

VLR 12/7/15
NRHP 2/9/16

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VLR 12/07/2005
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OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

**Tauxemont Historic District
Fairfax County, Virginia**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Tauxemont Historic District
other names/site number VDHR File No. 029-5199

2. Location

street & number Area between Ft. Hunt Road and Accotink Place, including Shenandoah, Tauxemont, Namassin, Westmoreland, and Gahant Roads and Bolling Drive not for publication N/A
city or town south of Alexandria vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county Fairfax code 059 Zip 22308

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 12/21/05
Signature of certifying official Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>71</u>	<u>25</u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>73</u>	<u>25</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>school</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>sports facility</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>park</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>school</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>sports facility</u>
<u>RECREATION</u>	<u>park</u>

7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Modern Movement

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT: Shingle

walls CONCRETE; WOOD; BRICK; METAL: Aluminum

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning

Period of Significance 1941-1955

Significant Dates 1941

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

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Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Robert Davenport, Alexander Knowlton, Charles Goodman

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 50 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 18/321140/4190600 2 18/321460/4290700
3 18/321600/4290020 4 18/321360/4289740
 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

Tauxemont Historic District
Fairfax County, Virginia

Name/title: Susan Escherich and Mary Thompson

Organization: _____ date 6/28/05

street & number: 1308 Namassin Road telephone 703-768-3180

city or town Alexandria state VA zip code 22308

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Tauxemont¹ was begun in the early 1940s. Its original 100 houses, built sequentially in three subdivisions that were completed at the end of that decade, were a planned community to be situated in the woods with as little disruption of the natural setting as possible. The first subdivision, Tauxemont I, was planned as a cooperative venture by a group of government employees, and was laid out in eastern Fairfax County, about three miles south of the city of Alexandria. The houses were basic cinderblock one-story, side-gable-roofed rectangular starter houses, of no particular style, but certainly an expression of the Modern Movement in architecture. The two following subdivisions were developed by one of the original cooperative venture residents, Robert Davenport, who kept a similar theme to the first section with only minor changes in interior layouts and construction material selections. Facilities at completion included three deep wells, a preschool/community center, two tennis courts, and a ball field/park. At the end of World War II, an effort was made to find peacetime uses for the great factories that had been turning out aircraft and munitions. Tauxemont contains ten aluminum houses, and thus exemplifies this national endeavor.

Tauxemont's significance lies in its conscious effort to blend in with the natural setting, which remains its outstanding characteristic today. In the late 1940s, several owners asked architect Charles Goodman to design additions to their basic Tauxemont houses.² These additions, with large glass areas, are very much in keeping with the style of his award-winning houses in Hollin Hills and illustrate the continuity and similarity in architecture and land use between the two developments.

Overview of Community

The first section of Tauxemont was laid out along the loop of Tauxemont Road, on top of a hill off Alexandria Avenue, between the ceremonial route to Mount Vernon, the George Washington Parkway, and Fort Hunt Road. At the time, a large dairy farm bordered Fort Hunt on the west. Woods surrounded the new site. Section II of Tauxemont followed the hills to the south, along Accotink Place and Shenandoah Road. Section III includes a hilly section at the top of Bolling Drive which quickly becomes flat at its southern end and along Westmoreland Road. The southern end of Shenandoah, where it joins Fort Hunt, is also quite flat. Gahant and Namassin Roads ascend the hill again from Fort Hunt Road, and one discovers they are steeper than they look during an ice storm!

Tauxemonters love the country feel of their community, and it has never had sidewalks or curbs and gutters, and has rejected streetlights. The utility poles are hidden in the middle of the blocks,

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an aesthetically pleasing solution which leads to frequent power outages during storms when branches and entire trees knock down the wires. The houses share a water system serviced by community wells, with each house originally having its own septic system. Although the septic system was replaced by a municipal sewage system, the deep wells remain functional and highly prized by the residents for high quality and delicious tasting water. The water pipes also follow the easements in the middle of the block. These easements have always been used as pathways for visiting and accessing Wellemeyer Field, the tennis courts, and the preschool/community building. The major physical characteristics of the community are tall trees and privacy provided by bushes and hedges along the property lines. Often there are minimal lawn areas, and gardens consist of shade and native plants. The houses are one-story and sited to maximize privacy. Many houses, especially in Sections II and III, are sited with their gable ends towards the street and front doors on the side. With their low pitched roofs, the houses blend in with their natural setting, rather than dominating it.³

Tauxemont is different from most other developments of the 1940s in that it was built with careful regard for the topography of the land. The original residents thought siting should disturb natural contours of the land as little as possible, unlike most subdivision developers of the period, and today, who plow down all trees and line up the structures like dominos.⁴ The pioneering landscape firm of Olmsted and Vaux had set a precedent for following the land contours with curving roads to create a picturesque landscape in Riverside, Ohio, in the 1870s, and their vision of elegant houses on large lots was admired and emulated in subdivisions for the wealthy. However, it was little followed by developers of economical projects who were trying to provide affordable housing quickly. The philosophy of building "with the land" influenced Robert Davenport, one of the original settlers, who went on to develop Tauxemont II and III, and later Hollin Hills, his renowned development built with the collaboration of the prominent architect Charles Goodman. There, as in Tauxemont, Davenport sited houses so their views of each other were obscured by plantings or land contours, and windows generally did not look directly into neighbors' windows. The original twenty families, with major contributions by one of the group, the architect, Alec Knowlton, came up with the basic one-story "ranch" design consisting of three bedrooms, one bathroom, kitchen, and living /dining "L" space.⁵ The original footprint of the house was only 1,200 square feet, but with its L-shaped room and large windows, the main space is light and airy and seems much larger than it is. The generously sized windows in the living and dining spaces bring the woods inside. In Hollin Hills, Goodman went even farther, designing entire walls of glass for the living and dining areas.

As each section of Tauxemont was built, the basic floor plan remained the same, though it might be flipped. Features that changed were items such as the style and type of windows, the exterior wall material, and the location of the fireplace.

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Windows in the bedrooms of the original Tauxemont I houses did not extend as low as those in Tauxemont II. Windows are metal and double-hung in Section II houses, but tend to be metal casements in Section III. Chimneys are placed differently in each section. In Tauxemont I, they are interior chimneys perched on the ridge of the roof but perpendicular to the ridgeline. In Tauxemont II, the chimneys also tend to be interior but were placed parallel to the ridgeline. In Tauxemont III, they tend to be exterior chimneys on the gable end, except for the ten aluminum houses that have two large square enclosures, housing the chimney and other vents, again perched on the ridgeline.

Tauxemont I houses originally cost \$5,000.00, but with cost overruns during the construction phase, the price escalated to \$5,500.00. They were built of concrete block and had a unique plank roofing system with trusses five feet on center. They were built over a crawl space.

Tauxemont II houses were the first houses sold as speculative houses, and this is probably why the block houses were often faced with brick. The houses in this section originally sold for \$8,000.00, but had a \$500.00 option to create a half basement, possible on the hilly lots. The basements allowed the utilities to be moved downstairs, thus freeing up valuable floor space upstairs. When World War II began, the supply of materials became uncertain. Davenport agreed to charge purchasers "whatever the house cost (not to exceed \$7,500) plus a \$750 fee. If the cost was higher, he would absorb the difference. He finished those houses during the war and lost \$2,000 in the process. Nevertheless, he got an option for the balance of the Tauxemont land in 1945 and completed the process."⁶

Tauxemont III houses were the first houses built after World War II and originally sold for between \$12,000 and \$14,000 and included automatic washers. Tauxemont III North & South are the sections with the greatest variety of design. Though the houses were built on a slab, some were aluminum inside and out, and some were built of block. There were different fireplace locations, and there was an option for a four-foot extension to the length of the house.

The United States had developed steel and aluminum fabricating plants for the defense effort during World War II. Directly after the war, the factories that had produced these war materials tried to switch to homeland production to help with the demand for housing. The fabricators promised that houses could be provided rapidly and constructed in as few as three days, once materials were delivered to the site, with three days more for utilities to be installed. According to a newspaper article saved by a long-time Tauxemont resident,⁷ the Reconstruction Finance Corporation loaned \$225,000 to General Homes, under a sublease from Lustron Corporation, to

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build fifty-four aluminum “modernistic” homes in Tauxemont. The article quotes Robert Davenport as saying, “All homes will be completed by July.”

Plans were drawn and 20’ by 40’ concrete slabs were laid to build aluminum prefabricated houses in Tauxemont Section III, each with three bedrooms and 1,088 square feet of useable floor space. The gas and water pipes were originally embedded in the concrete, but they tended to corrode. Alcoa produced the houses for a builder called General Homes, which had a subcontract with Lustron Corporation. At the Curtis-Wright B-29 Bomber plant in Columbus, Ohio, Alcoa developed a structural system with aluminum skin glued to insulated frames shaped in section like the letter I. Each panel was either two or four inches thick. Windows and doors were shop fabricated and shop installed. While windows were aluminum, doors were to be wooden, with two four-light wood French doors for the side door, and wood panels with one to four lights for the front and rear doors. The houses sent to Tauxemont were General Homes Series 400.⁸

The aluminum house at 1400 Namassin Road has been covered with vertical wood panels, but retains the original aluminum interior. The pressed wall surface simulates tongue-and-groove construction. To turn the exterior corner from the living room into the hall, the aluminum was formed into a faceted colonnette, complete with capital and base. In addition to adding a nice design touch, this strengthens and protects a corner highly vulnerable to being bumped and dented by passersby.

According to Al Manola,⁹ who lived in one of the aluminum houses at 7907 Fort Hunt Road for thirty years, the material looked like the inside of an airplane, but it was “so dense it was harder to drill than steel,” and “so strong that when a tree fell on it, it bent but did not break.” There were down sides to the aluminum construction too. The roofs were flat sheets of aluminum, and when they expanded due to temperature changes they tended to leak. This is probably why these roofs have been replaced with standing-seam metal roofs over time. Another dramatic effect is that rain and acorns falling on the roofs made a big racket, sometimes sounding like gunfire in the fall. These roofs were designed with a big overhang on the front, and were supposed to be sited so that they provided solar protection in the summer and allowed the sun to enter in the winter. The overhang was emulated on the non-aluminum houses in Section III as well. The two large aluminum boxes sited on the peak of the roof are giveaways to the houses that are of aluminum construction. The boxes contain chimney and other vents.

The house parts were fabricated with copper electric wire inside a sandwich of insulation board that had softer aluminum on the inside walls. Because the wiring was enclosed in the sandwich,

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Fairfax County's electrical inspectors insisted on making holes in the aluminum with ice picks to check it. Then there was the problem of how to mend the holes! The aluminum had to be primed with a clear coating before painting.

Because of post-war shortages of copper wiring, the Manola family had to live in a trailer on-site for a year before their house panels could be completed. However, they had it relatively easy. Another long-time Tauxemonger shared the following story:

The aluminum houses were fabricated in Ohio and shipped on two flatbed trucks, half on each truck, much as prefabricated houses are to this day. A whole house is too wide to travel on the roads. The first few houses went along nicely, with only the usual few good whacks with a sledge to encourage the two halves (sic.) to go together properly. Then a truck with a half arrived, but the other truck was a non-show. So an inquiry was mounted. As it happened, the company in Ohio had gone bankrupt, the factory and warehouse sealed and locked, order of the court. That was back in Tauxemont's heroic age, before the place became infested with lawyers. So someone rented a truck, another found a sturdy bolt cutter, and a half a house found itself on a truck, on its way to Tauxemont. Where, with a few good whacks, it became a whole house. There were a lot of aluminum houses, more than one factory making them. But I say without fear of contradiction, that there is only one community that has half an aluminum house that was stole fair and square!¹⁰

With the end of the aluminum experiment, the remaining Tauxemont III houses were built with cinderblocks. Many had brick embellishments, such as a brick-faced insert between the two bedroom windows on the main façade.

The basic Tauxemont house has been the building block for many a varied addition. Most of the additions have kept the one-story theme and have spread out instead of up, thereby keeping nature and the tree canopy as the prevailing design element of the neighborhood. The landscape was paramount to the early Tauxemongers and became a major contributing factor when siting each house. Although each of the original houses was nearly identical to the others, the varied placements on the lots made each one unique. Each addition has also been unique, but the Tauxemont community and its dwellings have continued to blend in with the natural surroundings and have created a rich and diversified refuge in the area.

