

VLR-8/21/84 NRHP-10/4/84

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

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

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

1. Name

historic - Mount Hope

(VHLC File # 110-15)

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 203 Oak Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Falls Church

N/A vicinity of

congressional district

state Virginia

code 51

county in city

code 610

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Adelaide Pinaud Wang and An Pang Wang

street & number 203 Oak Street

city, town Falls Church

N/A vicinity of

state Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Fairfax County Courthouse

street & number N/A

city, town Fairfax

state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Falls Church Historical Commission

title Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1969; 1973

federal state county local

depository for survey records Falls Church Public Library

city, town Falls Church

state Virginia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Mount Hope is located on a large lot in a residential area of Falls Church. The house consists of three parts: a ca. 1830 frame dwelling oriented toward the east and the road which connected the Falls Church with the Fairfax Courthouse; a 3-bay, 2½-story 1869 High Victorian brick dwelling, by builder A. E. Lounsberry, that is oriented to the north toward the Leesburg Turnpike; and a 1-bay brick fill section, of uncertain date, which joins the two.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The ca. 1830 House

Mount Hope's older section is frame, 1½-story, above a brick foundation laid in one to five common bond. The main block of the house is covered by a gable roof with quite moderate slope, that extends to the west as a shed roof.

Fenestration is quite irregular, but one gets the impression that the structure wants to be three bays wide and three deep. The form of the house would certainly be called late Georgian, except for the shallowness of the gable roof and the 1 3/4-story appearance of the east facade. These seem to place the structure in the Greek Revival era, which tallies with the known historical data.

The entrance and other openings are set in a plain surround with a three quarter round interior molding. The entrance door in the north bay of the east facade is modern, beneath a four light transom which probably dates from the house's construction. The evenly spaced first level sash is six over nine, while the two attic openings, placed off center to the north, have two over four sash. Sash on the south attic end are also two over four, while sash in the shed extension is six over six. A single two over two sash appears at the rear attic floor level on the south attic end. It may date from the house's construction. Pintles from early shutters survive on the first-level windows. The north wall of the frame house abuts a 1-bay section of brick fill which joins it to the later brick house.

Sash was not weight hung and only the lower sash was moveable. Upper sash is fixed in place by a stop, cut with a concave half round at the bottom. Stops for the moveable lower sash also remain. These are wooden blocks, convex half round on one end and cut with a "v" notch on the other end. The block swivels on a single screw to receive the sash when it is raised. The six over nine sash are of interest because they seem to have been hung that way from an early date, if not originally. This is an uncommon occurrence in Virginia where there is undisturbed evidence of early six over nine rather than the more logical and traditional nine over six. This use follows through with the attic windows which are two over four.

Interior door and window surrounds have two part moldings. Two six panel doors, hung on butt hinges, survive on the first level. Both have raised panels on the obverse and flat panels on the reverse. Door moldings are simpler than those of the architraves, but both would fit either in the late Georgian or Federal era. One square plate spring latch or wishbone lock survives at the second level, though that may not have been its original location.

The single frame mantel, on the lower level south wall, has a panelled architrave surrounding the fire opening. It terminates in plain corner blocks rather than being mitered, which would seem to place it in a post-ca. 1820 era. This fits with the historical documentation though the straight shelf, above a plain

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

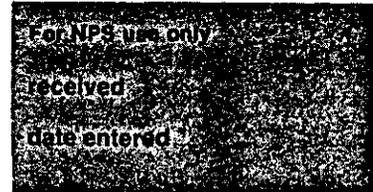
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Mount Hope, Falls Church, Virginia

Continuation sheet #1

Item number 7

Page 1



DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis - the ca. 1830 House

frieze, is supported by three tiers of delicate scotia moldings, a style which seems to have carried over from the late 18th century.

Recent renovation replaced the interior end chimney to the south with a massive brick stack with multiple weatherings. At the same time the plain lapped weatherboarding was replaced with beaded siding and the standing seam tin roof with shakes.

The shakes may replicate an earlier roof and the siding at least maintains the form and exposure of the earlier weatherboarding which was covered and had been damaged by asbestos shingle siding. Neither the new exterior chimney nor the beaded siding seriously affects the architectural integrity of the house.

Overall it remains a fine example of the ca.1830 frame farm house in northern Virginia, retaining its form, bay openings, sash, and a large amount of trim. This trim is quite eclectic, as befits the date and use of the structure.

