

VLR-10/14/86 NRHP-10/27/87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic City of Fairfax Historic District (VDHL File No. 151-3)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Intersection of VA routes 236 & 123

N/A not for publication

city, town Fairfax N/A vicinity of

state Virginia code 51 county (City) code: 600

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number see continuation

city, town sheets #1-3 N/A vicinity of state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Fairfax County Courthouse

street & number 4110 Chain Bridge Road

city, town Fairfax state VA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

(1) Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks
title Survey (File No. 151-3); has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date May- June 1986 See continuation sheet #4 federal state county local

depository for survey records Virginia Division of Historic Landmarks, 221 Governor Street

city, town Richmond state Virginia 23219

7. Description

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved | date <u>See inventory - Continuation Sheets</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | <u>#7-16</u> |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The City of Fairfax is located in the geographic center of Fairfax County, approximately fifteen miles west of the District of Columbia. It originated as the Town of Providence when the Fairfax County Courthouse was relocated in 1799 to a central site at the intersection of Little River Turnpike and the Ox Road. These two historically important transportation routes remain today as heavily-traveled thoroughfares extending through the core of the City of Fairfax Historic District. The district incorporates this intersection, two blocks of Little River Turnpike (Main Street) to the east, and north and south extensions along Chain Bridge Road, formerly the Ox Road. Included in the district are forty-eight buildings. There are thirty-four commercial buildings, four residences, five local government buildings, and five buildings in a church complex. Among these are sixteen buildings considered to be non-contributing elements of the district. The district is comprised of six brick buildings which pre-date 1850; a group of sixteen buildings, residential and commercial, constructed around the turn of the 20th century; and a group of ten buildings dating from the 1920s and early 1930s which represents a diversity of building types. The historic district is a mixture of building age and function, but most elements conform to the use of brick or wood materials, a consistent two-story height and "Main Street" scale, and a decidedly vernacular character. About seventy-five percent of the buildings are presently in commercial use.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The historic district includes the properties facing on Chain Bridge Road, Main Street, and University Drive which comprise a settlement pattern discernible from the 19th century. By the early 1800s residences and commercial establishments had developed east of the 1800 courthouse and in both directions along Chain Bridge Road. Beyond the town lots, first surveyed in 1805, was open land. Beyond the present historic district boundaries in all directions are mid-to late 20th-century buildings.

The three earliest buildings in the district appropriately represent the initial and continuing focus of Fairfax. The Fairfax County Courthouse, built in 1800 according to plans drawn by James Wren (designer of several area churches), still serves as part of the county's municipal office complex. The two-story brick building survived various raids during Civil War times, but required restoration in 1964. Reflecting the burgeoning population growth in the county from the 1950s on, it was expanded in 1930-31 and 1951-53 with new additions. The Ratcliffe-Logan-Allison House, commonly called Earp's Ordinary, is listed individually in the National Register. Built in two phases sometime between 1805 and 1813, the vernacular brick building is the oldest residence in the district and by 1820 was in quasi-commercial use as an inn and stagecoach stop. The third building dating from the early 19th century, 10364 Main Street, is also brick and was used as the home and office of Dr. Samuel Draper. Built in the Federal style, the two-story, single-pile house retains early interior detailing, but illustrates later 19th-century modifications by the insertion of French doors in the first floor window openings.

See continuation sheets #4 -16

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1800; 1861-65; 1890-1933
 Builder/Architect N.A.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The City of Fairfax Historic District is an area encompassing the Fairfax County Courthouse and the supporting buildings constructed for office and retail functions on major transportation routes adjacent to the courthouse lot. Also included in the district are four residences and a church complex. The thirty-two contributing buildings represent each period of historical development of the town from 1800 to the 1930s. The significant elements of the district are associated with the major events in the history of the county seat. Certain elements are also architecturally significant for their representation of a continuum of building types and development patterns. These reflect the changing needs of the community as it evolved from an 1800 brick courthouse and tavern crossroads to a city of 20,500 people. The historic core continues its function as the county seat for a county numbering 687,000 in population while still retaining the scale and character of an early 20th-century small town.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In the last quarter of the 18th century, what is now the City of Fairfax was a crossroads at which stood an inn known as Earp's Ordinary. In 1798 the Virginia General Assembly directed this crossroads to be the site for the relocation of the Fairfax County Court. Although the county court had been located for almost half a century in the Town of Alexandria (1752 to 1800), relocation became necessary when it was apparent that Alexandria would be included in the new Federal capital, established by Congressional legislation. The county court was required to meet within the boundaries of the county.

In 1800 construction of the two-story brick building was completed on a four-acre parcel of land at the crossroads of the Ox Road (now Chain Bridge Road) and the Little River Turnpike. The site had been deeded to the county for this purpose for one dollar by Richard Ratcliffe and was chosen because of its central location in the county. Although only a minor settlement was in existence there in 1800, erection of the county courthouse portended further growth.

In 1805 the Virginia General Assembly established the Town of Providence, a fourteen-acre area at the location of the new courthouse. Ratcliffe's son, Robert, surveyed and platted nineteen building lots on land adjacent to the Little River Turnpike, on what is now Main Street in the City of Fairfax. A small community developed around the courthouse throughout the first quarter of the 19th century. Although its official name was Providence, it was generally referred to as Fairfax Court House from the early 1800s until 1875, when the official name was changed from Providence to

See continuation sheets #17-22

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, Including the Counties of Fairfax and Alexandria, Virginia. Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879.
- Kauffman, Dana. "A Man and His Political Times." Article in files of City of Fairfax Department of Economic Development and Planning.

(see continuation sheet #22)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 24 acres

Quadrangle name Fairfax, Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 18 | 299780 | 4302450 | B | 18 | 300110 | 4301950 |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| C | 18 | 299680 | 4301730 | D | 18 | 299480 | 4302230 |
| E | | | | F | | | |
| G | | | | H | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point (A) at NW corner of lot #20 and extending SE, then S along the E property line of said lot and lots #19, #18, #17 and #16, following W side right-of-way of Chain Bridge Road, to a point (B) at SE corner of lot #16; thence extending approximately 62' SE to a point (C) at NW corner

(See Continuation Sheet #23)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----|------|--------|-----|------|
| state | N/A | code | county | N/A | code |
| state | N/A | code | county | N/A | code |

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Emma Jane Saxe, Preservation Consultant for
City of Fairfax
 organization Department of Community Development & Planning date August, 1986
 street & number 10455 Armstrong Street telephone (703) 385-7930
 city or town Fairfax state Va.

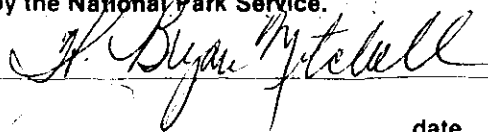
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



H. Bryan Mitchell, Director
 title Division of Historic Landmarks

date July 17, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 4

Page 1

For NPS use only

received

date entered

4. OWNERS OF PROPERTIES:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Randolph W. Church, Stephen L. Best, Trs. 4069 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 11) W. Lewis and Frances S. Leigh P.O. Box 576 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 2) Real Title Inc., Trs. 4057 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 12) Robert J. Lewis c/o R. O. Dickson 3976 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 3) Real Title Inc., Trs. 4057 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 13) JCW, Inc. c/o John C. Wood P. O. Box 369 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 4) Henry C. and Douglass Mackall 4031 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 14) JCW, Inc. c/o John C. Wood P. O. Box 369 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 5) Henry C. and Douglass Mackall 4031 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 15) 4016 Associates c/o Tom Burdette 3970 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 6) Joseph Chopek c/o Little River Management 4002 University Drive Suite 7 Fairfax, VA 22030 | 16) Robert J. Lewis and R.O. Dickson 5976 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, Va. 22030 |
| 7) John Aylor and Walter Lockowandt 4015 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 17) John and Mary Petersen 3936 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 8) John E. Bowen III, Trs. 3970 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 18) Michael A. and Patricia Fabio 3920 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 9) John E. Bowen III, Trs. 3970 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 19) Robert J. and Josephine S. McCandlish 3906 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 10) County of Fairfax 4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 20) E. A. and Nancy M. Prichard 3820 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 |