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ENDNOTES

1. The name is derived from the Native Americans who lived in the area at the time Captain John Smith first explored the area in the early 17th century. Their name is variously recorded as Tauxenent, Taux, Toags, and Dogue. According to Captain Smith, their main Village, which was located south of Mount Vernon on the Potomac was call Tauxenent.

2. Davenport, the developer of Tauxemont and future developer of Hollin Hills, the award-winning community nearby in Fairfax County, is quoted on page 12 of Marian Tiger's "Hollin Hills, A History into the 4th Decade" published by the Hollin Hills Civic Association in 1984, as saying that he first met Goodman when Goodman was invited to design the additions to the Tauxemont houses.

3. A section of an aerial photo of Tauxemont taken by Fairfax County shows the current existing tree cover. See appendix A.

4. A section of the plat map for Tauxemont, with its angled houses, and a neighboring subdivision, with it houses lined up in precise rows, graphically shows the difference. Please see Appendix B.

5. See Appendix C for a plan of a typical Tauxemont house.

6. Tiger, 11.

7. This article is undated, unsigned, and without the name of the newspaper.

8. The specifications for the house at 7905 Fort Hunt Road are reproduced in Appendix D.

9. Al and his daughter Susan both generously recounted tales about living in their aluminum house with the author.

10. Told in resident Andy Westfall's inimitable words in an email to the author.

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Tauxemont Historic District Inventory

Accotink Place

- 7800 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0112
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other, ca 1941**
Original one-story brick house, double-hung windows arranged with one towards the end, then a pair, front door, and Chicago light with double-hung windows on sides.
Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**
- 7801 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0099
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
This is an original Tauxemont house with the windows grouped in 3-2-1 combinations across the facade. Non functional shutters have been added, even to the front door. The chimney is interior, parallel to the roof line.
Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**
- 7804 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0097
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
The original house remains though the front door was moved to a new entry addition with a modern glass wall with a wide end chimney. The original living room window was altered from three double-hung sashes to two. These alterations were by Charles Goodman, and is Case Study Number 2 in the "House and Home" article of August, 1952.
Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**
- 7805 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0100
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
Original Section 2 Tauxemont house with double hung windows grouped in 3, 2 and 1 clusters. Front door is in original position. Eave is extended to provide shelter from sun and rain. Interior chimney is oriented parallel to roof line. A small shed roofed addition has been set back on the south gable end.
Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**
Individual Resource Status: **Garage** **Non-Contributing**
- 7808 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0028
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
Original Tauxemont Section 2 house with double-hung windows grouped in 3, 2, 1 and original front door. A shed-roofed room has been added to the north gable end with casement windows. The interior chimney is parallel to the roof ridge.
Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**
- 7809 **Accotink Place** 029-5199-0091
Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
This is an original Tauxemont Section 2 house with a few alterations. Low one-

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room sized additions have been added to both gable ends of the house. These have flat roofs and large six light windows. The original living room window has been replaced with a bow window, and a small enclosed cross gable entry has been placed at the front door.

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Individual Resource Status: House

7812 Accotink Place 029-5199-0092

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original Section 2 house with double hung windows in groups of three, two and one. Original door is protected by small shed roof supported by two posts. An addition which is under an extension of the gable roof on the south contains a room with a door and a carport.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7813 Accotink Place 029-5199-0093

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house set diagonally to road; A Goodman-designed addition including a shed roof carport, storage building and an additional living room/study area with a brick chimney and new entry has been built across the south end. This is Case Study No. 4 in the "House & Home" article from 1952.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7816 Accotink Place 029-5199-0094

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

One story, side gable, original houses with windows in sets of one, two and three. Small pedimented cross-gable porch roof supported by posts. Small extension on south gable end.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7817 Accotink Place 029-5199-0103

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original house remains, but with a large addition on the southwest gable end. It is differentiated from the original house by a small offset in the wall and roof. The windows in the original house retain their original shape, size and configuration, though they appear to have been replaced with vinyl and faux muntins. An imaginative and beautiful glass entry has been built out from the front door. Roofed with a barrel vaulted copper roof, it is clearly differentiated from the original house.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7820 Accotink Place 029-5199-0098

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

The original house is intact except for a skylight added to the living room. A 2-story addition has been added on the north, with a small attached garage down the hill. A shed roofed porch has been added to the south gable. A flat roofed cover supported on posts protects the front door.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

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7824 Accotink Place 029-5199-0101

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This original house has had an addition by Charles Goodman (Case study No. 1 in "House & Home" article of August, 1952) on the south and a covered porch extends from the original house over the front door, the living room window, and the addition, wrapping around to the rear of the house. A master bedroom was added as part of this addition.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7825 Accotink Place 029-5199-0095

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original Tauxemont Section 2 house with windows in groups of three, two and one.

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Small additions have been added to the north and south gable ends, but otherwise it appears intact.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**

7828 Accotink Place 029-5199-0096

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other, ca 1942**

A large cross gable addition ending in a two-car garage has been added to the original house, extending towards the street. The original door was moved to the end closest to the addition and it was replaced with a window.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Non-Contributing**

Alexandria Avenue

1200 Alexandria Avenue 029-5199-0020

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 3, Style: Other,**

Tall 2 story side gable house with raised basement in rear, two story gabled entrance portico with returns, two car garage with large dormer, 9/9 double hung windows. Yellow brick.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Non-Contributing**

1311 Alexandria Avenue 029-5199-0065

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**

This is an aluminum house, with a standing seam roof and the square chimney surrounds. It has been covered with wood board and batten siding. A low shed roofed screened porch has been built along the front elevation. Has original small double-hung windows.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**

1317 Alexandria Avenue 029-5199-0066

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**

Original house with long elevation towards street. A setback gabled addition has been made on the western end. The windows and doors appear to have been replaced by are in their original places. Addition is compatible.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**

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Bolling Drive

7918 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0061

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**

This house is set with the gable end to the street. A flat-roofed extension is to the north, and a small gabled entry porch roof supported by posts echoes the pitch of the main roof. The windows are replacement vinyl, apparently casements.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Non-Contributing**

7922 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0062

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**

Like other Section 3 houses, this house has an exterior gable end chimney with an adjacent door and a three part window with a fixed screen in the middle and casements on the sides. A small cross gable addition has been made to the far end of the house on the long side.

Individual Resource Status: **House** **Contributing**

7926 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0060

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Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original house is complete, but extended by a long addition which is taller and overpowers the original house. However, this garage/carport addition was apparently added shortly after the house was built, and therefore is historic and a contributing element to the district.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7928 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0059

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

The original Tauxemont house built in 1948 is either completely enclosed in this current house, or it was completely replaced. The current 1.5 story house with two small dormers and one large one over a garage plus a wrap-around porch bears no relationship to Tauxemont's original houses.

Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing

7929 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0053

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other

Original Tauxemont Section 3 house with bedroom windows separated by brick inset and large livingroom window. There are lower gabled additions at each gable end, one of which encloses the original end gable chimney.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7930 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0058

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original Tauxemont Section 3 house with large fixed light window flanked by casements in the living room, then the front door, then two equal-sized bedroom

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windows consisting of three equal-sized lights with the center one fixed and the two flanking ones operable casements.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7931 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0064

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house with a cross gable addition at one end and a lower gable addition at the other end. A new window opening for a bath has been added and all windows appear to have been replaced with sliding windows.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7932 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0057

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house, with shed roofed extension over front door. Gable end is to street, with two 3 light casement windows surmounted by fixed lights of the same size.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7933 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0068

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other, ca 1949

This is an original Tauxemont house with an extended front eave extended further with a shed roof extension, supported by posts, over the front door. Two equal sized windows on one side of front door and large window in living room on other side.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

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7934 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0104

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original block house with replacement casement windows. The gable end is to the street and a small cross gable addition is on the far end. As is typical of this section of Tauxemont, the front eave is extended to shelter the front door and windows from rain and sun.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7936 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0056

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original house with aluminum siding. Original casement windows, 2 light.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7937 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0111

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original brick side gable house with front door and three windows on long side; set diagonally to street. Replacement 6/6 double-hung windows.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7938 Bolling Drive 029-5199-0055

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other, Original

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house, gable end to street with replacement double-hung windows in bedrooms towards street, sliders on front facade. Configuration of openings is original.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

Fort Hunt Road

7719 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0114

Primary Resource Information: School, Stories 2, Style: Other,
The nursery school is a side gable 6-bay cinderblock structure built by the community to serve as a community center and preschool for three and four-year olds. It has casement and sliding glass windows and doors at either end of the upper facade, and one in the center on the lower level. There is a main floor and a basement, both opening out to level ground.

Individual Resource Status: School Contributing

7813 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0048

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original house, covered with aluminum siding. A metal shed-roof covers a porch on the northern gable end. This part of section 3 of Tauxemont has a brick wall between the two bedroom windows. There is a separate gable roofed storage shed to the south of the house.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7817 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0045

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original house without additions. Windows and doors in original locations.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

7821 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0047

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
This is an original Tauxemont section 3 house with three windows across the front plus the front door. It has a small gable roofed addition on the south.

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Individual Resource Status: House

7903 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0049

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

Two story addition to original house built in 1970. Although behind the original, it towers over it. The roof is now complex with various gables; the siding is aluminum, and the double-hung replacement windows are vinyl.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

7905 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0050

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This was one of the original aluminum pre-fab houses (described in the historic district narrative.) The outside has been sided with vertical wood, and the large aluminum chimney surrounds have been removed and replaced with a brick chimney. The original window and door openings are in place, though the living

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room window was replaced with a bow front, and a wooden entry surrounds the front door. An addition on the end towards the street has a tripartite casement window and a large external chimney on the gable end.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

7907 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0046

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This is the most intact of the ten post war houses in Tauxemont that were made of aluminum in prefabricated sections in Columbus, Ohio. This is the only one that retains the exterior aluminum panels. These houses as a group are described in they Tauxemont Historic District architectural description. This house retains its two box chimneys. A porch that is not visible from the front extends along the back of the house.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7911 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0052

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house, stuccoed. Original windows. Set diagonally to street.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7915 Fort Hunt Road 029-5199-0051

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house, small flat roofed addition on south with bow window. Small enclosed cross gable entry added over front door.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

Gahant Road

1301 Gahant Road 029-5199-0039

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original Tauxemont 3 house with small gabled addition on left side. Windows are original metal casements with central fixed pane. Sided with brick.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1302 Gahant Road 029-5199-0043

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

The original Tauxemont house partially burned, and when rebuilt had a second story with 5 dormers on a more steeply pitched roof. Part of the roof overhangs a carport/porch on the east end. 6 square pillars support an extended eave in

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the front which covers a slab porch.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Non-Contributing

1303 Gahant Road 029-5199-0040

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
Original Tauxemont house with original windows.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Contributing

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1304 Gahant Road 029-5199-0044

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
Original block house with original window and door openings. Gable end to street, end gable fireplace.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Contributing

1305 Gahant Road 029-5199-0041

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 3, Style: Other,**
Original house has been greatly altered with a large two-story gabled addition with a tower plus balcony and large skylight.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Non-Contributing

1306 Gahant Road 029-5199-0042

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
Original block house with vinyl windows but still with original casement surrounding fixed light configuration.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Contributing

Namassin Road

Namassin Road 029-5199-0010

Primary Resource Information: **Tennis Court**
Two courts on green composition surface.
Individual Resource Status: **Tennis Court**

Contributing

1300 Namassin Road 029-5199-0032

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
A large, flat-roofed addition has been added on the east elevation of the house, which is situated with its gable end to the street. The addition continues as a flat roof across the gable end, forming a protected entryway, and around to the west elevation, where it forms an extension to the dining room and a storage area. The Dining room window has been replaced. These additions alter the character of the house, which no longer resembles the original.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Non-Contributing

1301 Namassin Road 029-5199-0031

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
This original house, with its gable end towards the road, has the original windows. A wooden storage addition joined to the house with a flat roof, provides an entry way over the front door.
Individual Resource Status: **House**

Contributing

1304 Namassin Road 029-5199-0033

Primary Resource Information: **House, Stories 1, Style: Other,**
House is original with a screened porch on the west gable end. There is a cross gable addition on the eastern end, but it is not visible from the street.