The 1869 House

The newer section of Mount Hope is brick, laid in mechanical bond. It is 2½-stories over a raised basement. A pair of corbel topped chimneys pierce the apex of the gable roof, which has a substantial overhang on all elevations. Though the verticality of the house and the form of some windows and detail are Gothic, the house is best described stylistically as High Victorian, for its imaginative design and ornamentation do not fit into more specific stylistic designations.

The symmetrical front, facing north, is three bays wide with a centered entrance. A pair of four over four sash united by a common wooden sill and lintel appear at either side of the entrance. The same kind of double sash occupies the center bay at the second level, while each end bay contains a single six over six sash. These intersect the overhanging eave and are protected by gablets.

The center bay is emphasized by a one-story, 3-bay porch at the first level and by a large centered balcony at the third level which is treated as a projecting dormer. This continues the width of the entrance door and the double window above at the second level, into the attic level.

The center attic dormer, the gablets over the second-level windows and a centered gablet over the entrance on the first-level porch all have an incised design of a triangle superimposed over a trefoil. The same design is used as a cutout in the hanging bargeboards on the east and west gable ends. It appears there at the apex, centered, and in terminating the bargeboard projection below the cornice line at the eaves.

The attic level balcony is supported on oversized molded corbels with dropped pendants and applied faceted moldings. The corbels are laminated, their exterior surfaces projecting beyond the interior block. The soffit of the balcony gable, which is cut to approximate the form of the bargeboard terminals, is similarly treated. The shadow detail created by this simple device enlivens the trim of the balcony. Access to the balcony from the interior is from a pointed arch window with two four-pane sash hung casement fashion.

(see continuation sheet #2)

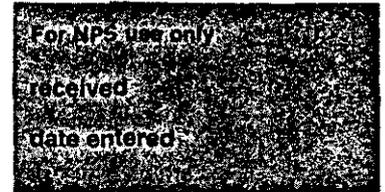
National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Mount Hope, Falls Church, Virginia

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 7

Page 2



DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis - the 1869 House

Posts supporting the balcony are square in section and chamfered with plain stop chamfers, above a pedestal and below applied neck moldings. A balustrade composed of molded handrail and base and sawn brackets in an urn design, carries around at the pedestal level. The balustrade duplicates that of the center first-level porch, and its posts are scaled versions of the entry porch posts.

The entry porch gablet is also supported on laminated corbels and the cornice has small sculptured modillion supports. Formerly the porch was approached through centrally located steps. These have been moved to the west side, with the balustrade section being switched from side to center bay.

The well-detailed entrance consists of a four panel door beneath a glazed transom. This is set in reveals panelled on both sides and the soffit in rectangular approximation of the door panels. All are heavily molded and the door panels are given individuality by indenting the molding of each side in a "v" configuration, approximating the triangle ends which appear over the trefoil in decoration elsewhere. The elongated upper panels are less stylized than the shorter base panels which are given the form of a robust stylized "x". Original hardware remains here, as it does throughout the brick house.

Window openings on the east side are quite satisfyingly graduated. A demi-hexagonal bay appears at the first level. The face of the bay contains a pair of four over four sash while the oblique faces contain single four over four windows. Sculptured modillions, matching those used on the entrance porch, occur beneath the eaves of the bay window's hip roof. The ghosts of a balustrade survive atop the roof where it would have abuted the brick wall of the house. The outlines and documentary photographs indicate this matched the entrance balustrade. Two four over four sash windows are coupled in an opening united by sash and sill at the second level, directly above the bay window, while above this, at the third level, a single four over four sash with pointed arch head occurs within the gable. The sawn bargeboard, previously described, appears here and on the west gable end.

The attic or third level window to the west approximates the one on the east, while two six over six sash appear at each of the other levels. A three-bay porch with low hipped roof carries across the first level of the west side. The porch is simple and quite high, its floor appearing at ground level, rather than above the raised basement. This porch seems to have been an original fixture of the house, adorned only with lattice panels between the posts, posts which match those of the entrance porch. The diminution of these posts, those of the entrance porch and of the centered attic balcony above the entrance is adroitly handled and an example of the attention given by the builder to the detail and finish of the house.

The rear of the 1869 house is a confusing collection of brick work. An ell covered by a traverse gable roof extends along the south side. The angle formed by the junction of the ell and the main block on the east is now enclosed, but seems formerly to have been an open porch with deck above. A brick link, one bay wide and two stories high to the east, one bay and one story to the west, joins the 1869 house to the ca. 1830 house. Initially this followed the form of the earlier house, but it was at some point extended to two stories on the west by the addition of a flat roofed wooden section.

