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**INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE OF THE LYNN HOUSE
PROPERTY, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
FORWARD.....	i
ABSTRACT.....	vi
INTRODUCTION.....	1
PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.....	3
CULTURE HISTORY AND PALEOECOLOGICAL SETTING.....	3
RESEARCH DESIGN.....	18
METHODOLOGY AND FIELD CONDITIONS.....	18
RESULTS.....	20
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	27
APPENDIX 1.....	28
PROJECT SUMMARY.....	30
DIVISION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE	
INVENTORY FORM.....	32
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	33
QUALIFICATIONS OF INVESTIGATORS.....	35

LIST OF FIGURES

	PAGE
Fig. 1 Project Location Map.....	2
Fig. 2 Prehistoric Site Location Map.....	6
Fig. 3 Environs of Washington, D. C. 1864-66.....	9
Fig. 4 Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, VA.....	11
Fig. 5 Fairfax County, VA in 1760.....	12
Fig. 6 Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington.....	14
Fig. 7 Hopkins Map of Washington, D. C., 1894.....	16
Fig. 8 Site Map Showing Test Units.....	19
Fig. 9 Profile of Test Unit 1.....	23
Fig. 10 Profile of Test Unit 7.....	24
Fig. 11 Profile of Trench 1.....	25

LIST OF PLATES

	PAGE
Plate 1 Area of Trench 1.....	21
Plate 2 Mound Area with Bisecting Trench.....	21
Plate 3 Unit 6.....	22
Plate 4 Unit 7.....	22

Forward

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In July of 1990, based on recommendation by Alexandria Archaeology, the firm of Walton. Madden. Cooper, Incorporated requested that The American University, Potomac River Archaeology Survey, undertake an archaeological evaluation of a portion of the Lynn House property. The Lynn House, located on West Braddock Road, now contains a small Christian Science hospital. Plans to build a new hospital, immediately to the rear (south) of the present structure, precipitated the request for archaeological investigation.

A general pedestrian survey of the property was undertaken twice by the principal investigator and other archaeologists of this institution. Archaeologists also met with Keith Barr of Alexandria Archaeology at the site. Note was made of the proximity of the Lynn House to Fort Ward Park, site of an extensive civil war fort complex immediately adjacent (northeast) to the property under investigation. A peculiar terrace feature to the east of the present Lynn House was also noted and probed. We were also made aware that the 1864-66 map of the "Environs of Washington" (USA Corps of Engineers) showed an unidentified historic structure in the vicinity of the project area. Formal contact was made with Janiva Toler, Lynn House Administrator, Wanda Dowell, Fort Ward Park Director, and various neighbors in the vicinity of the project area.

Based on preliminary survey, available documentary resources, and interviews, the following strategy emerged. A complete chain-of-title search was undertaken on the project. It was hoped that this might provide more precise information on the location of the unidentified historic structure and offer general information on the history of land use in this area. Background historical data was collected relative to the site. In addition, a plan for archaeological testing was formulated in consultation with Keith Barr, Alexandria Archaeology. Eight test units were to be excavated at various strategic locations on the property and three back hoe trenches were also cut to test specific locations. Based on this strategy, the following conclusions were reached about the archaeological significance of the Lynn House property.

The chain-of-title research was successful in illuminating ownership of the property from a 1729 land patent to the last quarter of the 19th century. At that point some discrepancy was then noted with no legal record surviving to document an 1876 apparent transfer of the property from Beale Howard to William Howard. Constance Ring, Fairfax County Archivist, was able to confirm, however, that the latter individual was the son of the recorded property owner, Beale Howard. Subdivision of the property into six parcels did occur shortly thereafter, in September 1876, with the current Lynn House property being included in one of these parcels. From that period on the parcel passed through a number of owners in the late 19th through 20th centuries. Further subdivision of the parcel occurred by 1954 with a trustee for the Lynn House purchasing that property in

1971. Nevertheless, based on the chain-of-title as well as the general background historical research, it was not possible to identify the specific location of any former historic structure on the Lynn House property. It became evident that the location of any such historic structure would have to depend on archaeological testing.

As stated previously, eight test units (three were 3x3 ft units and five were 5x5 ft) were excavated along with three backhoe trenches (each was approximately five ft wide with one being forty ft long and the other two ten ft long). A number of the test units were capped with asphalt. In all cases hard clay fill was encountered overlying a natural clay/pebble soil strata. This stratigraphically lower natural soil layer eventually graded into large quartzite cobble deposits. In the case of the test units and backhoe trenches, rather minor concentrations of artifacts were recovered in the upper fill layer. Based on identifiable diagnostic artifacts, it was possible to date their manufacture to the late 19th through 20th centuries. It was apparent, however, that none were in their original depositional context and that all had been redeposited with the associated fill. We suspect this to be the result of extensive grading on the property, probably in conjunction with the building and associated landscaping of the present hospital.

The large 40 ft backhoe trench, placed to diagonally intersect the before mentioned terrace east of the present Lynn House, did locate the cellar of a former structure. This is most likely the remains of the modern structure noted on the 1945 and

1965 USGS topographic maps. Based on the presence of poured concrete and steel-reinforced foundations, charred floor joists of dimension lumber cut with a circular saw, and modern plumbing as well as an electric furnace motor, we believe this detritus to represent a mid-20th century structure. Given enormous amounts of associated charred material it is also evident that the structure was destroyed by fire. This could be consistent with its destruction in the late 1960's or early 1970's as preparation for the building of the present hospital on the property. We did, however, want to eliminate the possibility that this structure represented a possible addition to an earlier historic structure. Given this possibility, we therefore excavated the two additional ten ft backhoe trenches east of this long trench. No evidence was found of any earlier structure abutting this late feature.

Based on these data, both archaeological and historical, the following scenario can be suggested. We feel that along with the construction of the present hospital extensive grading activity took place on the site. Soil material, representing original natural upper soil horizons and any associated undisturbed cultural features, was essentially moved in a west to east direction. At the same time, the relatively modern structure listed on the USGS map east of the present hospital was burned. The destruction of this house may also have occurred previous to this time. Whatever the case, fill was placed in and over this structure creating the noted terrace. The overall grading effort was probably associated with the creation of the parking area behind (south) the present hospital and general landscaping

around that structure. Such extensive grading is often associated with modern construction activity. In any case, we are confident that this grading activity removed most, if not all, evidence of any former early structures on the site. Another possibility exists in that any former historic structures may have been located directly under what is now the present hospital. At the same time, we must state that there is some real chance, based on historic background research, that there never were any very early structures located on this property. At the very least, we can state that there was no evidence of such a structure or structures recovered through archaeological testing. It can be stated, however, that archaeological testing was the only vehicle available to reach this conclusion.

Based on the cumulative historical background research and archaeological testing, it appears that the site under question contains no significant archaeological deposits. We must applaud the efforts of the Lynn House, Walton. Madden. Cooper, Incorporated, and Alexandria Archaeology to expend resources in an effort to reach this conclusion. It is our recommendation that proposed construction on the site be allowed to proceed. If the present hospital is eventually destroyed, some additional monitoring by Alexandria Archaeology of soil deposits sealed by this building may be worthwhile. I would be happy to visit the site during this activity.

ABSTRACT

An intensive archaeological reconnaissance of the Lynn House property in Alexandria, Virginia, was conducted by the Potomac River Archaeology Survey. Although an intentionally burned 20th century structure was uncovered, no significant mid-18th century structural remains or artifacts were found. Therefore, no further archaeological investigation is recommended.

INTRODUCTION

During the month of August, 1990, the Potomac River Archaeology Survey (PRAS) conducted an intensive archaeological reconnaissance of the Lynn House Property in Alexandria, VA. The survey was conducted in response to request from Walton, Madden and Cooper, Inc. to provide information on the presence of possible prehistoric and historic cultural resources located in the area. Dr. Richard J. Dent, Jr., Director of PRAS, served as the principal investigator. Varna Boyd, M. A., was the Field and Laboratory Director. Crew consisted of Luke Chen, Alan Green, Justin Lev-Tov, Simon Lewthwaite, Elizabeth Myler and William Reid. Background research was conducted by Varna Boyd and Elizabeth Myler with the help of William Reid. Dr. Joan Chase, Associate Director of PRAS, helped to compile the report which follows the guidelines proposed by Alexandria Archaeology.