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Individual Resource Status: House

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1305 Namassin Road 029-5199-0030

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house with metal casement windows surrounding a fixed light over a fixed light. A partially screened porch extends along the center of the rear. A lower gable roofed extension has been added on the end away from the road.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1308 Namassin Road 029-5199-0034

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house, gable end to street, has had stucco and "half-timbering" added over block walls. A small gabled addition has been added towards the street, with a bedroom and bath addition on the far end out of sight from the street. House retains original metal casement windows with fixed lights in the middle and transom lights over the dining room windows.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1312 Namassin Road 029-5199-0035

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original block house, gable end to street, has been sided with vinyl. All windows have been replaced with vinyl, and a gabled addition with Palladian windows and sliding glass doors has been added on the street side. There is a carport/storage shed in the yard.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

1400 Namassin Road 029-5199-0036

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This is one of the aluminum houses, as can be seen from the standing seam roof and the two square chimney surrounds on the roof. The sides have been covered with vertical board and batten siding. The front facade faces the street, but all visitors use the door in the end gable. The aluminum walls, shaped to look like tongue and groove siding, are visible throughout the house, with a faceted column with base and capital to turn the outside corner from living room to hall.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1401 Namassin Road 029-5199-0029

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original brick-over-block house with gable end towards road. Small garage addition.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1405 Namassin Road 029-5199-0038

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original house, faced with brick, has a flat roofed wooden carport and a gabled one room addition aligned with the original gable on the northeast, and a lower, set back one room gabled addition on the southwest. The brick changes color between the original house and the room on the northeast, differentiating it from the original.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

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Shenandoah Road

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1200 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0069

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other, ca 1948

Original cinderblock house with extension behind. Has original double-hung windows.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1201 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0090

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

House is original, with small entry roof supported by poles. Has a basement that is partially daylight and a small gable roofed addition on left side.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1204 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0084

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,

A large shed-roofed addition with a skylight has been extended in the front of the original brick house. The addition has no windows on the front facade. A wooden deck provides entry to a new front door. House has a walk out basement in the rear.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

1205 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0085

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original side gable house with windows in groups of 3, 2 and 1, and a small cross gable porch roof supported by posts over front door. A lower addition, set back, has been made on the south end.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1208 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0086

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This is an original Section Two house with double-hung metal windows in groups of 3, 2 and 1 with horizontal rectangular lights. The house is block with an interior chimney.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1212 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0071

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other, ca 1941

The original house with its windows and doors exists, with an enclosed foyer leading to the garage and a large living space across the back that is not visible from the road. A low stone patio joins the house and the garage and is accessed by steps leading to a new front door.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

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1213 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0087

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other

Original block side gable house faced with brick set with gable end towards road. A small cross gable porch roof supported with poles covers front door.

Windows appear original. A set back, lower gable roof addition is added to the south gable end.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

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1216 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0073

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Second Empire,
Original house has been topped by a second story in a mansard roof with five gabled dormers. A gabled wing was added to the south gable end, and a mansard roofed garage to the north gable end. The door has been replaced with a glass multi-paned door with sidelights. A gabled porch and entry way extend from the original floor. The original window openings in the lower floor appear to be intact, but with 6/6 double hung windows.

Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing

1217 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0077

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original side gable masonry house with original casement windows.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

1220 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0078

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,
The original house has been much altered with a two-story glass and wood addition with a flat roof on the south and a carport on the north gable end. This house had been expanded by Charles Goodman, but a fire destroyed the addition. As rebuilt, it does not contribute.

Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing

1221 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0079

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original brick faced block house with double-hung windows grouped as 3, 2 and 1, with three being in the living room.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

1224 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0081

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Of the original house, only the two bedroom windows can be seen. A taller gable roofed addition has been added with a large exterior brick fireplace and a wall of fixed and casement windows surmounted by transoms. There is also a small addition on the north with a shed roof.

Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing

1225 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0080

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
The roof of the original house was raised to a steeper pitch to add a second story with dormers in the front and a shed dormer all across the back. An addition set back from the first with its own gable has been added on the north,

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as well as a gabled garage-storage shed on the south and a cross gabled porch roof supported by poles with benches attached at the front door.

Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing

1228 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0102

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
This is an original Tauxemont house with its windows arranged as three double-hung windows, then the front door, then two double-hung windows, then one, the latter two for bedrooms and the large one for the living room. The house has an interior chimney, and is faced with brick.

Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

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- 1229 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0083
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,
Set into the hill, this house has a walk-out basement. The original house has a gable end addition with a wall of mixed windows, on the south. The house appears original and the addition is compatible.
Individual Resource Status: House Contributing
- 1231 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0075
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,
This cross gabled house with a two-story wing over a garage and an open porch across the front makes no pretensions to being an Tauxemont house.
Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing
- 1232 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0082
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
One story built into slope of hill, gable end towards street with small addition facing street. Some fixed, multi-light windows, some double hung.
Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing
- 1233 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0074
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
Original cinderblock house faced with brick, long side to road, windows casement in sets of 1, 2, and 3. Little or no alterations.
Individual Resource Status: House Contributing
- 1234 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0072
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other, Original aluminum house with aluminum box chimneys has been sided in modern aluminum siding. The windows have been replaced with vinyl and a large gabled addition with a short eave on one side and vertical siding has been added to the north gable end. A porch has been added to the far end. The cumulative effect of these changes is to present a house that is twice as long as the original, drastically changing its proportions.
Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing
- 1238 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0088
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
This is an original Tauxemont section 3 house with a wide window in the living room consisting of a large fixed light with small casements on either side, the

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front door, and then two windows with narrow fixed lights flanked by casements in the bedrooms. The eave extends in the front for protection from rain and sun.
Individual Resource Status: House Contributing

- 1239 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0089
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other,
This is a new brick house with a tall gabled roof with four dormers; the front eave extends over a 4 bay porch and there is a two car cross gable garage attached to the western end. Windows are double hung.
Individual Resource Status: House Non-Contributing
- 1241 Shenandoah Road 029-5199-0070
Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,
This is an original brick-over-cinderblock Tauxemont Section 3 house with two fixed lights surrounded by casement windows for the bedrooms and a window with a large fixed light flanked by casements in the living room. There is a gable end chimney.

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Individual Resource Status: House

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Tauxemont Road

Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0003

Primary Resource Information: Park

Site is located between 7729 and 7731 Tauxemont Road and has bushes around houses, trees behind, grass in middle. There are two picnic tables with an oval wood carved sign at the entrance path announcing "Wellemeier Field" and a fence on the north, east, and south sides.

Individual Resource Status: Park

Contributing

7700 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0001

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original one story house has a small cross gable addition on the south end with a second fireplace and a second door. The house retains its original openings, but the windows appear to now be vinyl, though still casements.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing

7701 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0002

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: No Style listed

This is the original rectangular, end-gable, four-bay house with a small gable addition and wood deck on the south gable end. The tax record says exterior is part block, part aluminum. Aluminum not confirmed by surveyor.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7705 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0015

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Modern Movement,

Large 2-story shed-roofed addition extending towards front property line from southern end of original house. Garage built on other end of original block. Roof extended to shelter front door. Windows in addition relatively large.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

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7709 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0006

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original 4-bay house with sole addition of "Greek Revival" style portico over front door. Tax record mentions remodeling, no addition, however footprint looks like there was an addition on the rear. It is not visible from the street.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7713 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0008

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Despite additions to both gable ends, it is possible to envisage the original circulation and shape of the house, which contributes to the historic district.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7729 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0120

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original basic rectangular house was modified by the addition of a new living/dining room and porch with new entryway by architect Charles Goodman, who designed the award-winning Hollin Hills houses. It is Case Study No. 5, discussed in the August, 1952 issue of House & Home.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing

7731 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0014

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

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House appears unchanged except for small extension of eave over front door and small addition on southern gable end. Some skylights on front.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7735 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0016

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This is the original Tauxemont house for Section 1, with the addition of a small extension of the eave to form a shed roof over the front door. The extension is supported by two posts. The chimney is interior, the living room window is two casements on either side of a fixed light.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

7739 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0019

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

This house was bulldozed in 2005 for new construction. It had been an almost unmodified original house, with metal casement windows with three horizontal lights in each for the bedrooms and double-hung windows on the gable ends. The house is block, with an interior chimney perpendicular to the roof line. A small shed roof supported by posts covers the front door. New house being built.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

7740 Tauxemont Road 029-5199-0121

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Modern Movement,

The original house was a standard Tauxemont I cinderblock rectangle. An addition was designed by Charles Goodman (Case study No 7 in House & Home article of August, 1952. The addition provides a modified kitchen, new large living room with large areas of glass and large fireplace, new entry and second bathroom.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

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Westmoreland Road

1147 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0027

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original block house has been covered with vinyl siding. A cross-gable addition has been added to the end away from the street. The original house is still clearly discernable. The windows are now double-hung.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1148 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0026

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original house is covered with vertical wood siding. It is as originally configured.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

Individual Resource Status: Studio

Non-Contributing

1151 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0024

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house with brick siding and overhang on primary facade. Original windows and doors. Sidelights in small addition on far end away from street.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1155 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0023

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original house with gable end to road, stuccoed. Windows have original configuration but have been replaced with vinyl casements. An extension of the gable roof on the far side covers an extension with a picture window.

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Individual Resource Status: House

1156 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0022

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 2, Style: Other

This house appears to retain its original configuration, though the only part that can really be seen from the street is the gable end towards the street and a wooden porch deck that has been added along the front. The wild vegetation completely fills the lot right up to the walls and obscures most of the house. It appears to have at least a partial walk-in basement.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1159 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0021

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

Original brick house with extended eave, end gable chimney and original window configuration. Windows are sliding. Front facade faces street.

Individual Resource Status: House

Contributing

1200 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0054

Primary Resource Information: Other,

Original house razed in 2004.

Individual Resource Status: Other

Non-Contributing

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1204 Westmoreland Road 029-5199-0108

Primary Resource Information: House, Stories 1, Style: Other,

The original brick house has been overwhelmed by a large cross gable addition to the left and a two-car garage to the right. In addition a large gabled portico supported by paired columns on each side obscures the door, which has been replaced with a wide door with sidelights and an oval glass insert in the center. All windows appear to be vinyl double hung replacements.

Individual Resource Status: House

Non-Contributing

Total Number of Resources: 98

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Fairfax County, Virginia

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tauxemont Historic District is significant at the local level under Criteria A (community planning) and C (architecture). The residential community exemplifies a communal response to the need for housing as Washington, D.C.'s population burgeoned in the 1940s. One of the first suburban developments in Fairfax County, Tauxemont was initially built by Tauxemont Homes, Inc, a cooperative formed by a group of idealistic young government employees and their families who had been drawn to the area by the promise of jobs with various New Deal agencies. Beginning in 1941 land was acquired by the cooperative and Tauxemont was planned and developed by cooperative member Robert Davenport, who would go on to win international acclaim for a later planned residential community nearby (Hollin Hills) which drew on design elements he first used in Tauxemont. Another member of the cooperative, architect Alexander "Sandy" Knowlton, designed the houses in Tauxemont and acted as agent—hiring and supervising construction crews, purchasing materials, and siting the houses on the building lots. Davenport's site plan followed the natural, curving topography of the hills with minimum disruption of the natural trees and undergrowth. While most contemporary residential developments were characterized by regular rows of houses placed parallel to the roads and the topography bulldozed to allow regularity of orientation, Tauxemont featured basic and affordable houses that were sited and screened by natural vegetation to provide privacy, yet communal paths led to community spaces--the pre-school, the playing field, and the tennis courts--where neighbors could gather. The houses followed the tenets of modern architecture in their honesty of materials, interaction with the environment through large windows and siting, and openness and flexibility of interior space. The ingenuity shown in the development of the

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community's first section was continued in the later sections, as aluminum, from factories trying to convert to peace-time uses after World War II, was used as a building material. All three sections of Tauxemont were completed by the late 1940s. Many initial functions of the community were carried out jointly, from building to carpooling to work, school, and grocery shopping. Families volunteered at the nursery school as well. This community spirit endures today and extends to the children, who often return to live in Tauxemont, appreciating it as a very special place.