(see continuation sheet #3)

EXP. 10/31/84

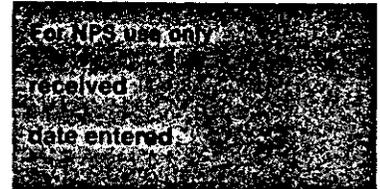
United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Mount Hope, Falls Church, Virginia

Continuation sheet #3

Item number 7

Page 3

DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis - the 1869 House

On the interior the 1869 house is bisected by a center hall at each of the above ground levels, with a single room on the east side and two rooms of unequal size on the west. Mantels in the east rooms are parallel to the hall, occurring in the center of the interior walls. Those on the west side of the house occur only in the southwest rooms and are centered in the partition walls at a right angle to the hall. The western flues are engineered through the attic so that both chimneys break through the roof above the hall walls and parallel to them, thus preserving the symmetry of the facade. The smaller northwest rooms may not have been heated originally.

Two part molded architraves frame windows and doors throughout. All doors on the first and second levels are of four panels with applied moldings. Attic doors have simple raised panels. Exceptions occur in the south wall of the first and second-level east rooms. There gib windows give access to what formerly were open porches. On the second level the open porch/deck remains, though the former porch area below has been enclosed.

In the hall the stair ascends from front to rear in two runs connected by transverse landings. The balustrade features rather simple turned balusters, supporting a broad molded handrail which ramps but does not ease. The newel is a large post alternating turned and octagonal sections, two of which are ornamented with applied half astragals and faceted blocks. An identical newel appears in the catalog of the George O. Stevens Company of Baltimore in 1879, as number 573. The Stevens Company had been in business since at least 1855 and most likely had produced this newel for a number of years. The company offered sash, blinds, doors, mantels and moldings. It is possible that other components of Mount Hope were also ordered from the Stevens Company.

Ceilings on the first-floor east and northwest rooms are ornamented with molded plaster cornices and ceiling rondels.

Marble mantels appear in both the first and second-level east rooms. Both have semicircular arch topped openings. The first-level one is heavily molded, has a curvilinear shelf, a central cartouche with inset oval of a contrasting marble and spandrels of the same contrasting marble. The second-level marble mantel is much simpler, echoing the arched opening with a simple incised line. The straight shelf is supported by a centered trapezoidal block which is unadorned. The mantel in the southwest second-level room also remains. It is a wooden, frieze and pilaster mantel. Pilasters are chamfered and the plain frieze is interrupted by a centered trapezoidal block supporting the shelf. The mantel in the first-floor southwest room was not present when the current owners acquired the house. It is believed to have been white marble since sections of white marble were located when the brick fire surround now in place was being installed.

A section of the English basement has been finished recently. The owners have also imposed a chair rail in the first-floor hall and installed an elevator in the infill section between the two houses. Except for these changes, all of which are reversible and none of which does any structural or stylistic damage to the house, the 1869 section of Mount Hope remains as built.

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

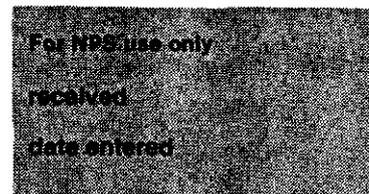
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

MOUNT HOPE, FALLS CHURCH, VA

Continuation sheet #4

Item number 8

Page 1



8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

second part to insure that Moxley's debts to Ritter were paid. The deed, in addition to the land, also transferred "one Negro man named Balden, one Negro man named Abraham" and "the entire household and kitchen furniture in and about the dwelling house on said land." Evidently Moxley was unable to satisfy his obligations to Ritter, for Chew offered the property for sale on November 10, 1832, advertising it in the Alexandria Gazette "all that TRACT OF LAND (formerly the property of Daniel F. Dulaney, Esq) whereupon the said Samuel Moxley now resides, containing 216½ ACRES situate in Fairfax County, Virginia, about 7 miles distant from Alexandria and Georgetown, and lying on the Road leading from the former towns to Fairfax Court House; together with the improvements and Appurtenances, consisting of a new and comfortable Frame DWELLING HOUSE, 2 Barns, & c...also at the same place and immediately after the above sale, will be sold, in like manner, 2 Negro Men..."