The project area is located in the Coastal Plain physiographic province of the Potomac Valley. It is bounded on the north by Braddock Road and on the east by North Howard Street. Northeast of the property, Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site offers an example of the historic Civil War defenses of Washington (Fig. 1)

Background material was obtained from the Lloyd House Library, Fairfax City Court House Land Records and Archives, Fairfax County Building and Land Development Office, Alexandria Court House Land Records, Alexandria Office of Citizen Assistance, Fort Ward Reference Library, Alexandria Archaeology, and George Mason University Library. Interviews were conducted

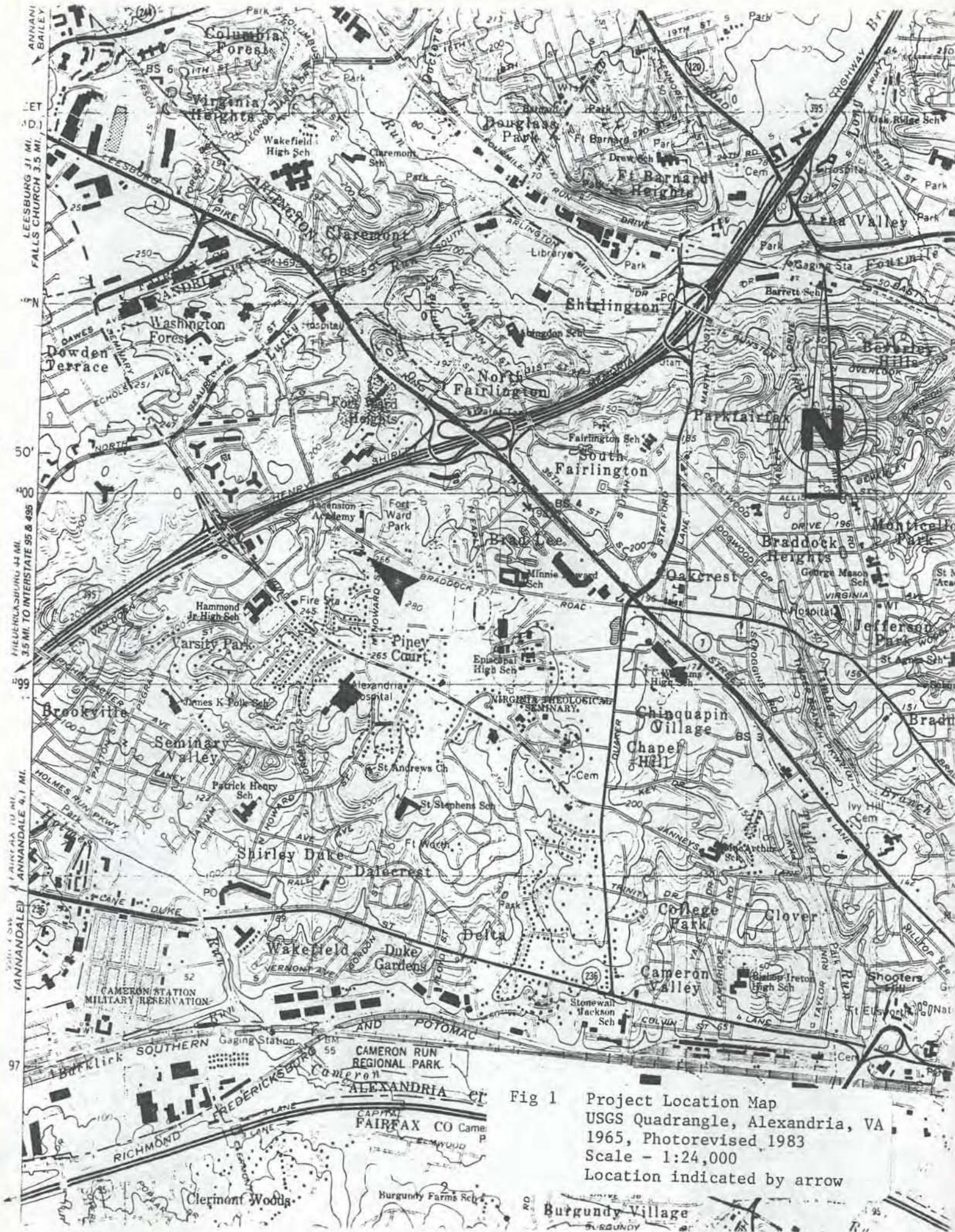


Fig 1 Project Location Map
 USGS Quadrangle, Alexandria, VA
 1965, Photorevised 1983
 Scale - 1:24,000
 Location indicated by arrow

with Geneva Toler, Lynn House Administrator, Wanda Dowell, Fort Ward Park Director and various neighbors in the project vicinity.

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The project area is currently the site of a hospital, the Lynn House, run by the Christian Science Church (Fig. 1). There is no soil survey information on the area since very little development has occurred there over the years. Map 24 of the Fairfax County Soil Survey (1963) lists the project area as unsurveyed.

CULTURE HISTORY AND PALEOECOLOGICAL SETTING

Prehistory of the Area

The culture history of this portion of the Middle Atlantic area is often divided by archaeologists into three distinct periods, the Paleoindian (10,000 to 8,000 B. C.), the Archaic (8,000 to 1,000 B. C.) and the Woodland (1,000 B. C. to European contact). We have no direct information on the paleoclimate and ecology from the project area, but we can infer its character from the work of individuals in surrounding areas--Carbone (1976) in the Shenandoah Valley, Dent (1979, 1981) in the Upper Delaware Valley and Custer (1984) on the Delmarva peninsula. While the prehistoric dating scheme in each work varies somewhat, they all agree that during the Paleoindian period, this area was characterized by a mosaic of environments. Paleoindians in western North America are often associated exclusively with big-

game hunting, but here in the Eastern Woodlands, it is clear that they, having access to a wide variety of animals, fish and vegetal foods, followed a very general hunting and foraging pattern. Diagnostic artifacts of the Paleoindian occupation are the fluted points, commonly known as Clovis, which are made of fine cryptocrystalline material. No Paleoindian artifacts were found near the project area.

At around 8,500 B. C., a gradual warming trend occurred and accounted for a change in vegetation--an increasing tendency toward mixed coniferous forests. This corresponds to what is traditionally known as the Early Archaic culture period, a time of intensive economic experimentation and technological innovation. People were beginning to exploit a larger resource base than ever before but were also specializing in the particular resources of their local areas. Groups remained widely dispersed in small, mobile bands.

The Woodland period, which followed the Archaic, was characterized by a return to cool, moist conditions and establishment of modern vegetal communities. This period is marked by the introduction of ceramics. Population growth and an extremely sedentary way of life also characterized this period. Natural floral and faunal resources remained important, but horticulture, based on corn cultivation, formed part of the subsistence base. Permanent villages (increasing in size through time and fortified by stockades in the Late Woodland Period) became established. Outlying specialized extraction camps for the procurement and processing of specific seasonal resources

existed in relation to the villages.

Two prehistoric sites (44AX36 and 44AX90) have been found on the Fort Ward property (Fig. 2). A number of other prehistoric sites (44AX6 to 44AX39, excluding 44AX36) have been located within a range of one to one mile and a half from the Lynn House. However, these sites have been lithic scatters only and have not yielded any diagnostic artifacts (Fig. 2).

History of the Area

The Lynn House is located in a part of Alexandria which was originally contained in Fairfax County. It was not until the 1950s that the area was annexed as part of the city. The history of Fairfax County indicates that, after Captain John Smith, the early settlement pattern of the Europeans, was determined by the disposition of the vast Fairfax land grant. Under the agency of Robert Carter (1702-1711, 1722-1721), Fairfax County lands were distributed to settlers primarily from the Lower Potomac and elsewhere in Virginia. In time, large riverfront plantations developed, perpetuating the Tidewater system on what was then the western frontier. The early flow of population up the Potomac and on the Occoquan and other tributaries was met by immigration from the north. Scots, Germans, Huguenots, Irish and Pennsylvania Quakers all crossed the Potomac to settle on the frontier. By 1663, the northward moving Virginians had joined with those who had previously moved south to constitute a community in the eastern part of the County.