Historical Background

The formation of the Tauxemont community was very much a product of the presidential administration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), who was elected to an unprecedented four terms, serving as president from 1933 to 1945.¹ His New Deal policies, introduced to help pull the country out of the Great Depression (1929-1939), focused on social

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reform and economic stimulation and brought protection for labor unions, Social Security, public works, wage and hour laws, assistance to farmers, and a host of programs aimed at keeping people at work.² All of these new programs dramatically increased the size of the federal government and brought thousands of idealistic young professionals to the Washington area from throughout the country.

Not enough housing was available in the metropolitan area to cope with the needs of these new residents. Housing starts throughout the country had been slowed dramatically by the Depression.³ This fact, together with competition for available units, led to a rapid increase in housing costs, a process exacerbated by World War II, which further accelerated the pace of growth and consequent demand for housing.

While the population of the United States as a whole climbed from 123,202,624 in 1930 to 132,164,569 in 1940 and 151,325,798 in 1950, the District of Columbia almost doubled in size, rising from a population of 486,869 in 1930 to 802,178 in 1950. During this same time span, the growth in the city's population was matched by prices for existing single-family homes, which rose from a median of \$7,146 in 1930 to \$12,309 in 1947. The story was similar in Washington's greater metropolitan area. During the same twenty years, the nearby state of Virginia grew from 2,421,851 people in 1930, to 2,677,773 in 1940, and 3,318,680 in 1950.⁴ Much of Virginia's growth took place in the suburbs surrounding the city of Washington. The population of Fairfax County, Virginia, for example, quadrupled between 1930 and 1950, rising

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from 25,000 to almost 99,000 in just twenty years.⁵ While fueled by the growth of the population, the expansion of the suburbs around the city was facilitated by the fact that automobiles had become a staple feature of American life by the 1930s. According to one source, the number of cars in the country as a whole increased rapidly from 8,000 in 1900 to 1,000 times that number in 1920, and to 22 million in 1930.⁶

In 1940, a number of New Deal federal employees, many of whom worked for the United States Department of Agriculture, were living in Buckingham Village Garden Apartments which had been built in the late 1930s as a response to the incredible need for housing in the Washington metropolitan area and were described in 1939 as “the largest garden apartment complex in the United States.”⁷ Somewhat innovative itself, the complex at Buckingham was constructed using a number of techniques to cut costs, including standardization of building elements and economies of scale.

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As their families grew, a small group of these young couples at the Buckingham complex found that they needed more space and banded together to solve their housing problem. Located between the town of Alexandria and the Mount Vernon historic site, the community they would found became one of the first suburban developments in Northern Virginia. Through cooperative purchasing of supplies and self-contracting, the group sought to build relatively inexpensive houses for less money. In doing so, they utilized many ideas current at that period concerning the landscaping and construction of neighborhoods for small houses, which were being encouraged by the Federal Housing Authority beginning in 1940. The basis of the FHA’s new ideas was a standardized single-story house, which could be easily enlarged as the family and its income grew, and could be differentiated from its neighbors through a variety of exterior finishes. According to the government, further variety could be added to these basic little houses, “by varying the elements of exterior design in ways that avoided repetition and gave the neighborhood an interesting and pleasing character, for example, by varying the placement of each house on its lot and introducing a variety of wall materials and roof types.”⁸

The Buckingham group officially incorporated on January 6, 1941 as Tauxemont Homes, Inc. and began looking for land on which they would build. An early resident later described the process:

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The cooperative made the decisions about Tauxemont. I and a committee bought the land. We and Frank Watson and the Ulmers had looked around at two or three parcels of land. One of the parcels was located near where Huntington [Metro] Station is now.⁹

Two months later, in March of 1941, the cooperative purchased 12.36 acres of land, which made up the first section of the current Tauxemont neighborhood. The land was acquired from Samuel B. and Ruth J. Moore¹⁰, who had owned the property since 1926, when they bought it from Harriet M. Frost.¹¹ The Frost family had purchased the land, then a farm known as Wellington, in 1890 from Oscar Baker¹², who had, in turn, acquired it from Charles C. Smoot, John B. Smoot, and their wives, on 9 October, 1883.¹³ The exact date of the Smoots' acquisition of the property is unknown, but it is clear that it had been on the market for about twenty years, as the estate of the previous owner, Aquilla Emerson (died prior to 1853) was disputed through the courts. Emerson had purchased 169 ½ acres of land on July 5, 1811, which, except for two very small parcels sold to George Mason of Hollin Hall in 1839 and 1840, remained in his possession until his death. Research by Beth Mitchell at the Fairfax County Archives indicates that all three sections of Tauxemont fall within the Emerson farm. Prior to its acquisition by Mr. Emerson¹⁴, the property had been owned for five years (since May 17, 1806) by Peter and Eleanor Sherron, who had acquired it from Walter and Catharine Alexander.¹⁵ It had come into the Alexander

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family as part of 594 acres sold to Garrard Alexander sometime prior to 1761 by Thomas Smith and his wife, Ann, who was the daughter of Colonel George Mason. Ann Mason Smith had inherited the property through her first husband, William Darrell, to whom it had been bequeathed in the 1715 will of Thomas Sandiford. Previously, on February 12, 1703, a patent for 598 acres of land, near the Potomac River and adjacent to property belonging to John West and Thomas Ball, had been issued to Sandiford by Thomas, the Fifth Lord Fairfax, who had come into the land upon his marriage to Catherine, the heir of Thomas, Second Lord Culpeper (died 1689). Lord Culpeper had originally been granted the land as a part of a huge tract from King Charles II.¹⁶ An artifact of this early English period of Tauxemont's history was found in 1960 in the yard at 6 Tauxemont Road [now 7732 Tauxemont Road]. While removing a tree in the back yard of the house, Blair J. Scrivener came across a brass spoon, with shallow bowl and straight handle, which was made in England about 1650.¹⁷

Acting as president of the new corporation, Tauxemont Cooperative Houses, Inc., was Robert Carroll Davenport (1906-2002), who later achieved international fame as the developer of the neighboring community of Hollin Hills. Davenport, a native of Norfolk, Virginia, was a graduate of the University of Nebraska and, like many of the other original residents, had moved to the Washington area in the mid-1930s and taken a job with the Department of Agriculture. He

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would eventually leave his government job in the 1950s in order to concentrate full-time on building communities. During his career, he is credited with the construction of 458 houses, most of them in Hollin Hills. That community, developed between 1949 and 1971, became well-known for the efforts made to maximize tree preservation during construction, as well as for its curving streets, and efforts to configure the houses to fit the contours of the land, features which were used by Mr. Davenport a few years earlier in Tauxemont. Hollin Hills, which also features the work of Washington architect Charles Goodman, has won numerous awards, including being named the nation's outstanding development by the Southwest Research Institute in 1951 and the Test of Time Award from the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects in 1982.¹⁸ Another Tauxemont resident, graphic artist Samuel Surovell, designed the prospectus for Hollin Hills in the spring of 1949. A newspaper article, which mentioned the new development, noted the similarity between the houses in the two neighborhoods: "...the Hollin Hills homes will be of two types. Both are designed by Charles Goodman. One is suited for an inclined site and uses several floor levels....The other type...is built in one level and is an improved version of the old or basic Tauxemont house."¹⁹

Construction on the initial phase of the Tauxemont community took place through the spring and summer of 1941. Another member of the corporation/cooperative, architect Alexander "Sandy"

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Knowlton, designed the houses in Tauxemont, and acted as agent—hiring and supervising construction crews, purchasing materials, and siting the houses on the building lots. According to one of the young wives watching this process:

The only planned community lot was the well site on Tauxemont Rd., but the other two were left over pieces that didn't fit into the half acre plan. One was lot 9, which had the right of way, and the other had an odd shape and became the community house site. Sandy Knowlton did all the site planning and it was rather original. It took the trees into consideration. The lots were numbered and a felt hat was passed around and we all drew from it. Then there was a lot of swapping. Construction began at 7701 and proceeded around the circle, so we were among the last three to move in. By that time it had become increasingly difficult to keep labor because of the building of Fort Belvoir.²⁰

Several decades later, she informed a newcomer to the neighborhood that, "We wanted to be near one another, but put the houses at these odd angles so we couldn't look in one another's [sic] kitchen window."²¹ Another couple remembered this stage of the process, as well:

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Sites for people's houses were chosen by the drawing of lots, and the Davenports drew for us while we were in California. There was much swapping to be near friends. The Davenports always wanted the land where the Smiths are now. We traded the Wellemeyer land to be near the Davenports.²²

By late fall of 1941, the young families began moving into their new houses, having achieved their goal of constructing affordable homes for about 70% of market rate. Total cost of the first section of houses in Tauxemont was \$5,500.²³ One of that original group later recalled her family's decision to take part in this new community and their experiences at this stage of its development:

Sam [her late husband] was earning about \$1680 when we moved in. We had already had two rent raises (apartment in Buckingham). The rent was in the low \$40's for a one bedroom apartment, and we already had two children. The monthly payments for a Tauxemont house were \$38 including taxes. If you made \$3600 a year in those days you made a lot of money....

For some reason we were all definitely considered artsy types. Sam was the only one who had actually done this for a living.

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The idea of choosing your own colors for tiles, etc., was great, and buying in quantities of 20 for saving money was very exciting. Even in those days a Tauxemont house was a fantastic bargain....The house was supposed to cost \$5000 and ended up costing \$5500. But you couldn't have bought it commercially for \$8000.²⁴

At this time, Tauxemont was fairly isolated. Just to the east of the neighborhood, the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway had only been completed less than a decade before. Finished in January of 1932, just in time for the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, the road was hailed at the time as "America's Most Modern Motorway." According to one history of the project, "Highway engineers, planners, and the popular press celebrated the parkway as the ultimate blend of modern engineering, landscape architecture, historic preservation, and patriotic sentiment."²⁵ In addition to enabling hundreds of thousands of visitors each year to travel to Mount Vernon by automobile, the new roadway also made it easier to commute to jobs in the nation's capital from this part of Fairfax County. About 2 ½ miles away to the north of Tauxemont, the community of Belle Haven, begun in the 1920s, was still being constructed, a process which would continue until 1963. At the beginning of 1940, there were 136 houses in that neighborhood; another 58 would be added by the end of 1942. The majority of these pre-

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and early-World War II structures were formal, two-story colonials in style.²⁶ Much of the area surrounding Tauxemont was either farmland or woods. An Episcopal retreat known as Holiday House was within walking distance of the neighborhood. One original resident recalled the “well-tended cornfield” there and that, “I used to walk over to the [Holiday] house through the woods and through an old-fashioned stile in a fence.”²⁷ Looking back at the changes in the area, another noted wistfully, “We chose the lot on Fort Hunt Road because we could see beautiful sunsets. Hazel Fobes and I used to wheel our baby carriages on Fort Hunt Road. The owner of the land across the road said they’d never build on that land and within two years they put up Hollin Hall Village. They took away our view of the farm land, but they couldn’t take away the sunset.”²⁸ A boy who grew up in Tauxemont remembered that, “Cows, horses, even pigs escaping from nearby farms would run across our yards, followed soon by tired farmers.”²⁹

Shortly after construction was completed on the first section of Tauxemont in 1941, the owners realized that they would have to take responsibility for services not provided by Fairfax County or any other entity at that time. “After a period of informal cooperation,” they tried to officially organize as a cooperative according to Virginia law. Although that request was turned down by the State Corporation Commission, the community was able to establish itself as a corporation on

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a non-profit, cost-sharing basis, incorporated as the Tauxemont Community Association, for the purpose of providing those services.³⁰ Residents took an active part in a number of efforts for the benefit of the group as a whole. As one recalled, “I also participated in the mosquito patrol. There was a long tradition of cooperative efforts that went way back to the people from the Department of Agriculture. There was a very strong tradition of community involvement.”³¹ Another remembered a time when, “We put down milky spore to fight the Japanese beetle. The whole community, it was a community effort.”³² A “roads committee” worked to get Fairfax County to take charge of the community’s roads, “but we had to pave them first. The roads were dirt and gravel, rough, rutted.”³³ There was even a “victory garden” in the baseball field during those early years, which coincided with the Second World War.³⁴ A shortage of public transportation led many of the early residents to begin carpooling. One couple later remembered, “We organized car pools, because most of the men worked in the District for the federal government, and this organizational effort developed a state of mind for cooperation. The atmosphere was really remarkable.”³⁵

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That spirit of cooperative self-help and innovation has continued through the years. Two additional sections were added to the community in 1942 and the late 1940s. When Section III was constructed after the war, ten of the houses were built of aluminum produced by factories changing from wartime production of aircraft to peacetime uses, but the idea of using this surplus material soon had to be abandoned for the remainder of the section.