The two slaves, the farm machinery and equipment mentioned, and the amount of land indicate a modest farm. It is likely that the dwelling would have been modest as well. Given the fact that the existing dwelling burned in 1829, that the tax records indicate tax added for buildings in 1831, that the property was mortgaged that same year, and that the 1832 sales notice lists a "new and comfortable frame dwelling," we can assume that the present dwelling is the one referred to, and that it was built ca. 1830 by Samuel Moxley.

At the sale of the land on November 10, 1832, Peter Ritter was the highest bidder for the farm, using Moxley's indebtedness to him to pay at least part of the purchase price. Ritter held ownership until 1840. Whether he lived on the farm, continued to lease it to Moxley, or rented it to someone else, is not known. Ritter sold to Ruth Mills on January 1, 1840 (DB F, Nr 3, p. 197). Ruth Mills' identity is uncertain, as is her relation to the property, and she sold it to Amzie Coe on April 13, 1842 (DB G, Nr 3, p. 297). The deed notes that the land was then "in the actual possession of Amzie Coe." The property remained in the Coe family until 1869, so that they were associated with the ca. 1830 frame house for at least twenty-five years.

Melvin Steadman indicates (p. 288) that Coe called the farm "Mount Hope." He also indicates that Mount Hope was "the earliest known stopping place on the mail route in Falls Church" (p. 146). He further indicates that Coe was a Presbyterian, and an Elder of the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church. Steadman indicates that Coe held meetings at Mount Hope in 1848 which led to the formation of the Falls Church Presbyterian Church.

By the time Coe died in 1866 the property had shrunk from a 216-acre farm to 127 acres, and this he left to his wife Anna during her lifetime. The will lists two sons and three daughters (WB A, Nr 2, p. 37, March 10, 1865, proved July 16, 1866). An 1867 inventory of his estate (WB A, Nr 2, p. 365, May 7, 1867) indicates something of the life the Coe family led at Mount Hope. It lists quantities of farming implements, including ox yoke, plows, etc., but no oxen or horses. Two milk cows, a heifer and calf are the most expensive of the inventoried items, reflecting the necessary place they held in the economy and well being of the farm and its owners. Twenty-four

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

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

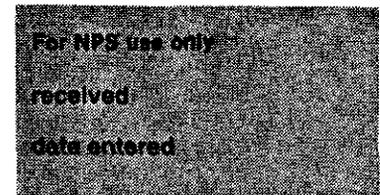
**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

MOUNT HOPE, FALLS CHURCH, VA

Continuation sheet #5

Item number 8

Page 2



8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

gallons of vinegar were worth as much as the most expensive furniture in the house. The presence of a secretary (bureau and bookcase) as the most expensive item of furniture, and of schoolbooks, is revealing, indicating that prior to the establishment of the public school system in Virginia, the Coe family was interested in education. Interesting also is the fact that the most expensive of all the tools on the farm was a box of carpenter's tools. (This may indicate that Coe was engaged in the carpenter's trade.)

Though most of the Coe family seem to have lived in New York, son Spencer lived in Fairfax County and bought the interests of the rest of his siblings. In one of these deeds (DB H, Nr 4, p. 39, March 21, 1867) the property is described as 127.5 acres and "9 miles northwesterly from Alexandria and on the south side of the Alexandria & Leesburg Turnpike Road...."

In 1869 Spencer and his mother, then also in New York, sold Mount Hope to William A. Duncan (DB J, Nr 4, p. 318, February 9, 1869). Very little is known of Duncan though depositions in Chancery Files No. 64 and No. 99 (Fairfax County Court Records) indicate that he was deputy to U.S. Marshall John Underwood in Alexandria during the Civil War. He purchased at least two pieces of confiscated Confederate property, Fairfax County estates Clifton and Oakley. He returned Oakley to its owners in 1865 but maintained ownership of Clifton and timbered it. Duncan also bought confiscated bonds and, after the war, recovered at least \$10,000 from the federal government, about a third of the amount he claimed was owed him. A deposition of Spencer Coe stated that Mr. and Mrs. Duncan paid, at their hotel in Alexandria, cash for Mount Hope in 1869 and that both had bonds on the table. Coe noted that Mrs. Duncan, a Van Sant from Alexandria, had a sizeable inheritance from her father, and was a good businesswoman.

