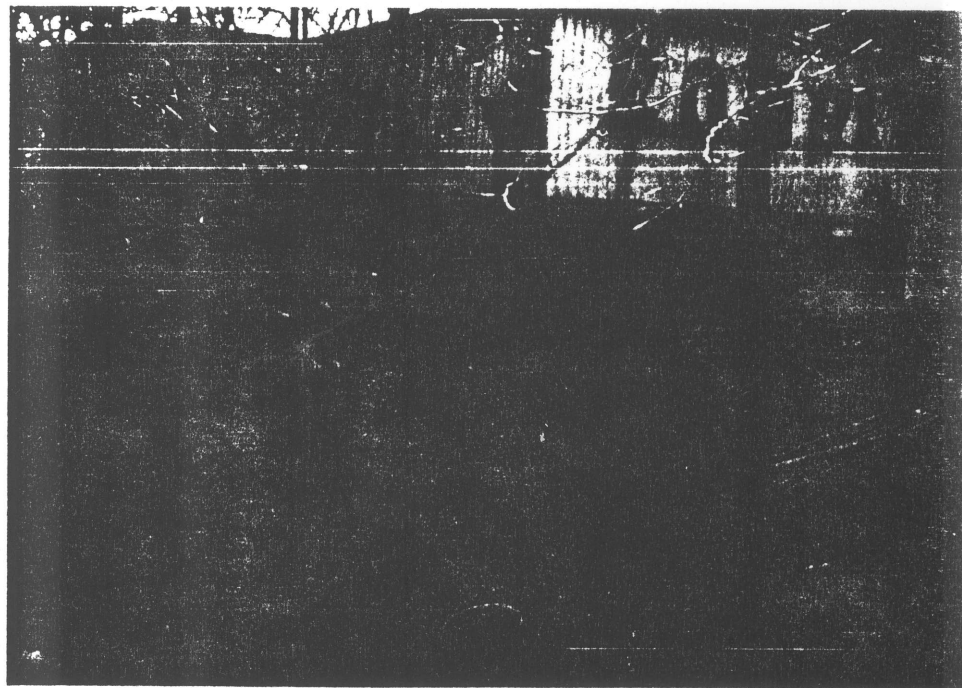
THESE PHOTOGRAPHS
WERE TAKEN OF
WATSON'S GARAGE.

THIS GARAGE SITS IN FROM
COLUMBIA PIKE NEAR THE
EDGE OF THE BAVINE LOOKING
DOWN TO FOUR MILE RUN
(supposedly site of
BARCROFT HILL)

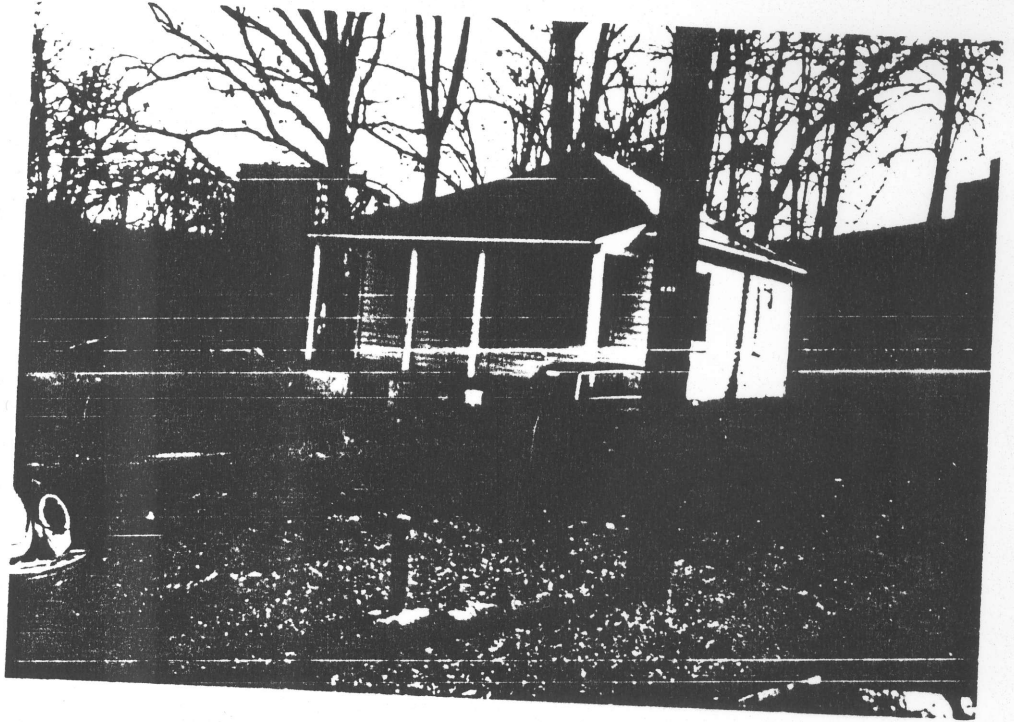


IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH
A RED BRICK FOUNDATION
STARTS BELOW THE LIGHTER
WOOD SIDING. UNFORTUNATELY,
THIS IS TOO DARK A COPY TO TELL.