This settlement was based on a plantation economy centered around the tobacco crop and slave labor. Initially, plantations

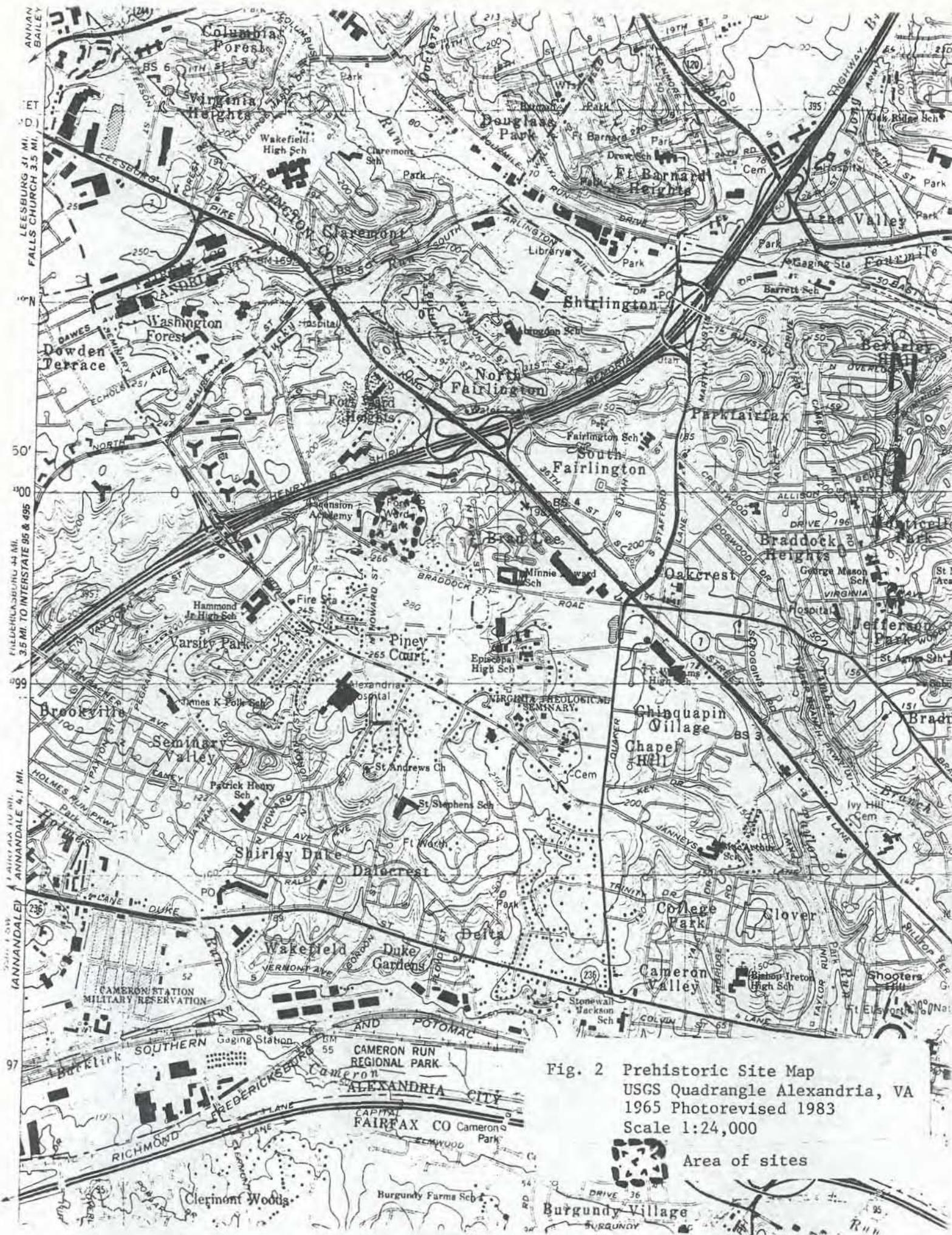


Fig. 2 Prehistoric Site Map
 USGS Quadrangle Alexandria, VA
 1965 Photorevised 1983
 Scale 1:24,000



Area of sites

Burgundy Village

were large in size, a thousand acres or more, with much of the land held in reserve. Exploitative agricultural practices which accompanied the cultivation of tobacco resulted in extensive erosion and soil exhaustion. This necessitated the continual clearing of new land and, along with other factors, led to the eventual demise of tobacco agriculture in Fairfax County. As the requirement for land to cultivate tobacco grew, plantations moved inland, thus necessitating the building of roads which served as a means of communication with the interior.

Fairfax County was formed from Prince William County on June 19, 1742. The County was named for Thomas, Sixth Lord Fairfax. A county court house was constructed near Freedom Hill and occupied for ten years until the seat of government was moved to Alexandria.

By the end of the 18th Century, in response to a growing European demand, wheat agriculture had replaced tobacco farming. Wheat required a more extensive system of roads to move the crop to mills and markets. The growth of Alexandria and Georgetown as ports accompanied this change. The project area became a terminus for wheat shipped from other regions as well as a center of wheat-growing. Wheat agriculture brought prosperity--large houses, mills and more extensive fields. Significant urban growth occurred as principal towns became important markets and smaller rural communities grew around mills and crossroads. After 1840, excess wheat, brought from western markets by turnpike and canal, depressed prices. This led to a period of relative population stability in the County until the mid-20th

Century.

During the Civil War, Fairfax County experienced occupation by Union forces and setbacks to economic growth. While there were no major battles, the county was the site of skirmishes and troop movements as well as an important location for the perimeter defenses of Washington. The presence of Union soldiers contributed to an improved road and bridge network, the drawing of excellent maps and improved port and railroad facilities. After 1865, Fairfax County became more oriented toward Washington, a process begun during the Civil War. It supplied produce and other resources for the growing capital city. Dairy farming began to dominate the still largely rural county in the early 20th Century. It was not until the 1930s that the County's largely rural character began to change with the advent of suburbanization which has continued into the 1980s (Gutheim 1973; Netherton, et al. 1978; Shands 1952-3).

The most important historic site found in the area is Fort Ward, a Civil War bastion used in defense of Washington (Fig. 3). The fort defended the Leesburg and Alexandria turnpike (modern Route 7) and was hastily constructed in 1861. The original fortifications proved inadequate and during the succeeding two years various repairs and improvements were made. However, it was clear by that time that the early plan of the fort was defective. Consequently, it was reconstructed in 1864 using some sections of the original back wall. The new fort was considered to be technologically and architecturally advanced--the very best example of modern military engineering. Building of the new fort

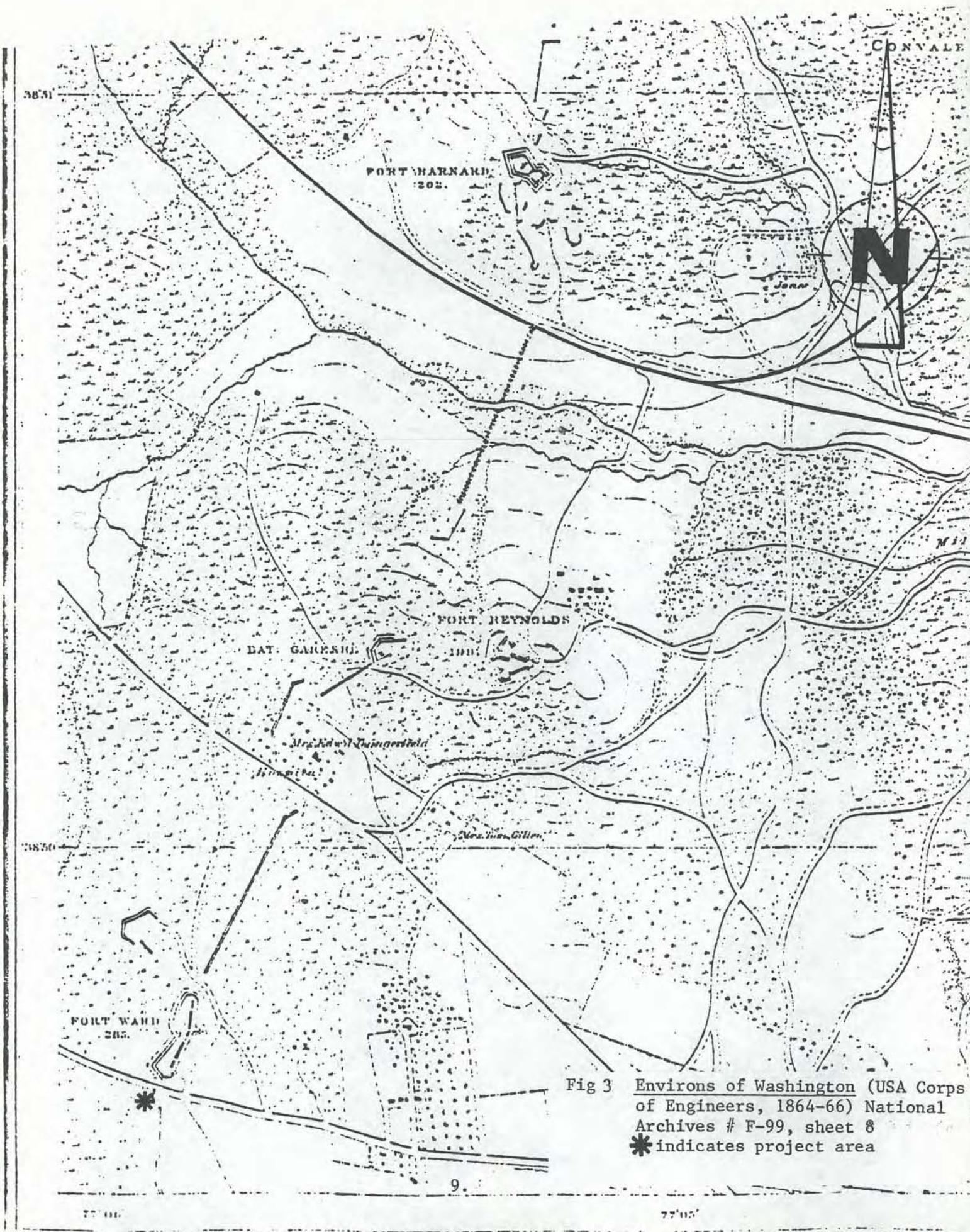


Fig 3 Environs of Washington (USA Corps of Engineers, 1864-66) National Archives # F-99, sheet 8
 * indicates project area

continued until July 1865 and by December 1865, when the war was over, the timber in the fort was sold. Despite the removal of the wood which held the earth walls, the fort remains in an excellent state of preservation.