Many years later, two of the original residents of Section III described their experiences with the construction of their new home to a neighbor:

We ordered the house and waited eighteen months to two years. It was because the original Davenport construction plans were for prefab aluminum houses, but by the time he got well into it, what seemed like an advanced engineering idea didn't work out. The firm, General Homes, from Ohio, produced prototypes, but they never really got into mass production. They couldn't make the pieces fit. The houses looked nice, but the workers had to do it by hand because the pieces didn't go together. There was no advantage to the idea, so it had to be abandoned. We drew up a new contract and the design was very similar. The dimensions were about the same, but we had a little more variation with the cinder block. By the time we moved here we had two children, but we had had only one when we ordered the house.³⁶

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Another couple in this section had a similar experience, commenting that, "In the beginning, we contracted for an aluminum house, but General Homes, who furnished the shell, went out of business and we switched to masonry." They went on to note that, "Bob Davenport seemed to keep running out of money, or costs rose, so we were asked every now and then to add to our downpayment. Our families were sure we were in for a terrible rip-off, but we kept the faith."³⁷ At least one resident, however, attributed the construction challenges of these innovative houses to an accident on the way from their place of manufacture, recalling that, "The truck carrying the parts for the aluminum houses struck an overpass while on the way here. The parts were all bent—that's why they wouldn't fit together properly."³⁸ Two other residents related some of the problems for those living in the aluminum houses. Pearl Thompson commented that, "You can't fix them," while Judy Fisher Goodkind recalled that she was "fascinated because if you threw a rock at one of the aluminum houses, the dent was in it forever."³⁹

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Even for those residents of Tauxemont II & III who had not contracted for an aluminum house, the time spent waiting for their home to be built could be something of a challenge:

In 1947 I was living in the building we put up in the back of the house because Dav [Davenport] was so slow in putting up the house. It was not quite a packing crate. It was big, now a 3-car garage. He agreed to pour a small slab where I had thought to put up a garage, and I put up a building about 20 x 25. It had a gas range, bathroom. The septic tank was there, but without the field, so we ran a line to the tank and I don't know where it went. It cost me \$1516 and I stayed in it for about a winter, half of 1947. Ruth came down in February of 1948 and four of us lived in there. We divided it up into two little bedrooms and a common kitchen. In February, 1948, Davenport finally got materials and we watched the house being built from our structure in back of it.⁴⁰

While some of the delay may have resulted from supply shortages after the war, one couple recalled that Tauxemont's location near Washington may well have made the wait less than it might otherwise have been:

We were married in 1946. We were supposed to move in in 1947. We bought the lot and used to come here and put the playpen on the slab and spend the day walking around. We

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finally moved in in August of 1948. Priorities were given to construction where federal government expansion was having an impact, so that's why Davenport could build. Tauxemont II was conceived before the war started. This was supposed to be an aluminum house, but the factory went broke.⁴¹

The cost of the later houses increased substantially from those of the first section. The lot alone cost one couple \$1,800 in 1947, and the house was an additional \$13,500.⁴²

Additions to the basic houses were begun very early, with many, including a greenhouse and "a carport which will be the first garage in Tauxemont," appearing in the late 1940s. Progress was often slow, however, because the artisans doing the work were very busy and customers had to be put on waiting lists. Some residents were even doing the work themselves. One of these early additions was described as:

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...a multi-purpose room with a glass wall. These aspects place the adjunct, superficially, in the Goodman tradition. At the same time, the adjunct differs from earlier Tauxemont additions in that the glass wall is on the north side and has scrim curtains; and the multi-functional use of space is conceived vertically instead of horizontally. Mrs. Essene's creation does not require a separate heating plant, being uncompromisingly air-conditioned.⁴³

By October of 1948, two of the houses in the final section, Tauxemont III, had been expanded, one with a "big, shiny garage," and the other, described as "still rather dull [as it] approaches its final form."⁴⁴ In the spring of 1949, when the Myatt family moved into their new home on Bolling Drive, following a two-year wait, they already had plans in the works for a "garage hobby-room addition," which led a neighbor to report that "their foresighted consideration led to an installed access water pipe for the future structure."⁴⁵

The isolation felt by the original residents of Section I were also felt by those who moved into the two later sections. Its wildness stuck in some people's minds for years, with one couple recalling that there "were copperheads and black snakes in there."⁴⁶ Another couple remembered that:

Our life then was much more centered on Alexandria than it is today. The A&P was up on the hill near the Metro station. It was like shopping in a big barn. We had the Franklin Street Safeway, too. We had no telephone for three months. The Fobes had the only one in the whole development....⁴⁷

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Some of that isolation might have been relieved by people who came to the neighborhood, in an attempt to find work or to sell things. Truck drivers, hauling crates into the Washington area from overseas, "got the idea there was a huge market for boxes in Tauxemont." They would come into the community and "drive all over the neighborhood looking for customers." The crates, each eight feet high, could be purchased for about ten dollars, and were used for additional "storage space, tool sheds and playhouses."⁴⁸ Others who sought work in the neighborhood were Eddie Beavers, who brought in "well-rotted sawdust" for enriching people's gardens and "Andy the Plowman," who helped with gardening, including tree trimming and removal.⁴⁹ Another person who helped out was "Lost John... who had the contract to get flagstone...." Lost John's source for the stones was said to be a secret, but he continued to supply the community for many years. One couple recalled that, as "late as 1977 when we were doing our renovation, we were able to get in touch with Lost John through a son in law who was able to get him sober enough to get us flagstones that matched

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perfectly. He was some kind of character.”⁵⁰

For the benefit of the neighborhood’s children, a backyard/basement preschool was established in 1942. Still in operation, it is the oldest cooperative preschool in Fairfax County.⁵¹ When the basement where class was held flooded due to winter rains, the community decided on a more permanent solution. The original schoolhouse, a pre-fabricated structure described as “surplus army barracks,” was erected in 1945 using community labor under the direction of resident Al Hussey. According to one resident, “while the men put up the building, the women made food.” Another remembered that, “Everyone helped put it up and the women supplied food in huge dishpans.” The building was known in the neighborhood as “Highpoints,” because of the shape of the roof.⁵² It was destroyed by an electrical fire on a very cold night in 1946 and was replaced by the current preschool building, which also serves as the community house. During the interim, classes seem to have been held at the Girls Friendly Holiday House, the previously mentioned retreat center dating to the late 1800s, which the community rented from the Episcopal Church, and on an upper story of the local firehouse. Only ten days of class appear to have been lost because of the fire.⁵³

Like its predecessor, the present preschool/community center building was constructed using labor from the Tauxemont neighborhood. Many years afterwards, one couple recalled that, “We all contributed to the preschool. The construction was a contract job, but there was a lot of work to do, too. Al Hussey and Irwin Hedges seemed to quit work to do it. The building was practically new when it had to be dug up again because of water flowing through the bottom floor.”⁵⁴ Another man wrote that he had “participated in the building of the new school. We were sinking deadmen to anchor the walls. It was one of the first things we got involved in.”⁵⁵

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From the beginning, family members took turns helping out at the school. One woman said of the experience, “I got my initiation into community through participating in the cooperative preschool with three out of our four children. That was community at its most intense, and some of us are still friends [remarkably] through that first experience.”⁵⁶ The first teacher was Helen Knowlton, wife of architect Alexander Knowlton, and a graduate of the Bank Street School in New York.⁵⁷

Another early teacher was Mrs. Lucille Jackson, an African-American woman, who was willing to come out each day on the bus, in order to teach for a half day of classes for the four-year-old group. One couple later remembered:

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... This was in the era of Virginia's Massive Resistance, and the dissatisfaction with the arrangement was heard all over the area, but not among the parents of the preschool children, who found her to be an excellent teacher. Several Tauxemonters not connected to the school raised objections, and threatened to write to Senator Byrd, but when a general meeting was held, only one Tauxemont cast a negative vote...the right of the Tauxemont Preschool Board to employ whomever it chose was confirmed.

The rumor that Tauxemont was 'red' began to be heard. Mrs. Jackson stayed on for one year and then was hired for a full time job closer to her home in the District, and she resigned.⁵⁸

Another family recalled that, "People said we shouldn't buy here because we had a black teacher in the school, and because there was a 'communist cell' up on Tauxemont Road."⁵⁹ Cora Fisher, another early teacher, was asked by the school board to write a guide to preschool education, "including the philosophy, childhood development, equipment needed, etc., for those age groups. The guide went not only to Tauxemont, but was used by the Federation of Cooperative Preschools."⁶⁰

It may have been this sort of liberal attitude, combined with a misunderstanding of the community's cooperative roots and a number of high-profile residents who were active members of the local Democratic party (Richard R. Ranney⁶¹ and Flossie Surovell⁶²) and the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church (Saul Baran, Rusty Clauss,⁶³ Katherine S. Henry,⁶⁴ Jane & John Kofler, Eleanor Royer Lehrer,⁶⁵ Flossie Surovell), both of which supported liberal social causes, such as civil rights and opposition to the Vietnam War, which led residents of surrounding neighborhoods to

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look askance at Tauxemont and its denizens.⁶⁶ A very specific cause for the attitude about Tauxemont, now probably long-forgotten, but still coloring the local folklore, were the arrest of one former resident, Jack Fisher, for Communist leanings, based on books he purchased at a Georgetown bookstore during the McCarthy era, and the conviction of one of the original "pioneer" residents, a government employee named William Remington, for espionage on behalf of the Communist Soviet Union, in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Historian Gary May noted of the Remingtons' neighbors in Tauxemont, that they "were friendly; most were civil servants like Bill and some were leftists—members of the Washington Book Shop, the American League for Peace and Democracy, and other Communist Party front groups."⁶⁷

This opinion about the neighborhood, begun early in its history, has continued to the present time.

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One of the current residents, who grew up in the neighborhood, remembers that when her father began working at the Pentagon in the 1950s and mentioned where he was living, he was told that it was a “hotbed of communists.”⁶⁸ According to another neighbor:

Tauxemonters were regarded with some suspicion. When we went to vote the Registrar really looked us over. He was a nice guy, but I was almost scared to go, even in the official registration hours. It wasn't perhaps us they viewed with suspicion as much as change.