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 4

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

4. OWNERS OF PROPERTIES (continued):

- | | |
|--|--|
| 21) Truro Episcopal Church 10520 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 | 31) John T. Hazel, Jr., et al. P. O. Box 547 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 22) Truro Episcopal Church 10520 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 | 32) George L. Freeman 10406 Whitehead Street Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 23) Truro Episcopal Church 10520 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 | 33) Fenton A. Budd, Trs. c/o Lucky Hit Farm Whitepost, VA 22663 |
| 24) Truro Episcopal Church 10520 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 | 34) John T. Hazel, Jr., et al. P. O. Box 547 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 25) Truro Episcopal Church 10520 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 | 35) John J. Robertson, Trs. 10412 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 26) County of Fairfax 4000 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 36) N. V. Henrirabe c/o Lewis Silverman 8996 Burke Lane Road Burke, VA 22015 |
| 27) Knab Fax Inc. P. O. Box 26763 Richmond, VA 23261 | 37) J. Gordon Kincheloe P. O. Box 400 Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 28) Knab Fax Inc. P. O. Box 26763 Richmond, VA 23261 | 38) Joseph Chopek c/o Little River Management 4007 University Drive Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 29) J. Webb, Inc. 3938 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 | 39) RJL Associates 10381 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 |
| 30) Exxon Corp. 8271 P. O. Box 53 Houston, Texas 77001 | 40) RJL Associates 10381 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 |

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #3

Item number 4

Page 3

For NPS use only

received

date entered

4. OWNERS OF PROPERTIES (continued):

41) City of Fairfax
City Hall
Fairfax, VA 22030

42) City of Fairfax
City Hall
Fairfax, VA 22030

43) James Woods
John Rust, Trs.
P. O. Box 218
Fairfax, VA 22030

44) James Woods
John Rust, Trs
P. O. Box 218
Fairfax, VA 22030

45) Daniel M. Keenan
10413 North Street
Fairfax, VA 22030

46) James Woods
John Rust, Trs.
P. O. Box 218
Fairfax, VA 22030

47) City of Fairfax
City Hall
Fairfax, VA 22030

48) Fred T. Wilburn
P. O. Box 428
Fairfax, VA 22030

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #4

Item number 6,7

Page 1

For NPS use only

received

date entered

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (continued)

- (2) National Register: listing of the Ratcliffe-Logan-Allison House on February 16, 1973. (File No. 151-2)
- (3) National Register: listing of the Fairfax County Courthouse and Jail in 1980. (File No. 29-220)

7. DESCRIPTION-- Architectural Analysis (continued)

The next building period, from 1830 to 1860, is also represented by three brick buildings, all originally residences: the Oliver House, the Thomas R. Love House, now the Truro Rectory, and the Ford House. The Oliver House is a red brick, two-and-one-half-story building with a side hall plan, designed in the Greek Revival style sometime around 1835. The hand-planed molding and other interior wood detailing survive intact, reflecting excellent integrity of design. Rehabilitation work dating from 1984 has resulted in the wood shingle roof and a hipped-roof rear addition. Of similar date and design is the Truro Rectory, originally a three-bay side hall plan house. The two-bay section to the east was added in 1911. Both houses feature exceptionally well-crafted brickwork and simple molding articulating the six over six double-hung sash windows. The Ford House is an imposing, hipped-roof building exhibiting elements of the Georgian Revival style as a result of enlargement in the late 19th or early 20th century. It too originally resembled the Oliver House but was changed to an L-plan before 1860. Later alterations include rear additions, dormers and a porch addition which was removed in 1948 when the present owner renovated the interior for office use. The original staircase, moldings, and mantels remain.

The majority of the historic buildings in Fairfax, consisting of both houses and commercial structures, were constructed around the turn of the 20th century. This period of growth reflects the important role that the Town of Fairfax assumed as the county seat of Fairfax County. The County was beginning to grow rapidly in population following the installation around 1905 of four electric railway lines running from the center of town to Alexandria and Washington. Consequently, as the judicial center of the County, the Town of Fairfax also realized a spurt of development.

The architectural character of Fairfax is derived from the streetscapes formed during this period of historical development. With front gable roofs facing the streets, the vernacular buildings of the commercial core include a grouping of three contiguous wood frame buildings on the north side of Main Street which have survived with only minor alterations to their facades. Farther east, also on the north side, is the wood frame Fairfax Herald Building, notable for the retention of its original integrity of design, with its German siding and parapeted rooflines.

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet

#5

Item number 7

Page 2

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Commercial construction was also undertaken on Chain Bridge Road near the courthouse, including the 1905 red brick National Bank of Fairfax Building, constructed at the corner of Sager Avenue. It repeats the height and scale of earlier buildings and is distinguished by its segmental window arches. Farther north is the law office built in 1907 by John H. Rust, a local attorney. The stuccoed, gable front building was a modest, yet typical, example of the building type which characterized the early 20th century in Fairfax.

During the decade preceding the turn of the century, some additional residential construction also occurred. Though the houses are vernacular in design, they convey the rambling, irregular plan and wood detailing of the late Victorian era. A good example is the extensive, late 19th-century renovation of the Moore-McCandlish House on the corner of Chain Bridge Road and North Street. According to historic documentation, the original house was constructed around 1840. Its present appearance dates from the expansion and renovation carried out by R. Walton Moore, probably in the late 1890s. The wood frame house, now converted to offices, has a wraparound porch, dormers, and handsome interior woodwork.

The only example of the late Italianate style in the district is the 1886-1891 County Jail, constructed to replace the one destroyed in an 1884 fire. Designed in a T-plan, the two-story red brick building housed the jailor's living quarters in the front crossbar section which features corbeled cornices and a bracketed, wood front porch. The jail section to the rear has segmental-arched windows and itself has a rear addition made around 1930. It has not functioned as a jail since 1952 when a jail addition to the courthouse was constructed.

The Old Town Hall, an elegant wood frame building constructed in 1900, is an outstanding example of the Colonial Revival style. Its handsome portico and round-arched windows detail the clapboarded facades. In scale and design, the Old Town Hall was and is a grand building, donated for public use by Joseph E. Willard, a prominent figure in the District of Columbia (builder of the Willard Hotel) whose mother, Antonia Ford Willard, was a well-known citizen of Fairfax.

Two examples of residential architecture from the early 20th century also symbolize the preference for the Colonial Revival style in the region. One is the 1910 Barbour House which, since its move in 1966, has been located at the southern edge of the district on Chain Bridge Road. The stuccoed, two-story house was more of an elegant example of the Colonial Revival style before the addition of the two-story wings on each side in 1978. The McCandlish-Prichard House on the far northern edge

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet

#6

Item number

7

Page

3

For NPS use only

received

date entered

of the district on Chain Bridge Road was constructed in 1916. Designed by the architectural firm of Donn & Deming of the District of Columbia, the Flemish-bond brick house is based on a Pennsylvania farmhouse type and has exceptionally well-crafted interior wood detailing,

The penchant for the Colonial Revival style, presumably inspired by the Colonial derivation of the design of the courthouse, was carried through the 1930s (and beyond) in Fairfax. In 1931 the National Bank of Fairfax constructed its new office at the prominent corner of Chain Bridge Road and Main Street. It features a slate, hipped roof, Flemish-bond brickwork, oversized round-arched, multi-paned windows, and an elaborately detailed door surround. In the same year an addition was made to the 1800 Courthouse in the Colonial Revival style, set back to the south of the original section. In 1933, slightly west along Main Street, Truro Church constructed a new chapel as an exact replica of Old Payne's Church which dated from the 18th century. The Truro Chapel features a slate hipped-roof, Flemish-bond brickwork, and Georgian style detailing.