Archaeological excavation of the fort was conducted in 1961. Its outline and the location of most of the features within it were still visible at that time.

Chain of Title of the Lynn Property

The property that is now the location of the Lynn House of Potomac Valley, Inc. was part of a 1261 acre tract patented by Francis Awbrey (Fig. 4) on 12 February 1729 (Northern Neck Grant Book C:30). On March 9, 1749, Awbrey's sons, Henry, Francis and Thomas, sold the entire tract to William Ramsay of Alexandria (Fig. 5) for the sum of 12,000 pounds of tobacco and 20 pounds current money of Virginia (Fairfax Deed Book C, p. 17). On July 21, 1757, Ramsay and his wife mortgaged this 1261 acre tract, along with six lots in Alexandria and thirteen slaves, to John Dixon, a merchant from Cumberland, England for the sum of 810 Pounds, 7 shillings (Fairfax Deed Book D, p.452). Ramsay died in 1785 and directed in his will that this 1261 acre tract, the original Awbrey patent, along with other property, be sold to satisfy his debts (Fairfax Will Book E, No. 1, p. 69). Ramsey's executors, Dennis Ramsay, his son, and Michael Madden, sold the 1261 acres in two parcels: 91 acres for 103 pounds in Virginia Currency on August 13, 1796 (Fairfax Deed Book Z, p. 313) and 1169 acres "more or less" for 360 pounds Current Money of Virginia on February 25, 1797 (Fairfax Deed Book Z, p. 318).

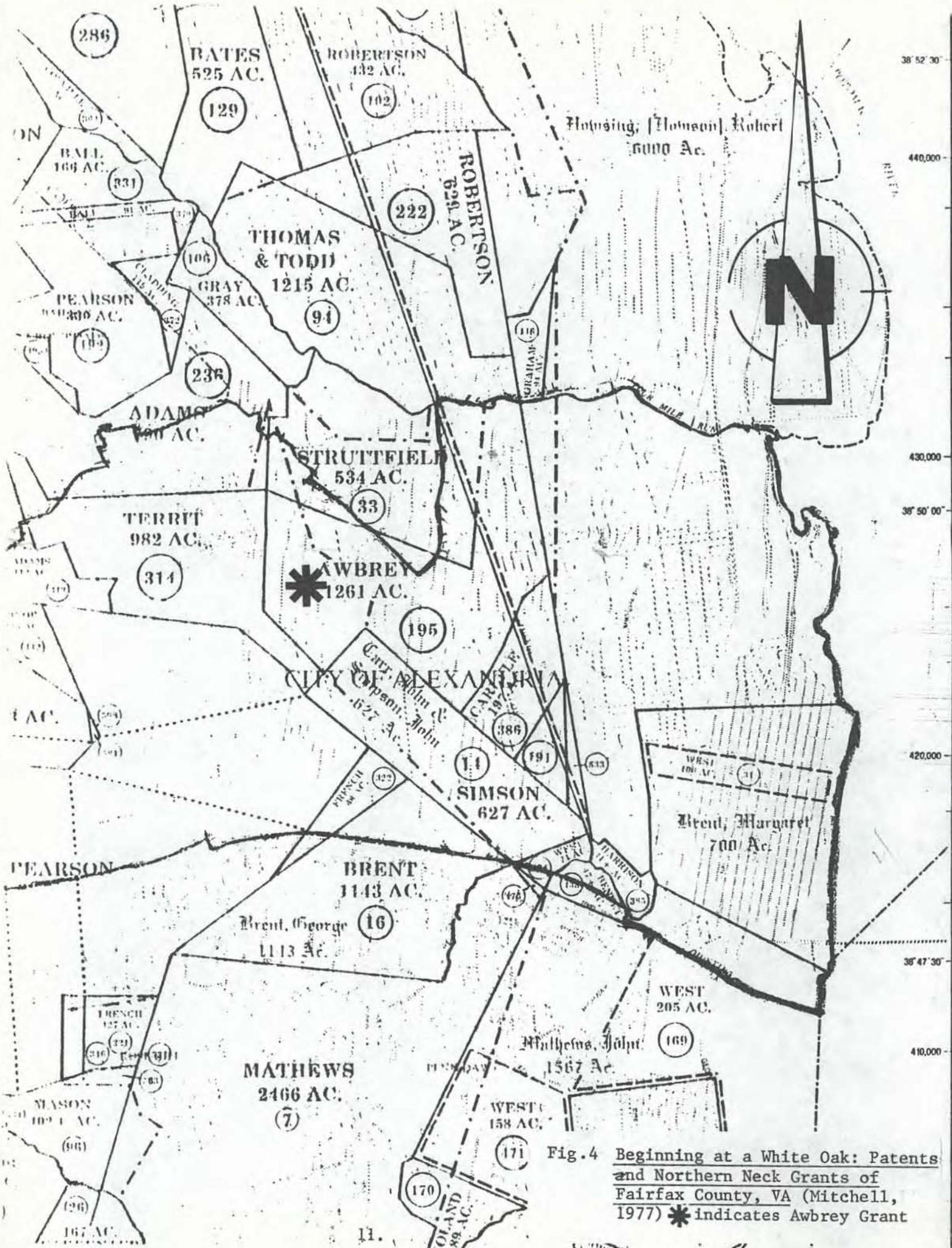


Fig. 4 Beginning at a White Oak: Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, VA (Mitchell, 1977) * indicates Awbrey Grant

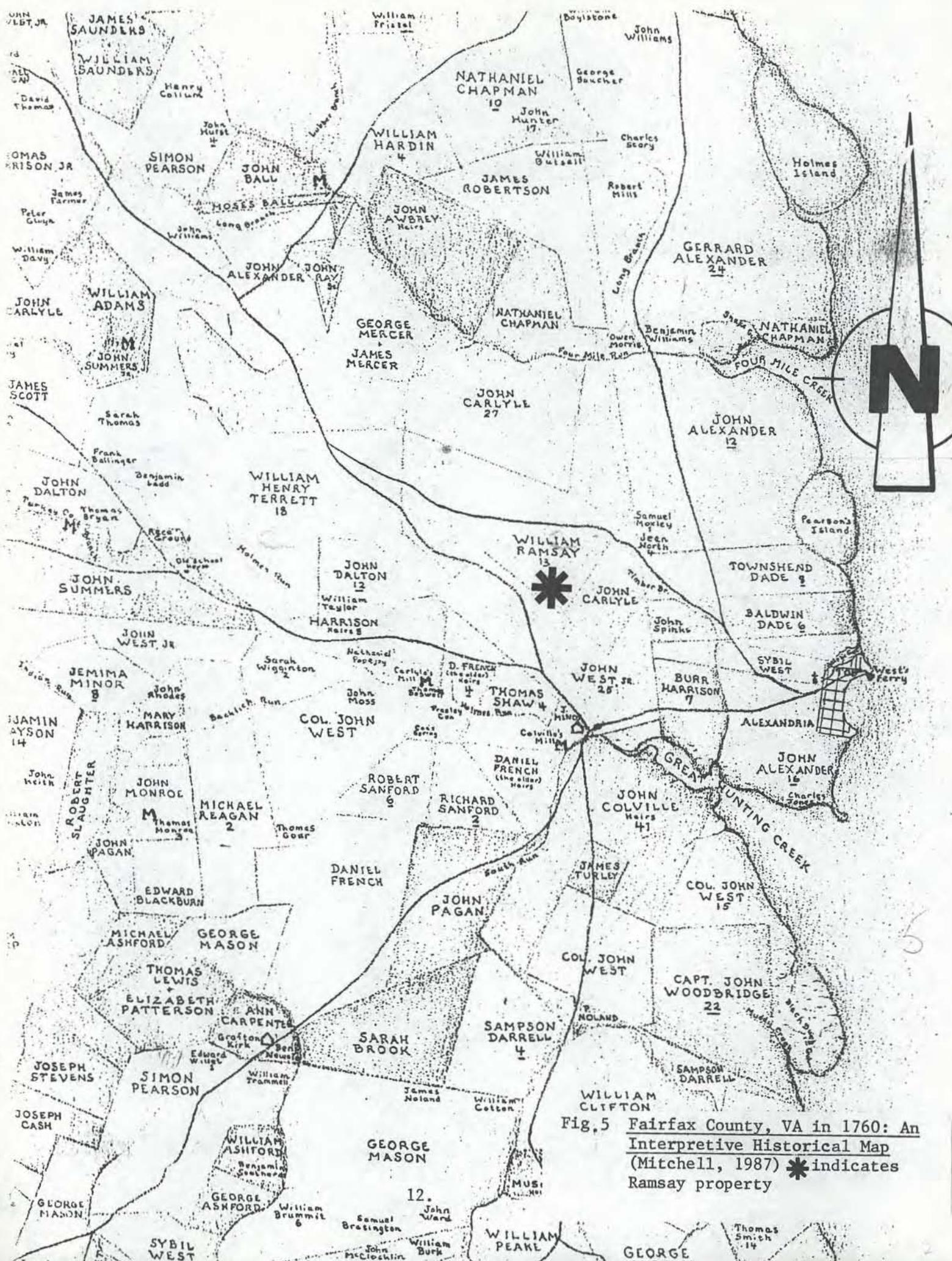


Fig. 5 Fairfax County, VA in 1760: An Interpretive Historical Map (Mitchell, 1987) * indicates Ramsay property