I never experienced any hostility. We were an activist group. The generally cooperative outlook engendered a lot of suspicion. From the very first, Tauxemonters didn't mind going over to the Board of Supervisors and speaking their piece instead of staying quiet for a couple of years.⁶⁹

Two traditions begun by Tauxemont's founders--a spring garden walk and a series of neighborhood-wide “Dutch suppers”--continue to help build and maintain community spirit. The Dutch suppers may have originated with another New Deal agency. According to long-time resident, Emily Myatt:

We had encountered cooperative community activities when we were with the TVA at Muscle Shoals, and we had a close-knit community group, and a community house with kitchen and whatever, and we had pretty frequent Dutch Suppers, square dances, lectures, book reviews, etc. We were so enthusiastic about our life there and the kinds of things

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we did that we tried to drag as much of it around as we possibly could. At Tauxemont Dutch Suppers, as I recall, we first used saw horses and boards or pieces of plywood for tables. We always tried to have a theme and some kind of special entertainment. We had movies or Ward Allen's musical things. The movie projection was so terrible, but it didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm for it. Most of this took place upstairs [at the community house], probably the reason the building started sliding down the hill.⁷⁰

An even more informal, but still much-loved event, is Christmas Eve caroling, which has concluded with cookies and wassail at one particular home since the late 1950s. Looking back on her years as hostess for this special evening, Dotty Ann McClelland noted, “Two and three generations of a family often attend—we've watched as the babies grew up and began bringing

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their babies. It's a wonderful, warm occasion, a true neighborhood event we hope to continue for many years."⁷¹

Gardening has been an avid occupation for many residents, and something of a challenge, from the time the neighborhood was founded. One couple recall ranging far and wide for plants appropriate to the woody setting:

...Coleman Cemetery on Collingwood [Road] was a great source of myrtle, and Occuquan (sic) had some good rhododendrons. We bought a boxwood plant at Mt. Vernon which was about 4" tall. Now it is several feet tall and growing proudly, as are the azaleas we got from the south for fifteen cents a plant. It helps to have thirty or so years in which to let things grow.⁷² Another resident has similar memories of how his garden was started. Even here, however, the cooperative at the heart of the development shone through:

Art Brown and I visited a number of the early nurseries on the Eastern Shore and purchased some of the original Glendale azaleas and planted and shared them. The big azaleas out by the front entrance are Glendales—Magnificas. A major supplier was a nursery called Tingles. The nurserymen in those days were not only commercial businessmen, but were real botanists who loved to talk to their customers about their plants. Art Brown and I had a small-time nursery in my backyard, but we were never incorporated....⁷³

The naturalistic landscaping in Tauxemont, with its canopy of mature trees 75 to 100 years old,⁷⁴ has made it an attractive home for many species of birds and animals over the years. Among the

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birds spotted in the neighborhood within the past decade are: redwinged blackbirds; Northern cardinals; Carolina chickadees; American crows; mourning doves; house finches; gulls; blue jays; mockingbirds; American robins; white-throated sparrows; European starlings; titmouse; downy

woodpeckers; and Carolina wrens.⁷⁵ Included in the more rare category are: northern flickers⁷⁶; yellow-shafted flickers⁷⁷; rose-breasted grosbeaks⁷⁸; several varieties of hawks⁷⁹; ruby-throated hummingbirds⁸⁰; ruby crowned kinglets⁸¹; barred owls⁸²; scarlet tanagers⁸³; black polled warblers⁸⁴; and pileated woodpeckers.⁸⁵ Great blue herons occasionally fly over, while making their way between various nearby wetlands and the Potomac River. Other wildlife inhabiting Tauxemont include: bats; monarch butterflies⁸⁶; a possible cougar⁸⁷; a possible coyote⁸⁸;

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chipmunks; white-tailed deer⁸⁹; red foxes⁹⁰; frogs; garter snakes⁹¹; mice; opossums⁹²; praying mantises⁹³; rabbits; raccoons⁹⁴; shrews; skunks; squirrels⁹⁵; flying squirrels⁹⁶; and turtles.

The cooperative, yet individualistic, spirit of the Tauxemont neighborhood has made it an attractive place to live for artistic, scholarly, and slightly off-beat characters over the years. They continue to come from many countries and represent many vocations and avocations.⁹⁷

The Tauxemont neighborhood and/or its residents have been featured in the media on a number of occasions, beginning fairly early in its history. One neighbor remembers that, "Around 1947 the Children's Bureau printed *A Guide to Your Child from Six to Twelve*, and a photographer came to Tauxemont for his pictures of the children in the guide, thanks to a Tauxemont, Ed Schwartz, who was employed at the Bureau, and they're on the cover."⁹⁸ In 1948 and 1949, the community was featured in a column entitled "Tauxemont & Thereabouts," which was written by original resident Margaret L. Magnusson for a local newspaper, *The Fairfax Standard*.

The political activities of the neighbors during some particularly turbulent times caught the attention of *The Washington Post*. One woman remembered that, "Once on Election Day a Washington Post [sic] photographer came and took pictures of my children at home, and Maxine Cheshire wrote a story about the children of campaign workers. The article was featured in the Post [sic], and the Republican side was also shown. I guess I worked 70 hours a week campaigning."⁹⁹ More recently, articles about this neighborhood and its unique history, ambiance, and residents have appeared in both *The Washington Post* and *The Mount Vernon Gazette* in the last decade or so.¹⁰⁰

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Since very early in its history, Tauxemont residents have been concerned about the rapid pace of development in Fairfax County and its influence on the quality of life in the area. The president of the Tauxemont Community Association wrote with the neighborhood's concerns on that score in 1951:

The most outstanding fact that we face today is the bewildering speed with which the population of the county is increasing – and changing. Suburban residents are pouring into the area, and new communities are mushrooming. As a predominantly rural region of farms and large estates, Fairfax County has been one of the garden spots of the area since George Washington's time and before. Wise planning at the right time – and I

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believe it is dangerously late already – can preserve its charm and beauty as a setting for the homes of city workers. Poor planning, or even the failure to plan, could turn the county into a suburban slum.¹⁰¹

Outside development, responding to market forces and population pressure, which ironically was the cause for the initial settlement of Tauxemont, continues to threaten the neighborhood today. This nomination is in part a result of the efforts of the community to define what makes it special, both in its physical and social character. Current residents, who include a number of second and third generation members of several long-time Tauxemont families, are moving back into the area, providing hope that various neighborhood traditions and ways of life will continue.

In conclusion, Tauxemont has had a unique history, tying it particularly to events and movements in the life of mid-20th century America—the New Deal, the Second World War, and the Cold War. One of the first suburban developments in Fairfax County, it was initially built cooperatively by a group of idealistic young government employees, who had been drawn to the area by the promise of jobs with various New Deal agencies. It was constructed by a man, Robert Davenport, who would go on to win international acclaim for a later project (Hollin Hills), which drew on design elements he first used in Tauxemont. The ingenuity shown in the development of the first section was continued in the later sections, as aluminum, from factories trying to convert to peace-time uses after World War II, was used as a building material. Since at least the period of the Red Scare and the McCarthy hearings in the late 1940s and the early 1950s, when one of the original residents was tried for espionage, the neighborhood has been considered an entity unto itself, and very different from those surrounding it, in terms of its politics and support for causes such as the Civil Rights Movement and opposition to the Vietnam War. Finally, many of the cooperative traditions begun by the earliest Tauxemonters,

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which only served to confirm local suspicions about its residents—the maintenance of the water system, the preschool, the “Dutch suppers,” and caroling parties—have continued to the present day and probably will continue in the future, as children and grandchildren of those first “pioneers” return to live in Tauxemont.

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ENDNOTES

1. "Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1933-1945)" in Robert Famighetti, editor, *The World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1995*, (Mahwah, New Jersey: Funk and Wagnalls Corporation, 1994, 477.
2. "Rise of Totalitarianism (1930-1939)" in Robert Famighetti, editor, *The World Almanac and Book of Facts, 1995*, 528.
3. David L. Ames and Linda Flint McClelland, *Historic Residential Suburbs: Guidelines for Evaluation and Documentation for the National Register of Historic Places* (Washington, DC: U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, 2002), 60; "Permanent Dwelling Units Started in Nonfarm Area, Number and Expenditures: 1889 to 1957," in Bureau of the Census in Cooperation with the Social

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Science Research Council, *Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1957* (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1960, 393.

4. For the population statistics, see "U.S. Population by Official Census, 1790-1990," in Famighetti, *The World Almanac and Book of Facts*, 1995, 376-377. For the median house price in Washington, DC, see "Price Indexes for 1-Family Houses: 1890 to 1947," in Bureau of the Census, *Historical Statistics of the United States*, 395.

5. For Fairfax County population statistics, see information provided by the Fairfax County Convention and Visitor's Bureau in "Detailed History of Fairfax County," at http://www.visitfairfax.org/detail_history.htm, 3/18/2003.

6. Timothy Dean, "Highways in Harmony: George Washington Memorial Parkway: Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC" (brochure produced for and distributed by the U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, no date {sometime between 1993, the date of the latest photograph used in the handout, and 2004, when it was picked up at a rack adjacent to the bike path, which parallels the parkway}).

7. For information on Buckingham Village Garden Apartments, whose nomination to the National Register of Historic Places is pending, see "Buckingham Village and Movie Theater," <http://www.co.arlington.va.us/lib/history/pichistd.htm>, 3/18/2003 and "Arlington Oaks History" at <http://www.arlingtonoaks.com/history.htm>, 3/18/2003.

8. Ames and McClelland, *Historic Residential Suburbs*, 59-65; for the quote, see page 62.

9. Howard Feddersen, in Rosemary Bernier and Mary Stauss, editors, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes* (Alexandria, Virginia: Rosemary Bernier and Mary O. Stauss, 1986, revised 2002), 142.

10. Tauxemont Homes, Inc. from Samuel B. and Ruth J. Moore, Fairfax County Deeds Liber Q 14 p400.

11. Samuel B. and Ruth J. Moore, Fairfax County Deeds Liber & 9 p521, July 26, 1926.

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12. Fairfax County Deeds Liber J 5 p56. Parcel extended from Potomac River to Fort Hunt Road, including what is called Wellington today.

13. Fairfax County Deed Book C 5 folio 613, Smoots from Aquilla Emerson estate.

14. Fairfax County Deeds Liber L 2, pp. 185, 217.

15. On January 14, 1807, the Alexander land was divided between Peter Sherron, who got 168.5 acres of the south part of the tract and the heirs of Philip Alexander. (See Liber L 2 pp. 185, 217.)

16. The Northern Neck of Virginia, the area between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers, was granted

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in 1649 to Thomas Culpeper and six others by the exiled Charles, son of the executed Charles I, for their support. Lord Thomas Culpeper, son of the above Culpeper, by 1681 had purchased the rights to the land from the other five and was the sole proprietor. The land was regranted to him in 1688. On his death it passed to his daughter and then to her son, Lord Thomas Fairfax. Thereafter it was known as the Fairfax Grant. See Northern Virginia Grants Book 3, 103-1710. Thomas Sandiford of Safford County received 598 acres in Stafford County near the Potomack River adjacent to that of Captain John West and Thomas Gregg, surveyed 14 February, 1703 (P. 13). Also by Warrant of 9 October, 1708, *Ibid.*, p 252, Thomas Sandiford of Stafford County received 105 acres on Patowmack River adjacent to the earlier grant by Little Hunting Creek, Nr. Nick Brent and Thomas Longman.

17. The spoon is now part of the curatorial collections at historic Mount Vernon; see "Old Spoon Dug Up, 300 Years Old," Northern Virginia Sun, 9/1/1970; letter of Eleanor Lee Templeman to Miss Christine Meadows, 6/18/1980 (photocopies, Curatorial Objects Catalogue, M-1901/A-1407 (retro), Mount Vernon Ladies' Association). Note: the original house numbers in Tauxemont were changed sometime in the 1960s; according to one former resident, this was done "when the county went to a grid system to make it easier for emergency services to find people's houses" (email communication to the author from Reverend Mary Wellemeyer, 6/16/2004). A list correlating the old and new numbering systems was provided to the author on 6/24/2004 by long-time Tauxemont resident, Dena Zacharias Andre.

18. Louie Estrada, "Robert C. Davenport Dies at 96: Built Innovative N. Va. Subdivisions," *The Washington Post*, 2/10/2002, available online at http://n19.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=doc&p_docid=Off199703B6C3B59E . . . , 7/7/2002.

19. [Margaret L. Magnusson], "Tauxemont: Church Census Planned Soon," [*The Fairfax Standard*], Friday, 4/15/1949.

20. Florence Surovell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 203.

21. Florence Surovell, as quoted by Robbie Morris, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 100b.

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22. Fran and Howard Fedderson, In Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 137.

23. Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 7.

24. Florence Surovell, as quoted by Robbie Morris, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 100b.

25. Dean, "Highways in Harmony: George Washington Memorial Parkway: Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C."

26. Katherine Elder, *Belle Haven: A History* (Belle Haven, Virginia: Belle Haven Citizens Association, 1989), 3-4, 7, 9, 12.