The non-contributing elements in the district are primarily small-scale office buildings, seven of which date from the late 1940s and early 1950s. Other buildings from the 1950s include a residence, a gas station, two stores, and two buildings in the Truro Church complex. Most of these buildings have at least some Colonial Revival style features so that their presence in the district is not so visually obtrusive. Contemporary construction has been limited to historically inaccurate renovation of existing historic buildings. The most recent example is 10385 Main Street at the corner of University Drive. The historic appearance of this building has been so radically altered that it is no longer an historic building.

Although many of the former residences have been converted to office and retail use, their residential character has been maintained. The City of Fairfax Historic District retains the appearance and feeling of a small "Main Street" town, centered on the courthouse and its green. It still conveys a sense of the bustle of early 20th-century life in Fairfax.

(See Continuation Sheet #7)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #7

Item number 7

Page 4

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory:

CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD

#3

1 - 4069 (Barbour Building): Commercial (office) now; formerly a house. Colonial Revival. 1910 with addition ca. 1978. Wood frame (stucco); 2½ stories; hipped roof (slate); 5 bays; Full-height, 3-bay porch with oversized frieze, elliptical fanlight in pediment, fluted, ionic columns and flagstone floor. Built between 1910 and 1915 by John S. Barbour, an attorney who moved to Fairfax from Culpeper in 1907. It contributes to the district as an example of the Colonial Revival style and also represents the early 20th century rejuvenation of Fairfax.

#4

*2 - 4057 (The Law Buildings): Commercial (office). Vernacular. Ca. 1952. Brick (American bond); 2 stories; hipped roof (composition); 5-bays. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

#5

*3 - 4055 (part of The Law Buildings): Commercial (office). Cape. Ca. 1925. Wood frame (stretcher bond brick veneer); 1½ stories; gable roof (composition); 3-bays. This house (now office) reputedly was built in the early 1920's and moved back from the road in the early 1950's when 4057 Chain Bridge Road was built. It's original appearance has been so severely compromised by the addition of brick veneer and other alterations that this building does not contribute to the significance of the district.

#6

*4 - 4037 (Legal Aid Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular. Ca. 1970. Brick (stretcher bond); 2 stories; gable roof (composition); 7-bays. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

#7

5 - 4029 (National Bank of Fairfax): Commercial (office) now; formerly a bank. Vernacular. 1905. Brick (American bond); 2 stories; flat roof (not visible); 3-bays. This building contributes to the historic significance of the district as the original location of the National Bank of Fairfax, founded in 1902. As the only bank in town throughout the 20th century, it played a key role in the economic development of both the Town and the County of Fairfax.

#8

6 - 4023 (Oliver House): Commercial (office) now; formerly a detached house. Greek Revival. Ca. 1830. Brick (American bond); 2½ stories; gable roof (wood); 3-bays; Classical Revival Porch (flat roof with balustrade, turned columns & railings). This building contributes to the significance of the district as a surviving example of the Greek Revival townhouse type. It adds architectural interest and character to the district and retains excellent integrity of workmanship of the interior detailing.

(See Continuation Sheet #8)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #8

Item number 7

Page 5

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory(continued):

CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD (continued)

#9

*7 - 4015 (Jesse Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular Colonial Revival. 1948. Brick (American bond); 2 stories; flat roof (not visible); 3-bays. This building is less than fifty years old, therefore, it does not contribute to the district.

#10

8 - 4011 (McHugh & Hoffman): Commercial (office). Vernacular. 1914. Brick (stretcher); 2 stories; wood-cladded, gable roof (composition); 2-bays. Built as an office for attorneys, this building represents the commercial, vernacular architecture of early 20th-century Fairfax and the historical development of the town as the legal center for the county.

#11

9 - 4009 (Rust Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular. 1907. Wood frame (stucco); 1 story; gable roof (composition); 3-bays; Classical porch, 2 square posts support roof which ties into wall, small metal balustrade on roof & stone porch floor. Built by Attorney John W. Rust, this building is significant as an example of the vernacular, commercial building type which characterized Fairfax's development following the installation of the trolley line. It adds visual interest to the streetscape.

#1

10 - 4000 (Fairfax County Courthouse): Government building. Roman Revival. 1800 with 1931 and 1953 additions. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories (w/attic); gable roof (slate); 3-bays. The County Courthouse is the major historic building in the district, architecturally significant as an example of a design by James Wren. As the focus of the county seat, it is associated with major events in the history of the City of Fairfax, particularly those from the period of the Civil War.

#12

*11 - 3989 (Leigh Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular. 1946. Brick (American bond); 2 stories; hipped roof (slate); 4-bays. This building is less than fifty years old, and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

#13

*12 - 3976 (Dickson Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular. 1947. Brick (American with Flemish variant); 2 stories; gable roof (slate); 5-bays. This building is less than fifty years old, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

#14

13 - 3977 (Ford Building): Commercial (office) now; formerly a detached house. Georgian Revival. Ca. 1835 with ca. 1900 alterations. Brick (stretcher bond); 2½ stories; hipped roof (slate); 5-bays. Architecturally this building represents an early 20th century refurbishment and expansion of a mid-19th century townhouse type. The building is historically significant as the residence of the Fords, whose daughter, Antonia, was associated with Civil War events.

(See Continuation Sheet #9)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #9

Item number 7

Page 6

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received
date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory (continued):

CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD (continued)

#15

*14 - 3971 (Ramparts): Commercial. Vernacular. 1950. Brick (stretcher); 1-story; flat roof (not visible); 3-bays. Erected by John C. Wood soon after he purchased the Ford house adjacent to the south, this building is less than fifty years old. As such, it does not contribute to the district.

#16

15 - 3970 (Marsh House): Commercial (office) now; formerly a detached house. Vernacular Colonial Revival. 1930. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2-stories; gable roof (composition); 3-bays; Colonial Revival porch (1-story entrance porch with square, molded posts. Wood balustrade on roof). This building retains its domestic character and is an example of the popularity of the Colonial Revival style in the 1920's and 1930's in the City of Fairfax. It contributes in scale, height and materials to the district.

#17

16 - 3950 (Moore House): Commercial (office) now; formerly a detached house. Vernacular. Ca. 1840 with ca. 1895 additions. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2½ stories; gable roof (slate); 5-bays; Colonial Revival porch (1-story, 9-bay, flat roofed porch with Roman Tuscan style columns. Wraps around NE corner of front (east) elevation. Matching side porch on north elevation). This building is significant to the district for its important association with R. Walton Moore (1859-1941), a well-known politician in the 20th century. He was a U.S. Congressman and later assistant Secretary of State in the 1930's. The former house also adds to the architectural character of the district.

#18

*17 - 3936 (Peterson House): Detached house. Contemporary Ranch. 1948. Wood frame (vertical siding); 1-story; gable roof (composition); 3-bays. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

#19

18 - 3920 (Fabio House): Detached house. Vernacular. Ca. 1880. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2-stories; hipped roof (metal); Colonial Revival porch (1-story, 3-bay porch metal, shed roof covering center door and 2 windows supported by turned columns). This house is highly significant to the district as one of the few examples of late 19th-century domestic architecture. It is also historically important for its historic association with Captain Donohoe, founder of the Fairfax Herald, who lived here in the late 19th century.