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Both parcels were sold to Robert Allison.

A portion of this tract, 18 acres, 2 Rood and 50 Poles, believed to contain the Lynn House property, was sold by Robert Allison and his wife Ann to Beale Howard on September 16, 1799 for the sum of 75 pounds and 5 shillings Current Money of Virginia (Fairfax Deed Book B, No.2, p. 380). A description of the parcel follows:

A parcel of land lying and being in the County of Fairfax and bounded as follows to wit Beginning at a White Oak sapling standing on the South side of the turnpike road from Alexandria to Leesburg and running (sic) thence north sixty three degrees West fifty in Four poles to several small saplings blazed standing in or near the line of Awbrey's patent thence south forty seven degrees and Half East eighty two poles to several small saplings blazed in or Near the said Line thence to those parcels of Land here to fore sold by him the said Robert Allison described by the Number (30) thence south eighty six degrees East thirty nine poles & an half to a dogwood and several small Saplings Corner to those other parcels of Land formerly sold by the said Robert Allison and described by the Numbers (27, 28, 30) thence north four degrees East sixty poles to the Beginning containing in eighteen Acres two Rood and fifty poles the said premises being a part of that tract of Land commonly called Ramsay's old fields which William Ramsay by his Last Will and Testament directed his Executors to make sale of for payment of his debts (Fairfax Deed Book B, No. 2, p. 380).

Constance Ring, Fairfax County Archivist, confirms that it is likely that the Beale Howard parcel is the same parcel which later records reflect was owned by William R. Howard in 1876 (Fairfax Deed Book U, No. 4, p. 229). Although no record of transfer for the Beale Howard property was found, further research confirms that William R. Howard was the son of Beale Howard, Jr. and the grandson of Beale Howard, Sr. (Fairfax Deed Book Y, No. 2, p. 294).

William R. Howard died with no will and the property

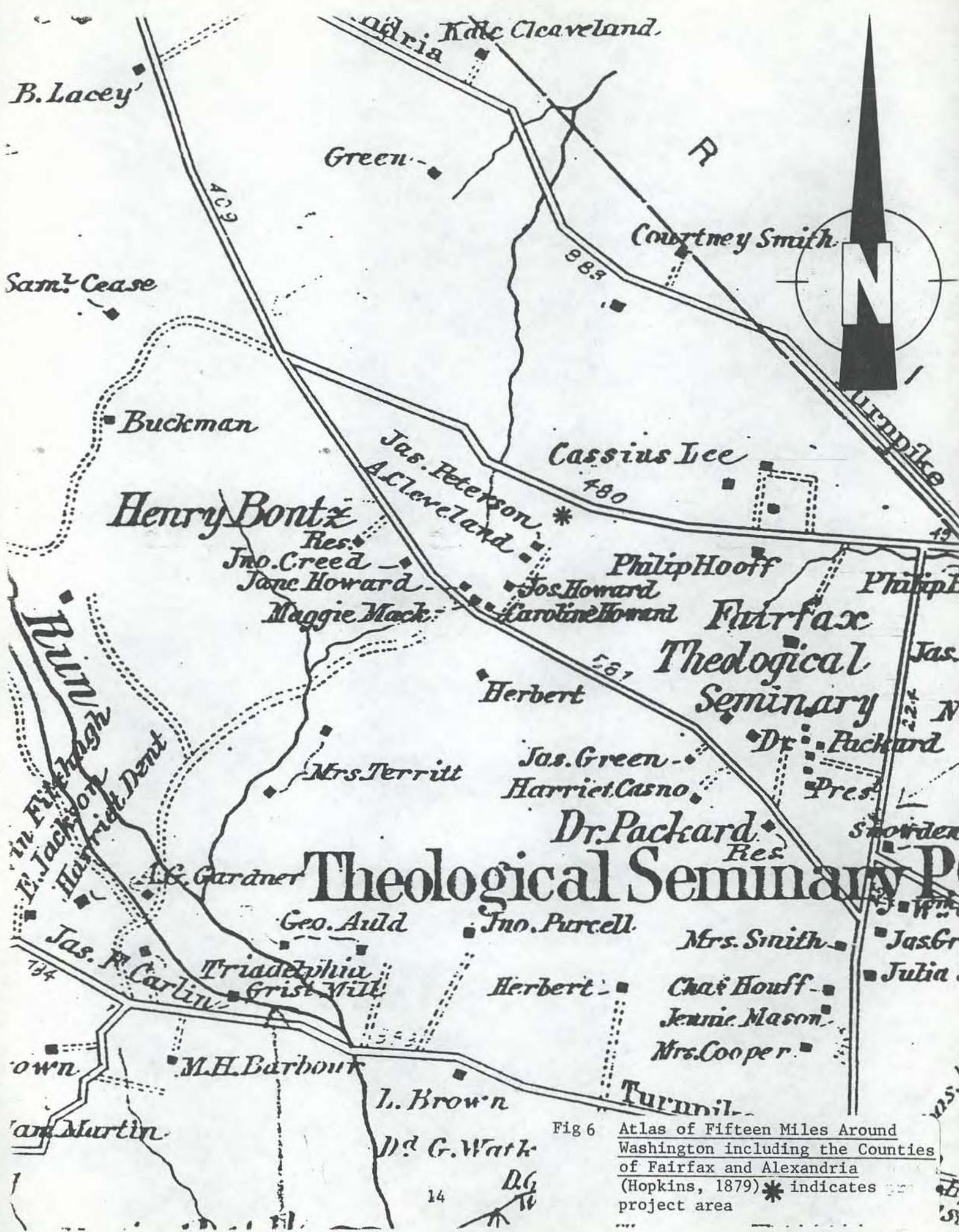


Fig 6 Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington including the Counties of Fairfax and Alexandria (Hopkins, 1879) * indicates project area

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described above was divided into six lots. These lots were conveyed as follows in A deed registered in Liber U, Number 4, P. 220, Fairfax County, Virginia, dated September 16, 1876:

Lot 1	Caroline E. Howard (Fig. 6)
Lot 2	John L. Howard
Lot 3	Catherine A. Howard
Lot 4	Mary J. Cleaveland (Fig. 7)
Lot 5	Albert F. Howard
Lot 6	William B. Howard

William B. Howard, who received Lot 6, the property upon which the current site is located, also died without a will and Lot 6 was conveyed to Clifton Howard and his wife, Minnie, to Virginia Howard, unmarried, to Annie E. Studds, widow, to Archie Cleveland and his wife Julia Cleveland and to Albert H. Cleveland (Fig. 7).

The group listed above sold the bulk of the afore-described Lot 6 to Hattie C. Dyer for \$1500 cash in hand on June 19, 1920 (Liber Q, Number 8, p. 425, Fairfax County, Virginia). One small section of "Lot 6" (1/6 acre) was sold to Rufus Hall on November 12, 1920 (Liber V, No. 8, p. 12, Fairfax County, Virginia). This was the southeast corner of "Lot 6" running northerly 13 feet, then westerly 26 feet.

On August 20, 1929, Hattie C. Dyer and Thomas H. Dyer sold the property in question to Gwendolen C. Chesser and Alden W. Chesser (Liber N, No. 10, p. 533, Fairfax County, Virginia). Gwendolyn C. Chesser and Alden W. Chesser held the property for slightly over 3 years and on December 7, 1932, the Deed was conveyed to Paul J. Fuller and Grace Fuller. This Deed was recorded in Liber F, No. 11, p. 271, Fairfax County, Virginia.