One of the most interesting depositions in the suits, that a A.E. Lounsberry in Chancery Suit 99, states that he met Duncan when he came to Falls Church and that Duncan had the reputation of being a man of means. Lounsberry states that he built a house for Duncan in 1869, costing about \$3,000, and that the Duncans lived in the old house adjacent to the site while the new one was being built. He notes that Mrs. Duncan kept daily watch and intervened in disputes, including one when the mason told Lounsberry that the joists had not been bridged strongly enough.

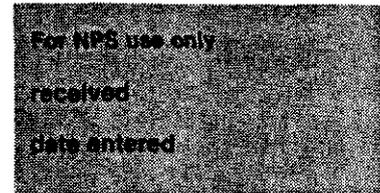
Lounsberry is a man of some mystery though he was evidently a most successful builder to have constructed a house with the design and finish of Mount Hope. Such a house would also have been a successful advertisement for any builder, and it is likely that he completed other costly residences. Though he notes that Duncan paid \$3,000 for Mount Hope, it was assessed for \$8,000 at the first assessment for buildings in 1871, after Duncan's 1869 purchase. In 1875 buildings are listed as worth \$6,000 at Mount Hope. For comparison Gunston Hall was valued at \$3,000 that same year, while Woodlawn was \$4,000 and Hayfield \$4,500. Steadman notes that Lounsberry was a Falls Church postmaster and active in the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church.

(See Continuation Sheet #6)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

MOUNT HOPE, FALLS CHURCH, VA



Continuation sheet #6

Item number 8

Page 3

8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

Whatever Lounsberry's background and the source of Duncan's wealth, the house Lounsberry produced for Duncan was a substantial one and Duncan became a leading citizen of the town, serving as mayor in 1881-1882 (Steadman, p. 254).

Duncan's wife predeceased him and, according to tradition, he was to have married her cousin, and his nurse, Alma Berry. The marriage did not take place however, and when he died, he remembered Alma in his will (WB H, Nr 2, p. 517, November 6, 1900, proved May 19, 1902) noting, "I give devise and bequeath to Alma Y. Berry (my faithful and efficient assistant in the care and management of my household affairs, and a patient and capable nurse and attendant to me in my declining years) the house in which I live in Falls Church, together with the nineteen and three quarter (19 3/4) acres of land surrounding it...." David Duncan Avril, Duncan's nephew, was the other heir and he and Alma Berry were executors of the estate. The inventory of Duncan's estate is sketchy, but interesting. It included: "1 parlor suite, furniture, carpets, etc. \$85. Dining room furniture 22. Library, Books & Furniture 60. Bedroom suits and hall furniture 90. Kitchen Furniture, range, table, cupboard, sewing machine, stove and tools 75." When cash in the house (\$24) and various notes owed to Duncan were added to this, the value of the estate was \$6,570.69, exclusive of the house and other property, a sizeable estate. Alma Berry either lived at Mount Hope or at least maintained ownership until 1919 when she sold to Lewis Gray (DB L, Nr 8, p. 349, June 1, 1919).

By that time the property had shrunk to 9.93 acres. That transfer was to have its effect on the town of Falls Church, however, for it dedicated "for street purposes Duncan Street, Oak Street and Lee Street, each 40 feet wide, as surveyed and described in the said plat hereto annexed...." Oak and Lee streets opened the rest of the property for development and much of the configuration of the present area is owed to them. Duncan Street, running east and west in front of Mount Hope was, unfortunately, later closed, and houses built upon it and on the Mount Hope front lawn, almost to the door of the house, accounting for some of the anonymity which the house possesses today.

The property passed from the Grays to Joseph and Edna Allison in 1924 (DB J, Nr 9, p. 117, September 3, 1924). Allison seems to have been a pharmacist who engaged in a mail order business, manufacturing an athletes foot treatment in the basement of the house. Known by several names, including Kleen Foot Balm, he is said to have manufactured as many as 2,500 cans at a time, each 3/4 ounce, and selling for 25¢ a can. It was Allison who subdivided the property (DB 776, p. 250, June 16, 1950). The house became Lot Number Two in the subdivision and passed through several owners before it was purchased by its current owners in 1963 (DB 2251, p. 43, January 16, 1963).

Today both the ca. 1830 and the 1869 house are in a superb state of upkeep, and the diminished grounds have been developed with formal herb gardens and well-maintained lawns.