#20

19 - 3906 (McCandlish House): Detached house. Colonial Revival. 1929. Brick (English bond); 2½ stories; gable roof (slate); 5-bays; Colonial Revival porch (1-story, 3-bay porch, semi-circular in form, Tuscan columns, metal balustrade). Built by George Robey. This house contributes to the

(See Continuation Sheet #10)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

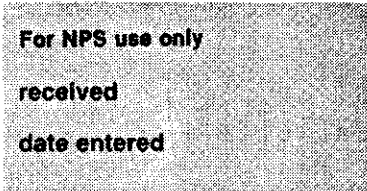
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #10

Item number 7

Page 7



7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory (continued):

CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD (continued)

district as an example of 20th-century domestic architecture in its original use.

*21

20 - 3820 (Prichard House): Detached house. Colonial Revival. 1916. Brick (Flemish bond); 2-stories; gable roof (slate); 5-bays; Vernacular (Tuscan columns) porch (1-story, 5-bay porch with country farm house shed roof; designed with Tuscan columns; brick floor). This building contributes to the significance of the district as an example of early 20th-century domestic architecture in the popular Colonial Revival style. It was built by Fairfax Shield McCandlish, a prominent local attorney.

MAIN STREET

*22

21 - 10520 (Truro Rectory): Detached house. Late Federal. Ca. 1835 with 1911 addition. Brick (American bond); 2 1/2 stories, raised basement; gable roof (metal, standing seam); 5 bays symmetrical; Vernacular porch, one story wood, flat-roofed, metal roofing, square posts, railings, side benches; This building is highly significant for its historic associations with Col. John S. Mosby's raids during the Civil War. Originally designed as a 3-bay townhouse type, it represents the role of Truro Episcopal Church in the community from the period of 1880 to the present.

*23

*22 - 10520 (Main Sanctuary): Church (Truro Episcopal). Colonial Revival. 1958. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories with raised basement; gable roof (slate); one bay; This building is less than fifty years old and therefore, does not contribute to the district.

*24

*23 - 10520 (Education Building): part of church complex. Contemporary. 1965. Brick (Flemish bond); 3 1/2 stories, low basement; gable roof (slate); 7-bays asymmetrical. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

*25

*24 - 10520 (Parish Office): part of church complex. Colonial Revival. 1953. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories, low basement; gambrel roof (slate); 5-bays, symmetrical. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

*26

25-10520 (Truro Chapel): part of church complex. Georgian. 1933. Brick (Flemish bond); one story, but 2 story height, low basement; hipped roof (slate); 3-front bays, 5-side bays, symmetrical. This building was erected as the main church in 1933 when the congregation changed its name from Zion to Truro Church. It was built to approximate the appearance of Old Payne's Church, constructed in 1766 about two miles south (no longer extant). The chapel is architecturally significant as an example of Georgian Revival from the 1930's.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #11

Item number 7

Page 8

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory (continued):

MAIN STREET (continued)

- * 1 26 - 10475 (Old Fairfax Jail): formerly a residence with jail ell; now county offices. Italianate. 1885. Brick (American bond); 2 stories with low basement; hipped roof with central front gable peak (slate, fish scale and rectangular); 5 front bays, symmetrical; Italianate porch, one level, wood, 5 bays, scroll-sawn brackets, dentils, spindles on central gable peak, braced balustrade. Currently being renovated, this late 19th-century brick residence, originally with the jail in the rear ell, makes a strong contribution to the architectural significance of the district as a notable example of the Italianate Style.
- * 27 - 10440 (Sovran Bank): Commercial (office). Colonial Revival. 1931; 1937 addition. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories with low basement (1937 section) and raised basement (1931 section); gable roof (1937 addition), hipped roof (1931 section), central front gable pediments on front (south) and rear (north) elevations have circular lights (slate); 5 + 7 front bays, symmetrical. Constructed as new offices for the National Bank of Fairfax in 1931, this building illustrates the important role of the bank in the historical development of Fairfax. It makes a strong contribution to the streetscape as the most prominent example in the district of the Colonial Revival Style.
- * *28 - 10430 (Roseberry & Foster Bonding Co.): Commercial (office). Vernacular. Ca. 1945. Painted brick (stretcher bond); 1 story, low basement; hipped roof (shingle, composition); 3 front bays, asymmetrical. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.
- * *29 - 10418 - 10426 (The Alibi): Commercial (retail). Commercial contemporary. 1955. Brick (stretcher bond) with glass panels; 1 story with low basement; roof not visible (material not visible); 3 front bays, asymmetrical. Built originally as Fairfax Plaza Shops, complete with bowling alley, this building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.
- * *30 - 10423 (Munday's Gas Station): Gas station. Contemporary. 1952. Brick (stretcher bond); 1 story; gable roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, asymmetrical. This building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district. It replaced an Esso Station (1931 - 1952) which replaced a garage destroyed by fire in 1929.

(See Continuation Sheet #12)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #12

Item number 7

Page 9

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory (continued):

MAIN STREET (continued)

* 31 - 10417 (Graham Building): Commercial (office). Vernacular. 1925-1930. Brick (stretcher bond); 2 stories with low basement; gable, parapet roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, symmetrical. Built by John W. Rust in the late 1920's as a restaurant and professionals' offices, this commercial building contributes in scale, materials, and feeling to the sense of time and place of the district.

* 32 - 10416 (Hav - A - Bite): Commercial (restaurant). Commercial Vernacular. Ca. 1895. Wood frame (aluminum on front facade; German siding on side elevations); 2 stories with low basement; gable roof (standing seam metal); 2 front bays, symmetrical. This building is an important element of Main Street because it illustrates the character and building type of the town's commercial area in the 1890's. It retains the major features of its original design.

* 33 - 10414 (T.T. Reynolds): Commercial (restaurant). Commercial Vernacular. Ca. 1895. Wood frame (German siding); 2 stories with low basement; shed roof (material not visible); 3 front bays, symmetrical. This building is an important element of Main Street because it illustrates, in nearly original form, the character and building type of the commercial core of Fairfax in the late 1890's.

* 34 - 10409 (Hazel building): Commercial (office). Commercial Vernacular. Ca. 1950. Painted brick (stretcher bond); 1 story with low basement; roof not visible (material not visible); 3 front bays, symmetrical. Built as a Safeway grocery store ca. 1950 and later used as a drugstore, this building is less than fifty years old and, therefore, does not contribute to the district.

* 35 - 10412 (Elizabeth's): Commercial (retail). Commercial Vernacular. Ca. 1900. Wood frame (German Siding); 2 stories with low basement; gable roof (standing seam metal); 3 front bays, symmetrical. With its historic appearance highly intact, this commercial building makes a strong contribution to the architectural character of Fairfax and represents an important building type of the turn of the century.

* 36 - 10410 (Hunsberger/Monaco Engineering): Commercial (office). Commercial vernacular. 1936 - 1938. Brick (American bond); 2 stories with low basement (rises in back); flat roof (material not visible); 3 front bays, symmetrical. Constructed and operated as a grocery store into the 1940's, this building is an example of 1930's commercial architecture. Despite the Colonial Revival detailing added in 1966 (windows, cornice), it adds visual interest to Main Street.