George E. Garrett purchased the property from the Fullers on

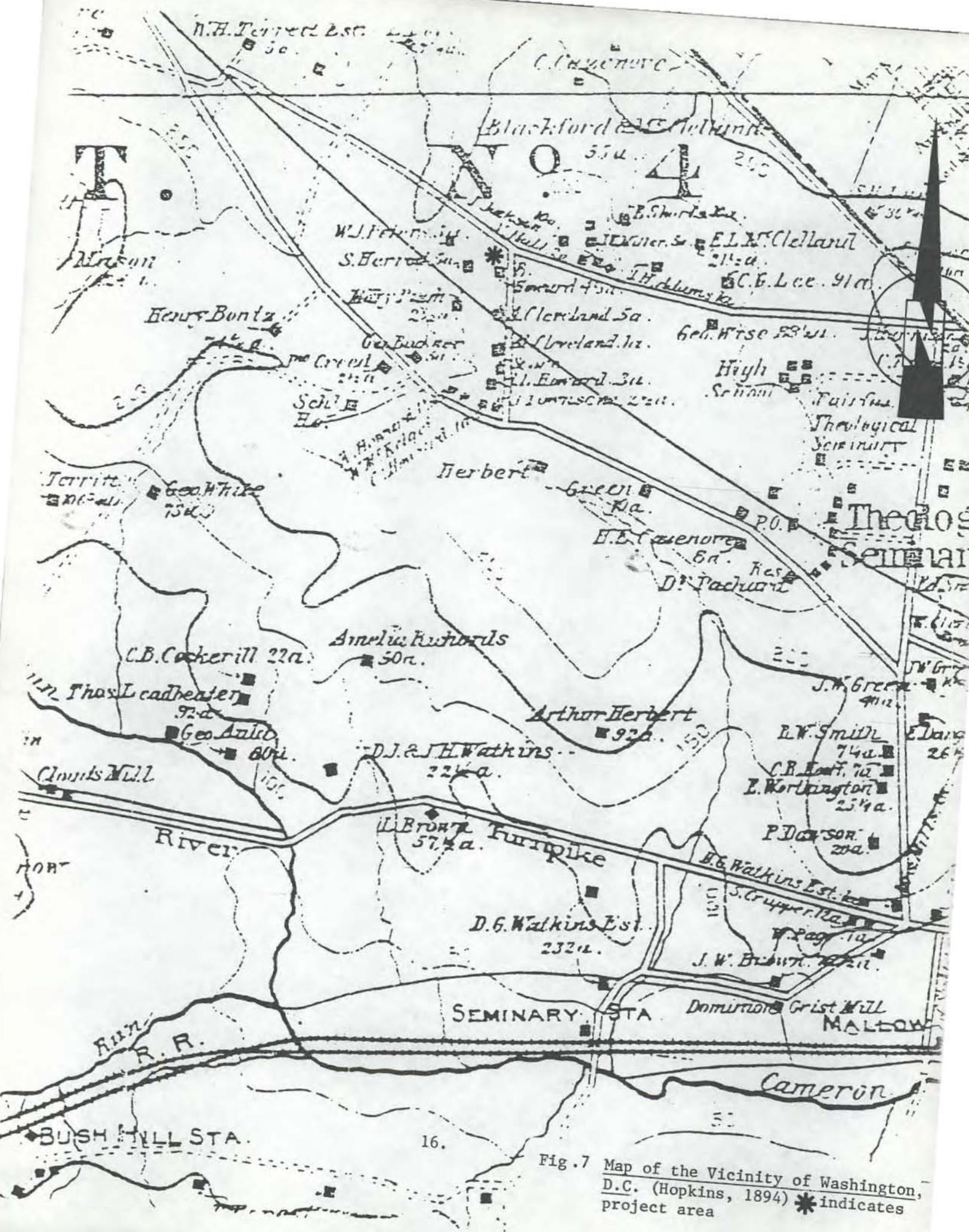


Fig. 7 Map of the Vicinity of Washington, D.C. (Hopkins, 1894) * indicates project area

August 8, 1933. This Deed was recorded in Liber I, No. 11, p. 411, Fairfax County, Virginia. George E. Garrett and Sarah B. Garrett then conveyed the property to Vernon T. Sherwood and Elizabeth B. Sherwood on April 26, 1934. The Deed conveyance was recorded in Liber M, No. 11, p. 337, Fairfax County, Virginia.

Vernon T. Sherwood divided the property into 3 lots. He and Elizabeth B. Sherwood sold Lot 2 to Fort Ward Home, Inc. on August 23, 1954 (Deed Book 391, p. 383, Alexandria, Virginia). The Sherwoods sold Lot 1 of the subdivision to Fort Ward Home, Inc. on February 28, 1957 (Deed Book 448, p. 509, Alexandria, Virginia) and they sold Outlot 3973-01-01 of Lot 3 to Fort Ward Home, Inc. on April 10, 1959 (Deed Book 489, p. 400, Alexandria, Virginia). Fort Ward Home, Inc. consolidated these three pieces of land into one parcel renumbered Parcel 3973-0-02 (Deed Book 491, Alexandria, VA, p. 591) on May 18, 1959. Fort Ward then purchased Lot 3973-2 and 3973-3 from the Sherwoods on January 24, 1963 (Deed Book 489, Alexandria, VA, p. 397).

Lynn House of Potomac, Inc. (or rather Robert S. Marshall, Trustee for the party of the second part--Lynn House) purchased Parcel 3973-0-02, Lot 3973-2 and Lot 3973-3 from Fort Ward Home, Inc. on May 31, 1971. Part of Parcel 3973-0-02 was not conveyed to Lynn House of Potomac, Inc. This was a parcel 4,714 square feet that was conveyed to the city of Alexandria (Deed Book 671, Alexandria, VA, p. 167).

The current Lusk report lists only Parcel 3973-0-02. It is not known whether or not Lynn House further consolidated all of the three pieces of property purchased from Fort Ward Home, Inc.

into one parcel with the parcel number previously assigned under the consolidation done by Fort Ward Home, Inc.

RESEARCH DESIGN

According to the 1864-66 map of the Environs of Washington (USA Corps of Engineers), an unidentified historic structure was located in the project area (Fig. 3). Keith Barr, Alexandria Archaeologist, in consultation with Dr. Joseph Dent, Varna Boyd and Elizabeth Myler reasoned that test units, placed systematically around the questionable area, should unearth remnants of the building.

METHODOLOGY AND FIELD CONDITIONS

Eight test units and three backhoe trenches were excavated as shown in Fig. 8. Test units 1, 3, 4 measured 3 ft. x 3 ft. These units were excavated by shovel and trowel and completely screened through 1/4 inch wire mesh. The upper levels were composed of dense, hard packed fill. Units 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8 each measured 5 ft. x 5 ft. Test Unit 2 was also excavated using shovels and trowels and completely screened. The first two levels of fill of Test Unit 5 were churned by a backhoe but all the dirt was carefully screened and the rest of the unit was excavated with shovels and trowels. In addition, 3 backhoe trenches measuring approximately 5 feet across were excavated in

the eastern portion of the site. Backhoe Trench 1 measured approximately 40 feet in length, while Trenches 2 and 3 were each about 10 feet long (see plates 1 and 2). Dirt from the trenches was examined carefully for the presence of artifacts. Units 6, 7 and 8 were also excavated by backhoe and the dirt was examined for artifacts (see plates 3 and 4). All units were profiled and photographed.

RESULTS

The upper levels of Units 1 (3 x 3) (profiled in Fig. 9), 2 (5 x 5) and 5 (5 x 5) were characterized by hard pebbly fill which contained late 19th and 20th century artifacts (See Appendix I). These were not diagnostic except for one Lincoln head memorial penny and a fish fin handle which could be dated to the mid- to late 19th century. Both of these artifacts were recovered from Unit 2, Level 1. Unit 3 yielded brick, window glass and nails all contained in fill while the fill in Unit 4 yielded glass, coal and a quartz fragment.

Units 6, 7 (profiled in Fig. 10) and 8 were located in the property parking lot underneath the asphalt paving but, upon careful examination of the soils, no artifacts were recovered.

The 40-foot backhoe trench (profiled in Fig. 11) unearthed part of a 20th Century structure. This structure is located on the 1965 USGS map (Fig. 1). Two walls, one in a north/south direction, the other directed east/west were observed. Both walls were poured concrete as was the floor of the structure. An



Plate 1. Area of Trench 1.



Plate 2. Mound Area with Bisecting Trench(1).