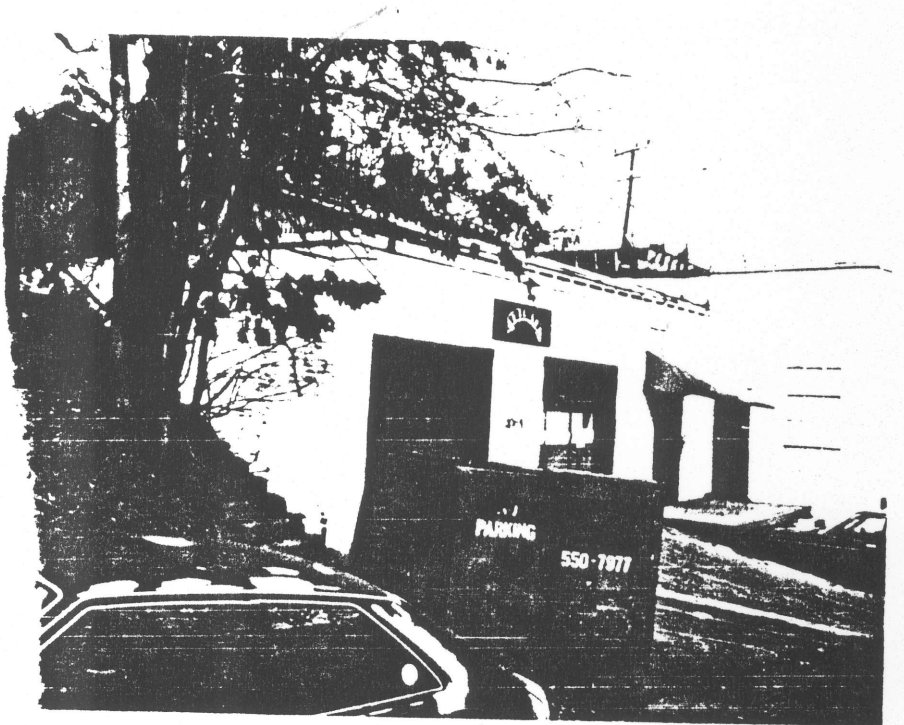
→



SMALL PROPERTY
ACROSS FROM WATSON'S
GARAGE.



WATSON'S GARAGE



RECOMMENDATIONS

As a whole, I do not believe the Community of Barcroft should apply for historic district. I do believe, however, that a few of the original properties should be nominated for the National Register, especially the Community House. Criteria for the National Register is stated as such: "A) A property may be registered if it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." I feel this property as a school, church and social center meets this requirement.

Another recommendation follows an earlier recommendation to continue historical research on Barcroft. Title searches should be conducted at the Court House on the eight original properties as an aid if someone decides to make application of their property to the National Register. This has already been completed for the Community House, but for the other properties it would clarify the somewhat inconsistent dates of origin and property owners. Also title searches could be conducted on a sampling of the cottage/bungalow type houses for future application or presentation.

A final recommendation is community education with the goal of increased community support. Perhaps the Civic Association could sponsor a series of lectures on Barcroft by the decedents of the first families or others by advertising this on a wide scale in the community (i.e. in the churches, commercial centers and apartment complexes). The more community support means more hands are available to survey and research. Perhaps lectures or community activities could be held in the Community House or in the school or churches.

And finally, a big step of community education is to involve the younger people. Maybe Barcroft School could include a one or two day presentation of Barcroft in its history, social studies or geography classes. Perhaps the school system could include with this presentation a field trip to the properties - or the markers along Four Mile Run, or maybe to Arlington Central Library to visit the Virginia Room.

Residents who take an active part in relaying its community history and show pride in its history show the continuation of history after they are gone. The earlier residents of Barcroft took pride in the activities of their daily lives - and there are many interesting facets of their lives that I did not include in this report - but today we look back and say "Hey - here was a mill, here was a store and post office." Sure there were some important people - George Washington, etc., but the history of common individuals is now history to us. We can leave the same stories that future generations will research and call history.

NOTES

¹Mildred Ritchie, Arlington Historical Magazine, Vol. 6, No. 4, 1980. From her details of sledding parties and other community activities one can perceive the residents as neighborly.

²Monday, Nov. 30, 1987. Conversation with Phyllis Kinsey, member of Barcroft Civic Association.

³C. B. Rose, Jr., Arlington County Virginia, A History, Arlington, Va., Arlington Historical Society, Inc., 1976. p. 29.
Land Ownership Map 1669-1796 - Arlington Central Library.

⁴Ibid, p. 29.

⁵Virginia L. Smith. [interview with] "Mildred Ritchie", Arlington County Public Library - Zonta Oral History Project. 6/27/75. p. 28.

⁶C. B. Rose, Jr. p. 81.

⁷Mildred Ritchie, Arlington Historical Magazine, "Barcroft, Arlington County, Virginia: A Village Metamorphosis", Vol. 6, No. 4, 1980. p. 24.

⁸Eleanor Templeman, Arlington Heritage: Vignettes of a Virginia County, New York. Avenel Books, 1959. p. 84.

⁹Smith, p. 31.

¹⁰Sources by Mildred Handy Ritchie and Mrs. Milton Barcroft Payne are used in this report and civic association members named residents as "first families".

¹¹Ritchie, p. 24.

¹²Ritchie, p. 27.

¹³Ritchie, p. 37.

¹⁴Conversation with Phyllis Kinsey, member of Barcroft Civic Association Monday Nov. 30, 1987.

¹⁵Ritchie, p. 37.

¹⁶Ibid.

¹⁷Marilyn M. Harper, Barcroft Apts - Arlington. April 1986.

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