(See Continuation Sheet #13)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #13

Item number 7

Page 10

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory

MAIN STREET (continued)

- * ~~37~~ - 10400 (Fairfax Herald Building): Commercial (office). Ca. 1900. Wood frame (German siding); 1 story with low basement; gable roof (two parapets, clipped end on corner) (standing seam metal); 5 front bays, asymmetrical. This building is an excellent example of the vernacular character of Main Street's commercial section. It is an important landmark in the district because of its association with the Fairfax Herald, published from 1882 until 1966.
- * ~~38~~ - 10403 - 10407 (Ellicott Building): Commercial. Commercial Vernacular. Ca. 1910; altered in late 1970's. Wood frame (composition siding); 2 stories with low basement; gable, pediment roof (standing seam metal); 4 + 3 front bays, symmetrical. Old photograph shows one over one windows and simulated, rough-faced brick siding. Despite alterations to siding, windows, interior, and brick addition, the building contributes to the district by its scale, mass, and style.
- * ~~39~~ - 10385 - 10389 (Victorian Square): Commercial (office). Contemporary alterations. Ca. 1895. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2 1/2 stories with raised basement; shingled pediment gable roof (standing seam metal); 3 front bays, 4 side bays, symmetrical. This building served as a service garage between 1927 and 1952, and as a car dealership showroom from 1953 until 1970. Because of the compromising alterations made to the building during 1985-86 renovation, it has lost historic integrity and does not contribute to the district.
- * ~~40~~ - 10381 (part of Victorian Square): Commercial (office). Vernacular Queen Anne. Ca. 1892. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2 1/2 stories with raised basement; off-center gable peak on front of hipped roof. Gable peak in rear is new addition (standing seam metal); 3 front bays, asymmetrical; Colonial revival porch, one story, wood with 10 bays wraparound (1-story shed metal roofed porch wraps around partially to sides, is re-built with contemporary balustrade). This building contributes to the architectural character of the streetscape by its form, materials, and basic design.
- * ~~41~~ - 10386 (Ratcliffe-Logan-Allison House): Detached house. Ca. 1805. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories with low basement; gable roof (wood shingle); 5 front bays, asymmetrical; astylar porch, two stories, two levels, wood, one bay (Porch is 19th century and greatly deteriorated. Door at second floor level opens onto porch's upper level.). This building, still in residential use, is a landmark element of the district as an example of early 19th-century Northern Virginia vernacular architecture. It is also associated with

(See Continuation Sheet #14)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #14

Item number 7

Page 11

For NPS use only

received

date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory

MAIN STREET (continued)

~~# 41~~-10386 (continued)

Fairfax's historical development as a stage coach stop and inn along the Little River Turnpike. This building is individually listed in the National Register. Its common name is "Earp's Ordinary".

~~# 42~~- 10386R (addition to Earp's Ordinary): Detached house. Ca. 1920. Wood frame (weatherboard); two stories, low basement; gable roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, asymmetrical. This building contributes by age, materials, and design to the architectural diversity of the district.

~~# 43~~- 10376 (Ship's Hatch): Commercial (retail). Bungalow. Ca. 1925. Wood frame (Stucco); 1 1/2 stories, raised basement; hipped roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, asymmetrical; astylar porch, one story, one level, wood with stucco, one bay, openings are arched, concrete floors. This building adds architectural & visual interest and character to the district. Constructed by O.B. Campbell, it was once used as a telephone exchange.

~~# 44~~- 10364 - 70 (Us Too Studio): Commercial (retail). Federal. Ca. 1810. Brick (Flemish bond); 2 stories, low basement; gable roof (standing seam metal); 5 front bays, symmetrical. This Federal-style building is a fine example of early 19th-century domestic architecture in Fairfax. It is associated with the early historical development of the town as the home and office of Dr. S. Draper who occupied it until 1842.

(See Continuation Sheet #15)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

received

date entered

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #15

Item number 7

Page 12

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory

NORTH STREET

~~# 45~~ - 10413: Detached house, now commercial. Vernacular. Ca. 1920. Wood frame composition siding); 2 stories, raised basement; gambrel roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, asymmetrical. This building illustrates the type of modest domestic architecture that existed in the 1920's as part of the rising prominence of the Town of Fairfax as the county seat. It harmonizes in scale, mass, height with the character of the district.

~~# 46~~ - 10415: Detached house, now commercial. Vernacular. Ca. 1920. Wood frame (weatherboard); 2 stories, low basement; gambrel roof (composition shingle); 2 front bays, asymmetrical. This building is an example of the modest domestic architecture that was built in the 1920's when the Town of Fairfax experienced greater prominence as the county seat. It harmonizes in scale, mass, materials, and height with the character of the district.

UNIVERSITY DRIVE

~~# 47~~ - 3995 (Old Town Hall): Government building. Colonial Revival. 1900. Wood frame (Weatherboard); 2 stories, raised basement; gable pediment roof (composition shingle); 3 front bays, 5 side bays, symmetrical; colonial revival porch, 2 story, full-height, 3 bays, wood, low concrete plinth, Coursed rubble high basement with concrete stoop, center stairs. Full-height portico in Roman Tuscan style supports full entablature and pediment. As an outstanding example of a Colonial Revival style public building, the Old Town Hall is a landmark in the district. It is important for its association with town benefactor, Joseph E. Willard, and as an early 20th-century center of the town's social life.

(See Continuation Sheet #16)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, Fairfax, VA

Continuation sheet #16

Item number 7

Page 13

For NPS use only
received
date entered

7. DESCRIPTION -- Inventory

UNIVERSITY DRIVE - (continued)

~~48~~ 3988 - 3990 (Old Firehouse): Commercial (office). Vernacular. Ca. 1932. Brick (American bond); 2 stories, low basement; flat roof (material not visible); 3 + 1 bays, symmetrical. This building was constructed as a replacement for the Town of Fairfax garage, which burned in 1929, and housed the firehouse and town offices until the early 1950's. It contributes to the scale of the streetscape and represents 1930's vernacular architecture.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet #17

Item number 8

Page 1

8. SIGNIFICANCE - (continued)

Fairfax: The earliest dwellings in the historic district date from this period: the Ratcliffe-Logan-Allison House, built between 1805 and 1813 and historically important as an example of a stagecoach stop on the Little River Turnpike, an essential transportation route linking Alexandria with Loudoun County to the west; and the Dr. Samuel Draper House, a substantial brick home designed in the Federal style.

By 1825 Rizen Willcoxon's brick tavern across Little River Turnpike from the courthouse had been established, probably as an expansion of Earp's Ordinary. It was later enlarged and used as a hotel until its demolition in 1930 when the National Bank of Fairfax relocated its expanded offices on the site. Also by this date the Fauquier-Alexandria Turnpike had been completed, passing through the center of Fairfax Court House.

During the first half of the 19th century, the role of county government in Virginia became firmly established. As the system evolved under Colonial rule from the 1600s into the late 18th century, judicial powers were vested in the county court. By the end of the Colonial era the local court heard all cases except those for which capital punishment was provided and also held nonjudicial responsibilities regarding the conduct of both public and private affairs. This system remained in place during the transition of Virginia from a colony to a state with the exception of the creation of district courts in 1788 (which became circuit courts in 1818) to meet the increased press of judicial business.¹

It was the county court's performance of a broad range of administrative functions that determined its importance in local affairs throughout the 19th century. These functions included the licensing of inns, mills, and peddlers, the survey and maintenance of roads, bridges, and fords, and the regulation of welfare activities. The county court was presided over by the Justices of the Peace, popularly called "Gentleman Justices." Appointed for life with no compensation, they influenced the selection of all other county officers, including the sheriff, the commissioner of the revenue, and the county surveyor. The authors of The Fairfax County Courthouse describe the justices as "both the products and caretakers of a system that placed control of public affairs in the hands of an aristocratic class, and at any time in the County's history up to mid-nineteenth century a list of the County's justices was certain to include the best leadership the County had."²

By the 1830s the seat of the local government of Fairfax County had become a local trading center. Agricultural production had shifted from tobacco to grains, which necessitated merchant milling establishments. In spite of a decline in population through the two decades between 1810 and 1830 and an increase of only 170 persons in the county from 1830 to 1840, the Town of Providence was prospering. In his 1835 Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia, Joseph Martin, using the designation "Fairfax C.H.P.O.," described the community as containing "besides the ordinary county buildings, 50 dwelling houses, for the most part frame buildings, 3 mercantile stores, 4 taverns, and 1 common school. The mechanics are boot and shoemakers, saddlers, blacksmiths, tailors, etc. Population 200 persons; of whom 4 are attorneys and 2 physicians."³

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet #18

Item number 8

Page 2

Although specific documentation of the first owners and dates of construction of the three remaining dwellings in the district from the period 1830 to 1860 either does not exist or has not been researched, it can be assumed that these brick residences were built by prominent citizens of Fairfax Court House. The Oliver House at 4023 Chain Bridge Road and the Truro Church Rectory were most likely built in the 1830s and are associated with the names of Joshua C. Gunnell and Thomas R. Love, respectively. The Rectory (a three-bay house resembling the Oliver House originally) was sold before 1860 to Dr. William Presley Gunnell. Joshua Gunnell was a presiding justice of the court in 1859 and Love was a leading Whig politician in the 1850s. The Ford House, an early version of which was probably built around 1835 by the merchant F.R. Ford, also originally resembled the Oliver House. In the late 19th century the brick facade was reworked and the slate, hipped roof added.