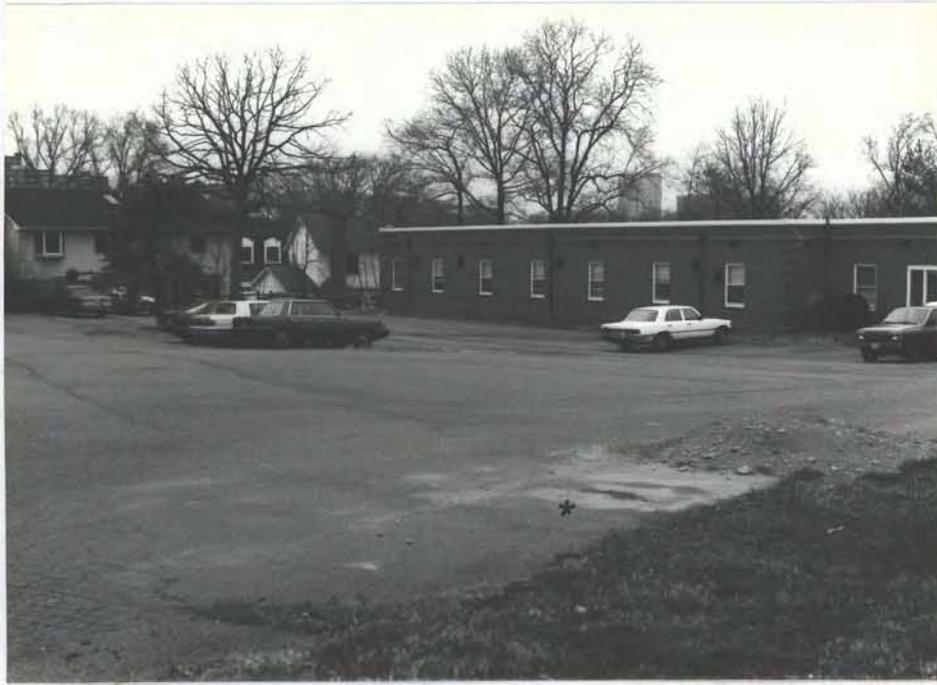


Plate 3. Unit 6.

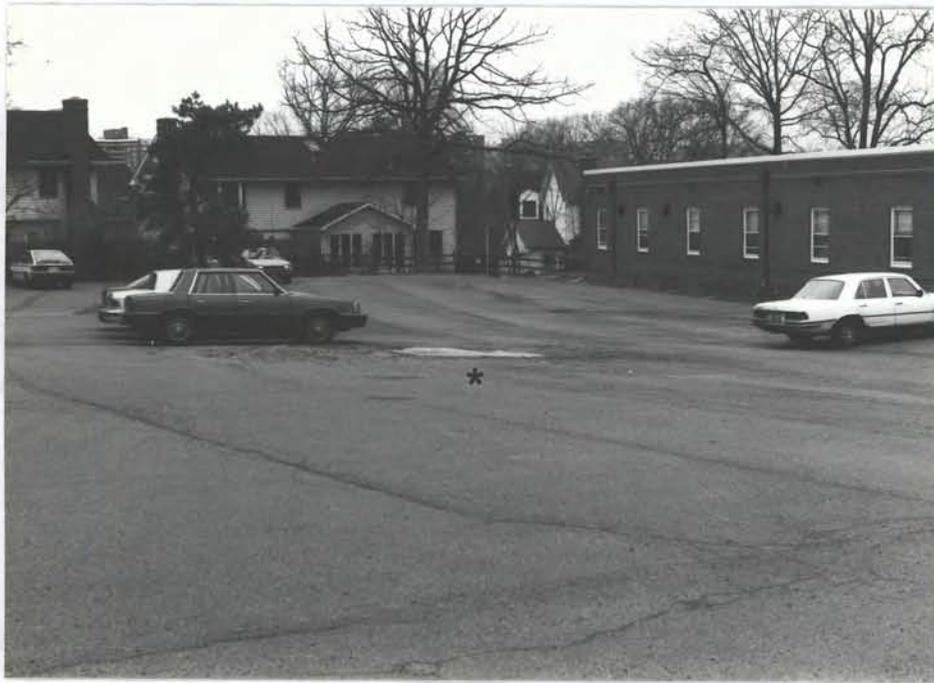
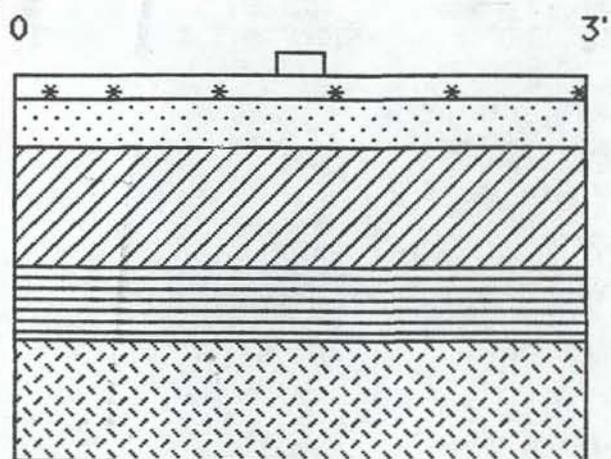


Plate 4. Unit 7

Lynn House
 Unit 1
 North Wall Profile



Legend:

*** = Ground surface

 = 10 YR 5/4 Topsoil

 = 10 YR 5/5 Clay, Cobbles

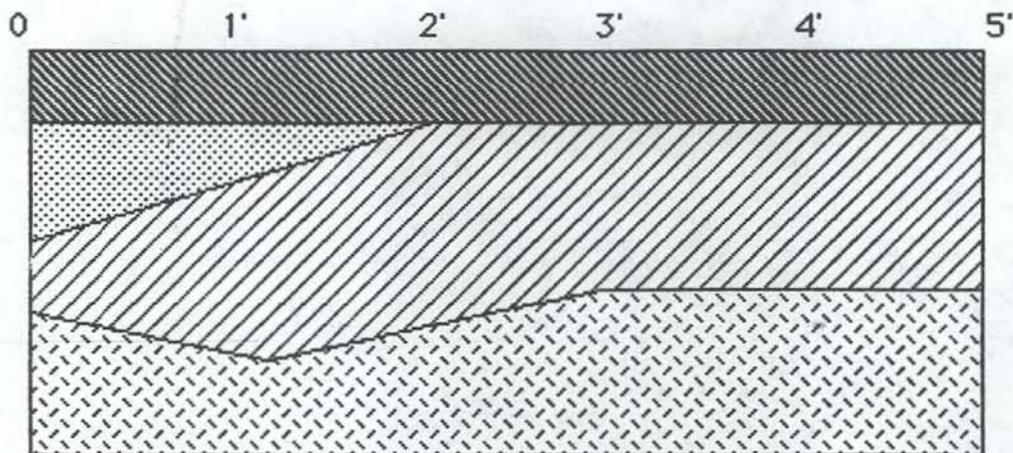
 = 10 YR 6/4 Clay, Cobbles

 = 10 YR 5/5 Clay, Cobbles

Scale: 0 _____ 1'

Fig. 9

Lynn House
Unit 7 (asphalt parking lot area)
East Wall Profile



Legend:



= Asphalt



= 10 YR 5/4 Clay



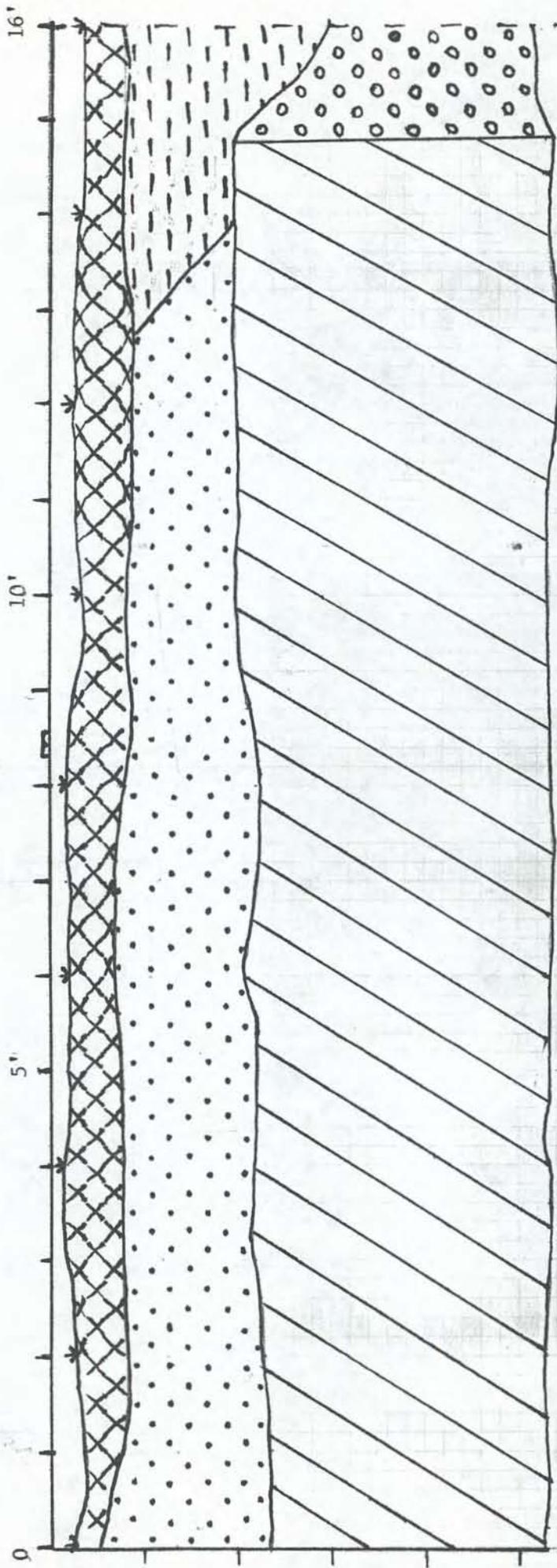
= 2.5 YR 4/8 Clay



= 2.5 YR 4/8 Clay, Cobbles

Scale: 0 _____ 1'