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27. Fran Feddersen, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 73.
28. Ruth Weissman in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 91.
29. Peter Bloom, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 108.
30. Howard Feddersen, Arthur Browne, and Flossie Surovell, "Tauxemont History," July 1972, quoted in Manley Williams and Glenda Booth, "Tauxemont of "Old," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 2002), 3.
31. Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 40.
32. Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 64.
33. Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 63.
34. Howard Feddersen, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 78.
35. Jack and Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 24.
36. Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 18.
37. Jane and John Kofler, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 20.
38. Rich Ranney, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 29.
39. Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.
40. Clem and Ruth Weissman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 26.
41. Art and Helen Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.

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42. Pearl and Paul Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 18.
43. Margaret L. Magnusson, "Tauxemont & Thereabouts," *The Fairfax Standard*, August 6, 1948; [Friday, August 27, 1948]; September 10, 1948; [Friday, September 24, 1948]; Friday, October 1, 1948.
44. Margaret L. Magnusson, "Tauxemont & Thereabouts," [The Fairfax Standard], Friday, October 22, 1948.
45. [Margaret Magnusson], "Tauxemont: Wellemeyer Named President of Community Association," [The Fairfax Standard], Friday, May 6, 1949.
46. Pearl and Paul Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.

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47. Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 150.
48. Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 22.
49. Helen and Art Bissell, Pearl Thompson, and Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 28.
50. Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 28.
51. "Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool: Our Little School In the Woods: The oldest cooperative preschool in Fairfax County," available online at <http://mtvernon.net/Tauxemont/>, 7/7/2002.
52. Fran Fedderson, Cora Fisher, and Florence Surovell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 107, 108, and 109.
53. Cora Fisher, and Jean & Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 109.
54. Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 39.
55. Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 40.
56. Muriel Lipp, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 116.
57. Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 108. Tauxemont residents would continue to help at the public school, which the older children attended. Hazel Fobes, for example, organized the library at the Hollin Hall School, while other neighbors "took turns sitting for her child so she could be the librarian." Emily Myatt organized "the first public playground at Hollin Hall School (see Jean Hinman and Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 62 and 53, respectively).

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58. Cora and Jack Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 100.
59. Paul and Pearl Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 110.
60. Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 110.
61. "Richard R. Ranney: Health Official," *The Washington Post*, Sunday, 11/27/1994.
62. "Samuel Surovell: Graphic Arts Firm Official, Va. Resident," newspaper obituary clipping from unidentified source, [1975].
63. "Theatre in Greater Washington," – September 3 Rusty Claus," in *The Windmill Online*, 8/1/2002, at <http://www.mvuc.org/Windmill/windmill.8-1-2002.html>, 4/23/2003.

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64. "Katherine S. Henry: Editorial Aide," obituary clipping from *The Washington Post*, 8/31/1997.
65. "Eleanor Royer Lehrer: Statistician," undated obituary clipping from *The Washington Post*, [2002?].
66. For community response to the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church;s civil rights and anti-war stance in the 1960s and early 1970s, see their website at <http://www.mvuc.org/aboutus.html>. For involvement by members of the Tauxemont community in the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, see Glenda Booth, "In Memoriam," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 4; Glenda Booth, "Jane Explains," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (July 2002), 5. Other churches which have attracted members of the community over the years include Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church on Sherwood Hall Lane and First Baptist Church of Alexandria on King Street, where Mr. and Mrs. Albert Manola and Mary Thompson have been members for many years (for more on the founding of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, see Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 68).
67. The information about Mr. Fisher came from Blenda Booth, "Notable Tauxemonters, for the Tauxemont History Project," 6/17/2003. The Remington case has been a focus for study by University of Delaware professor of history Gary May, whose book on the subject, *Un-American Activities: The Trials of William Remington* (Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press, Inc., 1994; reissued 2004), was selected by Alan Dershowitz in 1999 for inclusion in the Gryphon Editions Notable Trial Library. For references to Tauxemont in May's book, see pages 68, 72, 75, 76, 125, 139-140, and 141.
68. Stepp, "Tauxemont's Close Sense of Community," *The Washington Post*, 6/27/1992.
69. Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 65.
70. Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 127.

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71. Dotty Ann McClelland, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 164 & 167.
72. John and Jane Kofler, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 70.
73. Howard Fedderson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 78.
74. For the age of the trees, see Glenda Booth, "The Trees of Tauxemont," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 5.
75. Glenda C. Booth, "Report on the Annual Christmas Bird Count in Tauxemont," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (January 1999), 2.
76. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.

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77. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
78. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 2; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
79. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
80. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (October 2002), 10.
81. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
82. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
83. Manley Williams, "Tauxemont is Home to Rare Birds," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2000), 1.
84. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.
85. Manley Williams, "Tauxemont is Home to Rare Birds," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2000), 1.
86. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.
87. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (January 2004), 8.
88. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch I" *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10.
89. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.

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90. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 2003), 7; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8.
91. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (November 2003), 8.
92. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10.
93. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (October 2002), 10 and (May 2003), 8.
94. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch" *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8.
95. For information on opossums, see Florence Surovell, "Marsupials," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 1998), 2.

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96. Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 7-8.
97. Please see "Residents of Tauxemont: Past and Present" in the appendix.
98. Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 201.
99. Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 53.
100. Laura Sessions Stepp, "Tauxemont's Close Sense of Community," *The Washington Post*, Saturday, 6/27/1992; Michael K. Bohn, "Tauxemont: The First Mt. Vernon Community," *The Mount Vernon Gazette*, 3/5/1998; [] Disenbacher, "local writer: modern Mark Twain, The Mount Vernon Gazette, []/12/1991.
101. Letter, D. O. Myatt to the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, 4/30/1951.

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UTM References (Continued)

5. 18/321080/4290380

Verbal Boundary Description

From a point on Alexandria Avenue at the southwest corner of the lot at 7701 Tauxemont Road, north along the back property lines of the lots on the west side, including the Community House/Preschool at 7719 Fort Hunt Road; thence east along the north side of right of way north of 7713 Tauxemont Road; south along the east edge of Tauxemont Road; east along the north property line of 7700 Tauxemont Road and continuing east along the north property line of 7740 Tauxemont Road to where it joins

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Tauxemont Road; thence north along the west edge of Tauxemont Road to the north border of 7729 Tauxemont Road, continuing along the northeast edge of that property and then south along the property line of that property, continuing south along its back property line and south along the back property lines of the houses facing Tauxemont Road and Accotink Place to the southern lot line of 7828 Accotink Place. West along that property's south property line, then south along the east side of Bolling Drive to the north property line of 1156 Westmoreland Road. Thence southeast to that property's east property line, west to the north side of Westmoreland Road, east to the west property line of 1146 Westmoreland Road, east along that property's east border, southwest along that property's southeast border and continuing southwest along the property lines of 1147 Westmoreland Road, 7937 and 7938 Bolling Drive to Fort Hunt Road; Thence north along the west edge of Fort Hunt Road to the north side of its intersection with Namassin Road. Thence proceeding east to the west border of 1400 Namassin Road, north along that west border and a little ways east along its north border to the intersection with the lot of the house at 1317 Alexandria Avenue. Thence north along that west border to the point opposite on the north side of Alexandria Avenue, and east to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes the buildings, a site and a structure of the Tauxemont Sections I, II and III that still retain integrity, eliminating groups of two or more noncontributing properties at the edges of the original subdivision. This produces a ratio of 71 contributing buildings, one contributing structure and one contributing site, to 25 noncontributing buildings within the historic district.

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The following information is common to all photos:

Tauxemont Historic District, VDHR File 029-5199

Fairfax County, Virginia

Photographer: Dena Andre

Date: February 12, 2004.

Negatives for prints and digital files are stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources archives, Richmond, Virginia.

1. 1208 Shenandoah Road
Front elevation
Camera facing west
Negative 21522:23

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Photo 1 of 8

2. 7907 Fort Hunt Road
Front elevation
Camera facing north
Negative 21521:27
Photo 2 of 8
3. Corner of Alexandria Avenue and Shenandoah Road in Tauxemont
View to southeast
Negative 21523:18
Photo 3 of 8
4. 7719 Fort Hunt Road
Tauxemont Preschool and Community Building
West and south facades
Camera facing northeast
Negative 21520:9
Photo 4 of 8
5. 7932 Bolling Drive
East side elevation towards road
Camera facing west
Negative 21521:10
Photo 5 of 8

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6. 7930 Bolling Drive
View of south and east elevations
Camera facing northwest
Negative 21521:9
Photo 6 of 8
7. 1311 Alexandria Avenue
View of north elevation
Camera facing southeast
Negative 21522:17
Photo 7 of 8

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8. 7739 Tauxemont Road – razed late in 2004, but a good example of unaltered Section I house
View of north and west elevations
Camera facing southeast
Negative 21520:21
Photo 8 of 8

¹ The name is derived from the Native Americans who lived in the area at the time Captain John Smith first explored the area in the early 17th century. Their name is variously recorded as Tauxenent, Taux, Toags, and Dogue. According to Captain Smith, their main village, which was located south of Mount Vernon on the Potomac, was called Tauxenent.

² Davenport, the developer of Tauxemont and future developer of Hollin Hills, the award-winning community nearby in Fairfax County, is quoted on page 12 of Marian Tiger's "Hollin Hills, A History into the 4th Decade" published by the Hollin Hills Civic Association in 1984, as saying that he first met Goodman when Goodman was invited to design the additions to the Tauxemont houses.

³ A section of an aerial photo of Tauxemont taken by Fairfax County shows the current existing tree cover. See appendix A.

⁴ A section of the plat map for Tauxemont, with its angled houses, and a neighboring subdivision, with its houses lined up in precise rows, graphically shows the difference. Please see appendix B.

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⁵ See appendix C for a plan of a typical Tauxemont house.

⁶ Tiger, op. cit., page 11.

⁷ This article is undated, unsigned, and without the name of the newspaper.

⁸ The specifications for the house at 7905 Fort Hunt Road are reproduced in appendix D.

⁹ Al and his daughter Susan both generously recounted tales about living in their aluminum house with thee author.

¹⁰ Told in resident Andy Westfall's inimitable words in an email to the author.

¹¹ Samuel B. and Ruh J. Moore, Fairfax County Deeds Liber U 9 p 521, July 26, 1926.

¹² Liber J 5 p 56, Fairfax County Deeds. Parcel extended from Potomac River to Fort Hunt Road, including what is called Wellington today.

¹³ Fairfax County Deed Book C 5 folio 613, Smoots from Aquilla Emerson estate.

¹⁴ Fairfax County Deed s Liber L 2, pp 185, 217.

¹⁵ On January 14, 1807, the Alexander land was divided between Peter Sherron, who got 168.5 acres of the south part of the tract and the heirs of Philip Alexander. (See Liber L 2 pp 185, 217

¹⁶ The Northern Neck of Virginia, the area between the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers, was granted in 1649 to Thomas Culpepper and six others by the exiled Charles, son of the executed Charles I, for their support. Lord Thomas Culpepper, son of the above Culpepper, by 1681 had purchased the rights to the land from the other five and was the sole proprietor. The land was regranted to him in 1688. On his death it passed to his daughter and then to her son, Lord Thomas Fairfax. Thereafter it was known as the Fairfax Grant. See Northern Virginia Grants Book 3 103-1710. Thomas Sandiford of Stafford County received 598 acres in Stafford County near the Potomack River

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adjacent to that of Captain John West and Thomas Gregg, surveyed 14 February, 1703. (p. 13) Also, by Warrant of 9 October, 1708, *ibid.* p 252, Thomas Sandiford of Stafford County received 105 acres on Patowmack River adjacent to the earlier grant by Little Hunting Creek, Mr. Nick Brent and Thomas Longman.

¹⁷ The spoon is now part of the curatorial collections at historic Mount Vernon; see “Old Spoon Dug Up, 300 Years Old,” *Northern Virginia Sun*, 9/1/1960; letter of Eleanor Lee Templeman to Miss Christine Meadows, 6/18/1980 (photocopies, Curatorial Objects Catalogue, M-2901/A-1407(retro), Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association). Note: the original house numbers in Tauxemont were changed sometime in the 1960s; according to one former resident, this was done “when the county went to a grid system to make it easier for emergency services to find people’s houses” (email communication to the author from Reverend Mary Wellemeyer, 6/16/2004). A list correlating the old and new numbering systems was provided to the author on 6/24/2004 by long-time Tauxemont resident, Dena Zacharias Andre.