Throughout the 1840s Fairfax County experienced an influx of newcomers from northern states. Most were farmers who were interested in and achieved improved crop production by using the latest techniques in fertilization and cultivation of the depleted soil. They also took advantage of the growing urban markets nearby. One of the four areas in the county where these "emigrants," as they referred to themselves, settled was Fairfax Court House. An April, 1844 issue of the Alexandria Gazette observed that the village "has greatly improved in late years. Several handsome and spacious buildings have recently been built, the lots improved, and other marks of enterprise and industry exhibited." Another writer remarked in 1845 that Fairfax had recently built "a number of commodious and tasteful dwellings."⁴ In 1842 Providence expanded its limits and incorporated as a town. Zion Church (Episcopal) was built in 1844 on the present site of Truro Church. The Fairfax News was the local newspaper. In 1851 the community had a log road connection to the railroad, south to Fairfax Station, and two log road connections to the Potomac River to the north.

The next major event in the historical development of Fairfax was the Civil War. The Fairfax County Courthouse played the role of headquarters for both the Confederate troops (1861) and then the Union troops (1862-1865). The location of the town (and the surrounding county)--just west of the District of Columbia--was a deciding factor in its fate during the war. An initial skirmish in early June of 1861, following Virginia's decision in April to support secession, involved a Union cavalry raid on Fairfax Court House during which John Quincy Marr, Captain of the Warrenton (Va.) Rifles, became the first officer casualty of the war. The area was subjected to massive troop movements at the beginning of the war and unending guerilla raids while under Union "control", with the result that local government was non-existent and most commerce was thoroughly disrupted. Physically the area was ravaged to support the troop encampments. In 1863 prominent citizens of the county seat were arrested following the success of Confederate ranger John S. Mosby in capturing the Union general headquartered at the home of Dr. William Gunnell (now Truro Rectory).

The county courts could not meet from May 1861 until May 1862, when the Unionists met and elected officers for the county government. By the fall of 1862 civil government was disrupted again. When the court met in January 1863 it was controlled by the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet #19

Item number 8

Page #3

Unionists but had to convene near Alexandria because no firm Union control was possible west of Alexandria. Non-military Unionists and Confederates were trying to exist throughout what had become the "no-man's land" of Fairfax County. In August 1865, following the end of the war, the Court assembled in Fairfax County Courthouse for the first time in three years, as the village started rebuilding.

By 1870 the economy and physical resources of the county had substantially recovered from the war's destruction. Agricultural production was still the primary component of the economy. The county ranked as the largest milk producer in the state. Northerners flocked in again as permanent settlers and numerous communities grew quickly. The county board of supervisors, which was established under the 1860 Underwood Constitution, pre-empted many of the administrative functions of the old county court system. In 1875 Providence officially changed its name to Fairfax.

The G. M. Hopkins' Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, D.C., published in 1868, indicates graphically that Fairfax Court House was primarily a community of dwelling houses situated on the originally surveyed building lots east of the courthouse green along Little River Turnpike, with some larger estates surrounding the town center. On three of the lots were stores. At the western edge was the cemetery, still existing, but separated from the historic district by two blocks of modern construction. The map also indicates at least two houses that remain today in an expanded form. The Thomas M. Moore house is shown on the Ox Road, north of the courthouse and is the core of the circa 1890 house now existing at 3950 Chain Bridge Road. The circa 1890 appearance of the house is associated with improvements made by resident R. Walton Moore (1858-1941), a prominent Fairfax attorney, Virginia Senator, U.S. Congressman and Assistant Secretary of State from 1933 to 1937.

Southeast of the courthouse was the residence of Judge Henry W. Thomas. Reputedly some portion of this house was incorporated into the house built in 1915 by John S. Barbour, moved in 1966 to 4069 Chain Bridge Road. The role of the county seat as a legal center is evident in the list of attorneys under Business Notices in the 1878 Atlas. The only church in town was Zion Episcopal Church. The 1844 church building was destroyed during the Civil War and a replacement church was constructed in 1872. In 1878 the Thomas R. Love house was bought from Col. Simpson and converted to a rectory.

The last two decades of the 19th century were uneventful for Fairfax. Concerned observers noted throughout the 1880s and 1890s that Fairfax was suffering from business stagnation because of its isolation from most of the county due to poor roads and the lack of a direct rail link to Alexandria and Washington. The population fell from 376 in 1880 to 200 in 1892, the year that Fairfax received its charter of incorporation.⁵ In 1875 the local newspaper had folded, though seven years later Captain Stephen R. Donohoe from Alexandria began publication of the

(See Continuation Sheet #20)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

Continuation sheet #20

Item number 8

Page #4

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Fairfax Herald. Fairfax County, in the meantime, was experiencing steady growth due to general prosperity and opportunities for investment as well as an influx of northerners, attached in part by the depression of land prices following the war. The population rose from 13,000 in 1870 to 18,580 in 1900, an increase of 43.5 percent.⁶ County officials had to replace the jail when it burned in 1884. The present 1886 jail building (not used as such since 1952) was constructed of red brick in three sections, with the front portion being used as the residence of the jailkeeper.

Another historically important building in the district, which must have given the town a boost when it was constructed in 1900, is the Old Town Hall at 3999 University Drive. It was built by a native of Fairfax and prominent public servant, Joseph E. Willard, and put into a trusteeship to be used by the town. Although it was never used as a governmental center, it was the focal point for social life in Fairfax and heavily used as such. Joseph E. Willard was the son of Joseph C. Willard, co-owner of the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C. and Antonia Ford Willard, a Confederate sympathizer who was jailed in Washington following John Mosby's capture of a Union general in Fairfax. Joseph E. Willard served as lieutenant governor of Virginia and was in the diplomatic service under President Woodrow Wilson. He accepted a post as Minister to Spain and became both the last Minister and the first American Ambassador to King Alfonso's Spain.⁷

Population growth and development patterns in the county eventually sparked the construction of the transportation link that Fairfax had desired. That link was the electric railway line, extended to Fairfax in December 1904, and it marked the beginning of the country's transition from an agricultural base to suburbanization. Politicians R. Walton Moore and Lt. Governor Joseph E. Willard provided incentives for the Washington and Falls Church Electric Railway to proceed with their extension of the trolley line from Vienna to Fairfax. In 1910 a new terminal was established in the abandoned lobby of the former Wilcoxon Hotel across from the Courthouse.