Fig. 10



Lynn House
Trench
South Wall Profile

0 1'

LEGEND:

-  = 10 YR 3/4 topsoil, brown topsoil
-  = Mottled 10 YR 2/1, 10 YR 5/4, 7.5 YR 4/6 Fill
-  = 7.5YR 5/6 Clay
-  = 5-YR 5/8 Clay, Cobbles
-  = Poured Concrete Wall

Fig. 11

abundance of ash and charcoal indicated that the building had been destroyed by fire. Machine made brick, poured steel reinforced concrete, steel pipes, copper pipes and a furnace blower complete with engine were all recovered within the structure. In addition, wood of modern dimensions, large pieces of unidentified metal and a large, disintegrating metal barrel were found.

As a result of locating the building, two 10-foot backhoe trenches were excavated to the east of the structure in an attempt to find its other boundaries. The west wall of Trench 2 (Fig. 8) exposed the east side of the structure but Trench 3 yielded no evidence of features. From these observations, we have concluded that the structure which was recovered was not associated with a 19th century house. If such a structure existed, it could conceivably be located beneath the existing hospital. An alternative possibility is that the house actually appears on one of the other lots which was created in the 1876 division of the original tract. However, since no 19th century structure was located historically or archaeologically, no assessment of its architecture, materials or dates of construction and destruction can be made.

Based on the excavation of the test units and backhoe trenches, it is clear that the land was graded west to east and that the soil removed during grading was piled in a mound. This mound is represented by a rise in the terrain. The house was apparently burned on purpose and was filled after it collapsed on itself.

There is, at present, a 20th century house in the northwest corner of the property. The various people who owned it may have occupied or leased it during those years. This structure can also be found on the 1965 USGS map (Fig. 1).

The artifact assemblage showed a clear representation of building materials in the form of bricks, iron hinges and machine-made nails, shingles, and a copper washer and pipe. In addition, a large amount of bottle glass and possible window glass was recovered. A small number of fragmentary ironstone kitchen ceramics were found. The artifacts appear to be associated with the 20th century structure which was excavated in Trench 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite the careful placement of test units and backhoe trenches, no traces of a mid-19th century structure were found. No diagnostic artifacts of the period were found in any of the test units which yielded mostly non-diagnostic artifacts of the late 19th and early to mid-20th centuries. Therefore, no further archaeological excavations are recommended.

APPENDIX I

Lynn House Site Artifact Inventory

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>ARTIFACTS</u>
1	1	2 brick fragments 1 unidentified iron fragment 3 aqua glass fragments 1 amber glass fragment 2 clear glass fragments 1 white opaque glass fragment 1 ironstone fragment, partial maker's mark
1	2	1 quartz flake 1 unidentified iron fragment 10 heavy dark aqua glass fragments (2 handles, one is a fish fin handle) 57 light aqua glass fragments 1 blue opaque glass fragment 1 white and green glass fragment closed vessel form 59 clear glass fragments 3 lavender glass fragments 1 Lincoln head memorial penny 8 ironstone fragments, one with partial maker's mark 3 corroded iron hinge parts 4 small brick fragments 1 machine-made brick fragment 45 shingle fragments 1 amber glass fragment 4 plastic fragments 29 corroded nails
2	1 Feature 1	18 corroded iron fragments (nails and partial nails 12 shingle fragments, 1 has copper, machine-made nail attached 1 ironstone fragment 1 plastic fragment 1 orange glass bead 1 white opaque glass 12 light aqua glass fragments 13 clear glass fragments

2	2	6 light aqua glass fragments 3 clear glass fragments 1 lavender glass fragment 1 copper washer 1 white opaque glass fragment 11 iron fragments including nails and wire
3	1	1 clear window glass fragment 1 corroded iron nail, unidentified
3	2	1 small brick fragment 2 clear glass fragments 1 light aqua glass fragment
5	1	2 clear glass fragments 1 light aqua glass fragment 1 unidentified ceramic fragment
5	2	1 iron wire fragment 2 light aqua glass fragments

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Lynn House property located on West Braddock Road in Alexandria, Virginia, was the subject of an archaeological investigation designed to locate any possible prehistoric and historic cultural resources. The Lynn House is currently a small Christian Science hospital which is to be razed to make way for a new building.

The historic background of the property was extensively researched. This included a complete chain-of-title, document and map search to ascertain who the previous owners were and what structures may have been built on the property in years gone by. Ownership was established back to a land patent granted in 1729 through the present. One of the 19th century historic maps indicated the presence of a building in the northeast corner of the property. Most of the archaeological investigation, therefore, was directed toward trying to find this building.

Eight test units which measured either 3 x 3 or 5 x 5 feet were excavated and were placed over the entire property so that no underground structures would be missed. In addition, based on the contour of the land, a backhoe was employed to excavate three trenches in an area where it was thought that a civil war feature might have existed. Unfortunately, no signs of any civil war structure was found.

In general, the test units yielded no major artifacts or

features which could be associated with any 19th century structure. The backhoe trenches, however, indicated the presence of a 20th century feature, possibly a cellar, which contained poured concrete walls, steel reinforced foundations, charred floor joists, an electric furnace blower and significant quantities of modern nails and glass. Other miscellaneous artifacts included ironstone ceramic fragments, a Lincoln head memorial penny and a decorative aqua "fish-fin" glass handle. The structure had apparently been intentionally destroyed by fire.

Despite the extensive archaeological excavation, no sign of a 19th century house appeared. It is possible that if the structure did exist, it may be underneath the present Christian Science hospital or on an adjacent property which was not excavated.

Based on historical and archaeological research, it appears that no significant cultural resources are present on the property.



VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS
RESEARCH CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

County Alexandria

Name of Site: Lynn House

Site Number: _____

Type of Site: Historic

Cultural Affiliation: _____

State/National Register Status: _____

USGS Map Reference: Alexandria, VA.-D.C.-MD.

U.T.M. Zone _____ Easting _____ Northing _____

(Attach photocopy of appropriate section of USGS 7.5 minute series topographical map showing site boundaries.)

Owner/Address/Telephone: Lynn House of Potomac, Inc. 4400 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA.

Tenant/Address/Telephone: 22304 703-379-6000

Site Informant/Address/Telephone: _____

Map Sheet Alexandria-VA-DC-MD

Surveyed By (name, address, affiliation, date):

Potomac River Archaeology Survey (PRAS)- The American University-Dept. of Anthropology
 R.J. Dent- Principle Investigator, V.G. Boyd- Field/Lab Director.

General Environment and Nearest Water Source:

Near Lucky Run and in Vicinity of Potomac River- neither on or adjacent of site property

Dimensions of Site:

Unknown

Site Description and Survey Techniques:

According to 1864-66 map of the Environs of Washington (USA Corps of Engineers) an unidentified historic structure was located in the project area. A total of eight test units and three backhoe trenches were excavated (3 3' x 3'; 5 5'x5'; 1 trench 5' x 40, 2 trenches 5' x 10'.) Site determined to be extremely disturbed from prior construction and grading for buildings and parking lots. Brick, iron, glass, iron-

Condition and Present Land Use: at present Lynn House, a Christian Science Hospital, is located on the property. They are expanding and rebuilding- the reason for the initial survey

Specimens Obtained and Depository: Numerous brick, nail, glass, and shingle fragments recovered.

All artifacts are dated no earlier than late 19th century. Most are 20th c. Numerous artifacts recovered relate to a feature determined to be an outbuilding of some sort- again 20th c.- copper washers, iron, wire, poured concrete, charcoal (evidence of fire-purposeful), machine made brick, steel pipes, and a furnace blower. The artifacts were delivered to the contractor- Walton, Madden, and Cooper, Inc.- Architects for Lynn House.

Specimens Reported and Owners/Addresses:

none known

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