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¹⁸ Louie Estrada, “Robert C. Davenport Dies at 96: Built Innovative N. Va. Subdivisions,” *The Washington Post*, 2/10/2002, available online at http://n19.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=doc&p_docid=OF199703B6C3B59E..., 7/7/2002.

¹⁹ [Margaret L. Magnusson], “Tauxemont: Church Census Planned Soon,” [*The Fairfax Standard*], Friday, 4/15/1949.

²⁰ Florence Surovell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 203.

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²² Fran and Howard Feddersen, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 137.

²³ Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 7.

²⁴ Florence Surovell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 17.

²⁵ Dean, “Highways in Harmony: George Washington Memorial Parkway: Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C.”

²⁶ Katherine Elder, *Belle Haven: A History* (Belle Haven, Virginia: Belle Haven Citizens Association, 1989), 3-4, 7, 9, 12. I would like to thank Dr. Barbara McMillan, the librarian at George Washington’s Mount Vernon, for sharing this brochure with me.

²⁷ Fran Feddersen, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 73.

²⁸ Ruth Weissman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 91.

²⁹ Peter Bloom, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 108.

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³⁰ Howard Fedderson, Arthur Browne, and Flossie Surovell, "Tauxemont History," July 1972, quoted in Manley Williams and Glenda Booth, "Tauxemont of "Old," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 2002), 3.

³¹ Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 40.

³² Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 64.

³³ Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauus, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 63.

³⁴ Howard Fedderson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 78.

³⁵ Jack and Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 24.

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³⁷ Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 18.

³⁷ Jane and John Kofler, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 20.

³⁸ Rich Ranney, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 29.

³⁹ Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.

⁴⁰ Clem and Ruth Weissman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 26.

⁴¹ Art and Helen Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.

⁴² Pearl and Paul Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 18.

⁴³ Margaret L. Magnusson, "Tauxemont & Thereabouts," *The Fairfax Standard*, August 6, 1948; [Friday, August 27, 1948]; September 10, 1948; [Friday, September 24, 1948]; Friday, October 1, 1948.

⁴⁴ Margaret L. Magnusson, "Tauxemont & Thereabouts," [*The Fairfax Standard*], Friday, October 22, 1948.

⁴⁵ [Margaret Magnusson], "Tauxemont: Wellemeyer Named President of Community Association," [*The Fairfax Standard*], Friday, May 6, 1949.

⁴⁶ Pearl and Paul Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 23.

⁴⁷ Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminscences and Recipes*, 150.

⁴⁸ Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 22.

⁴⁹ Helen and Art Bissell, Pearl Thompson, and Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 28.

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⁵⁰ Carroll and Jean Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 28.

⁵¹ “Tauxemont Cooperative Preschool: Our Little School In the Woods: The oldest cooperative preschool in Fairfax County,” available online at <http://mtvernon.net/Tauxemont/>, 7/7/2002.

⁵² Fran Fedderson, Cora Fisher, and Florence Surovell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 107, 108, and 109.

⁵³ Cora Fisher, and Jean & Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 109.

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⁵⁶ Jean and Carroll Hinman, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 39.

⁵⁶ Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 40.

⁵⁶ Muriel Lipp, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 116.

⁵⁷ Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 108. Tauxemont residents would continue to help at the public school, which the older children attended. Hazel Fobes, for example, organized the library at the Hollin Hall School, while other neighbors “took turns sitting for her child so she could be the librarian.” Emily Myatt organized “the first public playground at Hollin Hall School (see Jean Hinman and Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 62 & 53, respectively).

⁵⁸ Cora and Jack Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 110.

⁵⁹ Paul and Pearl Thompson, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 110.

⁶⁰ Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 110.

⁶¹ “Richard R. Ranney: Health Official,” *The Washington Post*, Sunday, 11/27/1994.

⁶² “Samuel Surovell: Graphic Arts Firm Official, Va. Resident,” newspaper obituary clipping from unidentified source, [1975].

⁶³ “Theatre in Greater Washington,” –September 3 Rusty Clauss,” in *The Windmill Online*, 8/1/2002, at <http://www.mvuc.org/Windmill/windmill.8-1-2002.html>, 4/23/2003.

⁶⁴ “Katherine S. Henry: Editorial Aide,” obituary clipping from *The Washington Post*, 8/31/1997.

⁶⁵ “Eleanor Royer Lehrer: Statistician,” undated obituary clipping from *The Washington Post*, [2002?].

⁶⁶ For community response to the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church’s civil rights and anti-war stance in the 1960s and early 1970s, see their website at <http://www.mvuc.org/aboutus.html>. For involvement by members of the

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Tauxemont community in the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, see Glenda Booth, "In Memoriam," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 4; Glenda Booth, "Jane Explains," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (July 2002), 5. Other churches which have attracted members of the community over the years include Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church on Sherwood Hall Lane and First Baptist Church of Alexandria on King Street, where Mr. and Mrs. Albert Manola and Mary Thompson have been members for many years (for more on the founding of Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, see Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 68).

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⁶⁷ The information about Mr. Fisher came from Glenda Booth, "Notable Tauxemonters, for the Tauxemont History Project," 6/17/2003. The Remington case has been a focus for study by University of Delaware professor of history Gary May, whose book on the subject, *Un-American Activities: The Trials of William Remington* (Long Grove, Illinois: Waveland Press, Inc., 1994; reissued 2004), was selected by Alan Dershowitz in 1999 for inclusion in the Gryphon

Editions Notable Trial Library. For references to Tauxemont in May's book, see pages 68, 72, 75, 76, 125, 139-140, and 141.

⁶⁸ Stepp, "Tauxemont's Close Sense of Community," *The Washington Post*, 6/27/1992.

⁶⁹ Art Bissell, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 65.

⁷⁰ Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 127.

⁷¹ Dotty Ann McClelland, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 164 & 167.

⁷² John and Jane Kofler, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 70.

⁷³ Howard Feddersen, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 78.

⁷⁴ For the age of the trees, see Glenda Booth, "The Trees of Tauxemont," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 5.

⁷⁵ Glenda C. Booth, "Report on the Annual Christmas Bird Count in Tauxemont," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (January 1999), 2.

⁷⁶ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.

⁷⁷ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

⁷⁸ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (June 2002), 2; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

⁷⁹ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

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⁸⁰ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (October 2002), 10.

⁸¹ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

⁸² Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

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⁸³ Manley Williams, "Tauxemont is Home to Rare Birds," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2000), 1.

⁸⁴ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

⁸⁵ Manley Williams, "Tauxemont is Home to Rare Birds," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2000), 1.

⁸⁵ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 8.

⁸⁵ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 2003), 7.

⁸⁶ "Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.

⁸⁷ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (January 2004), 8.

⁸⁸ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch I," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10.

⁸⁹ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (October 2003), 10.

⁹⁰ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 2003), 7; Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8.

⁹¹ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (November 2003), 8.

⁹² Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch III," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (August 2002), 10.

⁹³ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (October 2002), 10 & (May 2003), 8.

⁹⁴ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (May 2003), 8.

⁹⁵ For information on opossums, see Florence Surovell, "Marsupials," *Tauxemont Newsletter* (April 1998), 2.

⁹⁶ Glenda Booth, "Wildlife Watch," *Tauxemont News* (May 2004), 7-8.

⁹⁷ Please see "Residents of Tauxemont: Past and Present" in the appendix.

⁹⁸ Cora Fisher, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 201.

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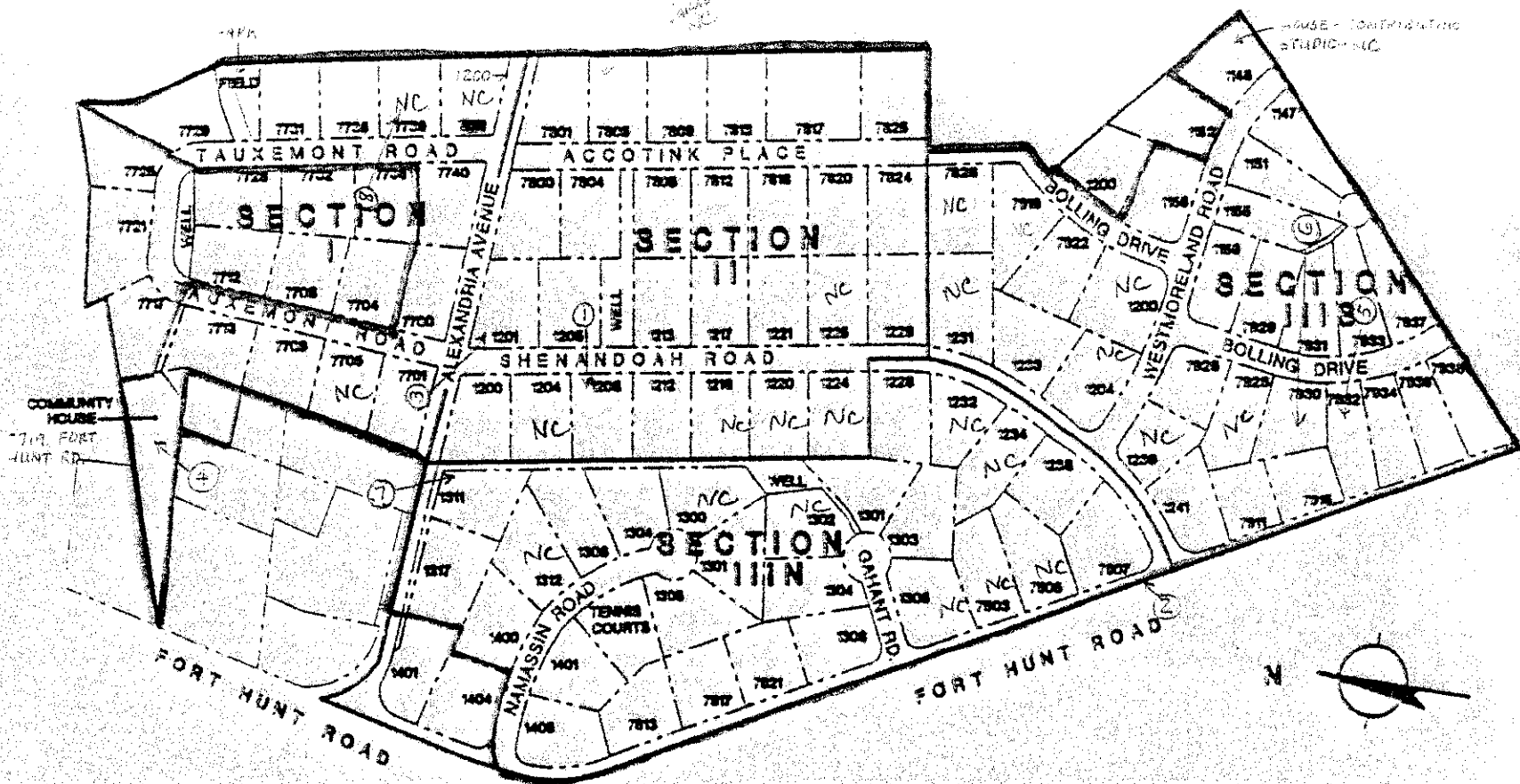
⁹⁹ Emily Myatt, in Bernier & Stauss, *Tauxemont Reminiscences and Recipes*, 53.

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ENDNOTES

¹⁰⁰ Laura Sessions Stepp, "Tauxemont's Close Sense of Community," *The Washington Post*, Saturday, 6/27/1992; Michael K. Bohn, "Tauxemont: The first Mt. Vernon community," *The Mount Vernon Gazette*, 3/5/1998; [_____] Dinsenbacher, "Local writer: modern Mark Twain," *The Mount Vernon Gazette*, [____]/12/1991.

¹⁰¹ Letter, D.O. Myatt to the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, 4/30/1951.



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NC = noncontributing buildings (25)

① ↗ = Photos Keyed to Map

1" = 200' APPROX. SCALE

TAUXEMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

UTM REFERENCES :

1. 18/321140/4290600
2. 18/321460/4290700
3. 18/321600/4290020
4. 18/321360/4289740
5. 18/321080/4290380

MOUNT VERNON QUADRANGLE VIRGINIA-MARYLAND 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC-BATHYMETRIC) NE/4 INDIAN HEAD 15' QUADRANGLE

5661 IV SW
(ANACOSTIA)