The rejuvenation of Fairfax's economy as a result of electric rail service is evident in the flurry of building and relocation that occurred shortly after 1904. The National Bank of Fairfax, founded in 1902, constructed the brick commercial building at 4029 Chain Bridge Road in 1905. Also about 1905 the Fairfax Herald moved into the one-story frame building at the corner of Main Street and University Drive which it occupied until 1966. Attorney John W. Rust built his stuccoed office building across from the courthouse at 4009 Chain Bridge Road in 1907. Along Main Street are three frame commercial buildings (10412, 10414, and 10416), similar in character, which appear to date from the turn of the century. At any rate, given their proximity to the trolley station, they became even more economically viable.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

Continuation sheet #21

Item number 8

Page 5

The more immediate effects on historical development of the four electrified transportation lines which linked communities in the county with Washington, D.C. were twofold. The dairy industry benefited from the advantages of shipping their products quickly to distribution centers in Washington, and the county remained highly agricultural into the 1920s. The second effect was the increased tendency of county residents to work in Washington and live in the suburbs. This pattern was accelerated in the 1920s as bus lines were established. After World War I the popularity of automobiles, with consequent demand to improve the road system, insured further change to the county's rural way of life.

Increased suburbanization was inevitable in the next transitional decade in Fairfax between 1930 and 1940. Employment opportunities with the federal government combined with the convenient access between suburban homes and the city resulted in a growth of the county's population from 40,929 in 1930 to 98,557 in 1940. Reorganization in 1927 of the Washington & Virginia Railway Company resulted in the continuation of the northern portion of the passenger line between downtown Washington, Rosslyn and Fairfax as the Arlington & Fairfax Electric Railway Company until 1939. Several buildings were erected in downtown Fairfax during this period. The most impressive is the Colonial Revival style National Bank of Fairfax, built in 1932, on the site of the Wilcoxon Hotel, now the Sovran Bank. In 1933 Truro Episcopal Church erected a new sanctuary, designed in the Georgian style, and an addition was made to the Courthouse. Other buildings were vernacular ones: a restaurant on Main Street, a firehouse on University Drive, and a 1936 grocery store on Main Street.

The growth rate of the county was unprecedented throughout the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s as federal government employment opportunities in Washington, D.C. proliferated and as nonfederal workers in other industries and services relocated in the county. Seven small office buildings (*non-contributing* to the district) were constructed within the historic district boundaries in this period in response to the high demand for office space in Fairfax, primarily for attorneys. The Ford House was converted to offices in 1949. A single-building shopping plaza was inserted on Main Street in 1955. The County Courthouse and other county government buildings are not under the City's jurisdiction, but the City of Fairfax Historic District remains as a distinct historic setting for the business of the county seat.

FOOTNOTES

(Continuation Sheet #22)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT, FAIRFAX, VA

Continuation sheet #22

Item number 8 & 9

Page #6, 1

Footnotes

¹Ross D. Netherton and Ruby Waldeck, The Fairfax County Courthouse (Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1977), Chapter III.

²Ibid., p.19.

³Joseph Martin, Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia (Charlottesville, 1835), p.168.

⁴Quoted in Nan Netherton, et al, Fairfax County, Virginia: A History (Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 1978), p.256.

⁵Ibid., p.435.

⁶Ibid., p.459.

⁷Dana Kauffman, "A Man and His Political Times," Article in files of City of Fairfax Department of Community Development and Planning.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

3. Martin, Joseph. Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia. Charlottesville, 1835.

4. Netherton, Nan, et al. Fairfax County, Virginia: A History. Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 1978.

5. Netherton, Ross D. and Waldeck, Ruby. The Fairfax County Courthouse. Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1977.

6. Files of Fairfax Regional Library, Virginia Room, Fairfax, Virginia.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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City of Fairfax Historic District, Fairfax, Virginia
Continuation sheet #23

Item number

10

Page 1

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -- Verbal Boundary Description / Boundary Justification

of lot #14; thence extending approximately 112' ESE to a point (D); thence approximately 137' SSW to a point (E) at the NE corner of lot #29; thence approximately 225' ESE to a point (F) at the NE corner of lot #48; thence approximately 62' SSW along the W side right-of-way of University Drive to a point (G) at the SE corner of lot #48; thence approximately 119' ESE to a point (H) at the NE corner of lot #47; thence approximately 200' NNE to a point (I); thence approximately 200' ESE along the S side right-of-way of North Street to a point (J) at the NE corner of lot #45; thence approximately 70' S to a point (K) at the SW corner of lot #45; thence approximately 50' W to a point (L); thence approximately 80' S along the E property line of lot #46 to a point (M); thence approximately 60' W along the S property line of lot #46 to a point (N); thence approximately 50' S to a point (O); thence approximately 170' E to a point (P) located on the west side of Old Lee Highway; thence approximately 90' S to a point (Q) at the SE corner of lot #44; thence approximately 137' WNW along the N side right-of-way of Main Street to a point (R); thence approximately 200' SSW along the E property line of lot #40 to a point (S); thence approximately 212' WNW along the rear property lines of lots #40 and #39 to a point (T); thence approximately 29' NNE to a point (U); thence approximately 237' WNW to a point (V); thence approximately 337' SSW along the rear property lines of lots #7, #6, #5, and #4 to a point (W); thence approximately 119' WNW to a point (X); thence approximately 112' SSW to a point (Y); thence approximately 62' E to a point (Z) at the NE corner of lot #3; thence approximately 275' SSW to a point (A¹) at the SE corner of lot #1; thence approximately 212' WNW to a point (B¹); thence extending NE along the E side right-of-way of Chain Bridge Road approximately 350' to a point (C¹); thence approximately 350' WNW to a point (D¹); thence approximately 500' NNE along the rear property line of lot #10 and the W side property line of lot #26, following the E side right-of-way of West Street to a point (E¹) at the NW corner of lot #26; thence approximately 187' ESE to a point (F¹); thence approximately 344' NNE to a point (G¹); thence approximately 450' WNW to a point (H¹); thence approximately 237' SSW to a point (I¹); thence approximately 325' WNW along the N side right-of-way of Main Street to a point (J¹) the SW corner of 10520 Main Street; thence approximately 569' NNE to a point (K¹); thence approximately 325' ESE to a point (L¹); thence approximately 300' SSW to a point (M¹); thence approximately 225' ESE to a point (N¹) at the W corner of lot #16; thence approximately 425' NNE along the rear property lines of lots #16, #17, and #18 to a point (O¹); thence approximately 200' WNW to a point (P¹) at the W corner of lot #19; thence approximately 525' NNE along the rear property lines of lots #19 and #20 to point of origin.

Boundary Justification: The City of Fairfax Historic District boundaries coincide for the most part with property lines of lots in the City: the lot of Truro Episcopal Church in the NW corner and the rear and/or side lot lines of all buildings facing on Chain Bridge Road, Main Street, North Street and University Drive. The boundaries are drawn to include the greatest concentration of historic buildings in the City of Fairfax, located generally to the east, north, and south of the County Courthouse. Buildings outside the district boundaries in all directions were excluded from the district because they are considered to be contemporary (noncontributing) elements. Five buildings at the corner of Old Lee Highway and North Street were excluded from the district. They were determined to be noncontributing buildings due to extensive alterations which compromised their original architectural character.

FAIRFAX QUADRANGLE

VIRGINIA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5561 1 N
FALLS CHURCH (VA. 7) 4.4 MI.
WASHINGTON, D.C. (KEY BR.) 11 MI.

5561 IV NE
(VIENNA) 123 CHAIN BRIDGE 12 MI.
VIENNA 2.7 MI.

301 17'30"

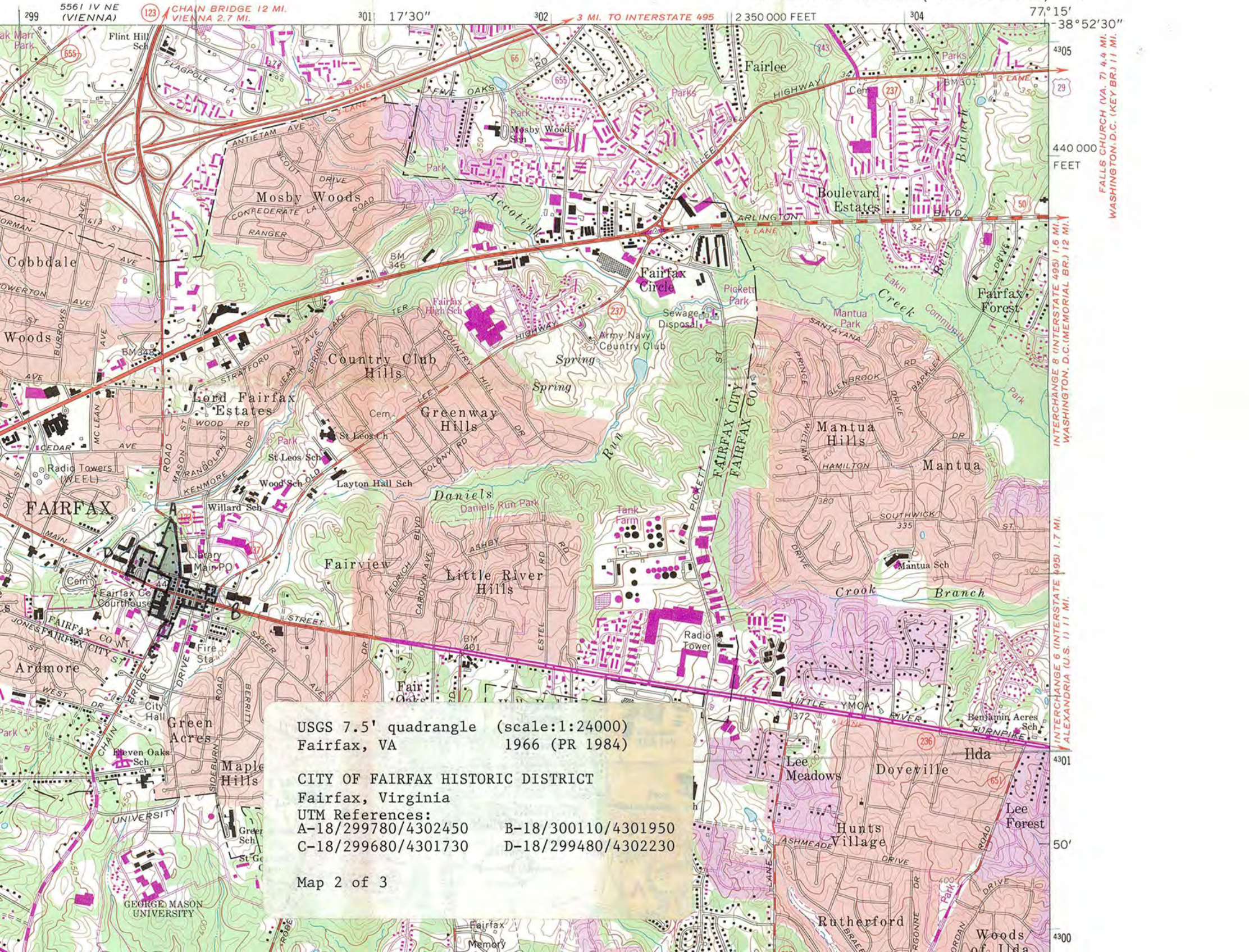
302

3 MI. TO INTERSTATE 495

2 350 000 FEET

304

77° 15' 38' 52" 30"



4305
440 000
FEET
INTERCHANGE 8 (INTERSTATE 495) 1.6 MI.
WASHINGTON, D.C. (MEMORIAL BR.) 12 MI.

INTERCHANGE 6 (INTERSTATE 495) 1.7 MI.
ALEXANDRIA (U.S. 1) 11 MI.

USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
Fairfax, VA 1966 (PR 1984)
CITY OF FAIRFAX HISTORIC DISTRICT
Fairfax, Virginia
UTM References:
A-18/299780/4302450 B-18/300110/4301950
C-18/299680/4301730 D-18/299480/4302230
Map 2 of 3

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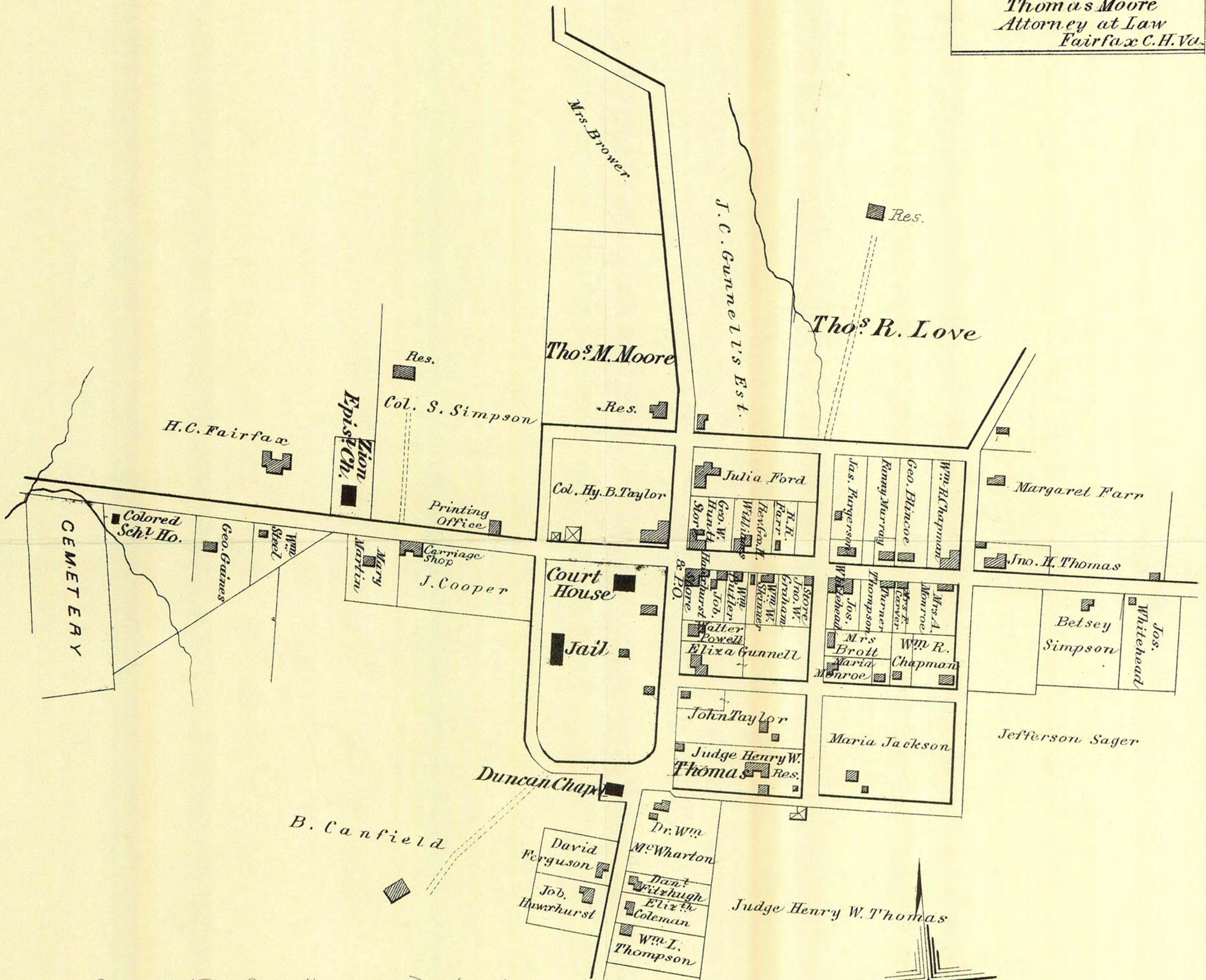
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FAIRFAX C.H.

Scale 300 feet to an Inch.



City of Fairfax Historic District
Fairfax, VA Map 3 of 3

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