On April 9, 1977 the current owners transferred an open space easement on the property to Historic Falls Church, Inc. The easement restricts use of the property to residential, prohibits subdivision, requires landscape maintenance and that "the main house will be maintained and preserved in its present architectural form as nearly as (See Continuation Sheet #7)

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

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

MOUNT HOPE, FALLS CHURCH, VA

Continuation sheet #7

Item number 8, 9, 10

Page 4, 1, 1

8. SIGNIFICANCE -- Historical Background

practicable...." Under the terms of the easement Historic Falls Church, Inc., has the right to delegate or reconvey all or any part of the interests or rights granted or reserved under the easement to the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, or any other public or private or not-for-profit body created or empowered to hold and administer easements for historic preservation.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wrenn, Tony P. Falls Church: History of a Virginia Village. Falls Church: Historical Commission of the City of Falls Church, 1972.
Wright, Russell J. An Architectural Inventory of the City of Falls Church. Falls Church: Falls Church Historical Commission, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -- Verbal Boundary Description

thence approx. 160' SSE; thence approx. 125' WSW; thence approx. 160' NNW to S side of Oak St.; thence approx. 125'NE along S side of Oak St. to point of origin.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates Ca. 1830; 1869 **Builder/Architect** A.E. Lounsberry (1869)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Each of the dwellings is a striking example of its era in the Falls Church area. Together they reflect the growth, changing land use patterns, and taste of the city and its citizenry. The frame structure is the simple dwelling of an early 19th-century Northern Virginia farmer, a fragile type that has all but disappeared in this area. The more elaborate brick house was constructed by a later owner of considerable means. It is a highly developed, well-detailed house, and its identification as the work of local builder A.E. Lounsberry opens the way to additional study and identification of other significant area buildings of the last half of the 19th century as Lounsberry's work. Each of these houses respects the architectural integrity of the other and they remain distinctive in orientation and style. Together, within their diminished surround, they are a 19th-century architectural oasis in the midst of the 20th-century city. The ca. 1830 frame dwelling and the 1869 High Victorian brick dwelling remain basically intact, with such adaptations as have been made both acceptable and reversible.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The origin of the name Mount Hope is unknown. It does not appear in any of the deeds concerning the property, nor in contemporary records until recently. Melvin Steadman indicates (Falls Church: By Fence and Fireside, p. 288) that it was Amzie Coe who conferred in the name on the property. Coe was already living on the property in April of 1842 (DB G, Nr 3, p. 297, April 13, 1842) so if the name was given to the property by him it referred to the frame portion of the present house. If that is the case, William Duncan simply continued the name in use after he built the brick dwelling in 1869. Whatever the origin of the name, it is firmly attached to both houses, though it is the brick house that is usually pointed to as being Mount Hope.

The early history of the property is difficult to trace, but it seems to have come from 18th-century land grants to either Michael-Reagan or Simon Pearson. Missing deed books and incomplete indexes confuse the chain of title, but there seems to have been a house on this site at least by the early 19th century. Separate valuations for buildings appear in the tax records in 1820, and these continue to rise until 1829 when the records indicate that the residence burned. It may be because of the loss of the dwelling by fire that John Johnson sold the property in July of that year to Daniel Dulaney (DB Y, p. 298, July 16, 1829).

Dulaney sold the 216-acre property almost immediately after his purchase to Samuel Moxley (DB ZZ, p. 211, September 1, 1830). Within one year, Samuel and Ann Moxley transferred it (DB ZZ, p. 382, August 3, 1831) to Samuel Chew and Peter Ritter, both of Georgetown. Moxley was in debt to Ritter, had several additional debts in Georgetown, and several suits in court at that time. Chew seemed to be acting as party of the

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

9. Major Bibliographical References (See Continuation Sheet #7)

Douglas, H.H. Falls Church People and Places. Falls Church: Historical Commission, 1981.
 Mount Hope Files. Falls Church Public Library.
 Steadman, Melvin Lee. Falls Church by Fence and Fireside. Falls Church: Falls Church Public Library, 1964.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approx. 1/2 acre
 Quadrangle name Falls Church, VA-MD Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>18</u>	<u>310760</u>	<u>430611810</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Boundary Justification: Boundary coincides with existing lot which is all remains of Mount Hope Farm, and conforms to the area protected by easement. Verbal Boundary Description: Beginning at a point on the S side of S. Oak St. approx. 650' Sw from intersection of said street with W. Broad St.;
(See Continuation Sheet #7)

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 Tony P. Wrenn and VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION STAFF
 organization N/A date July 1984
 street & number P.O. Box 233 telephone (703) 371-4992
 city or town Fredericksburg state VA 22401

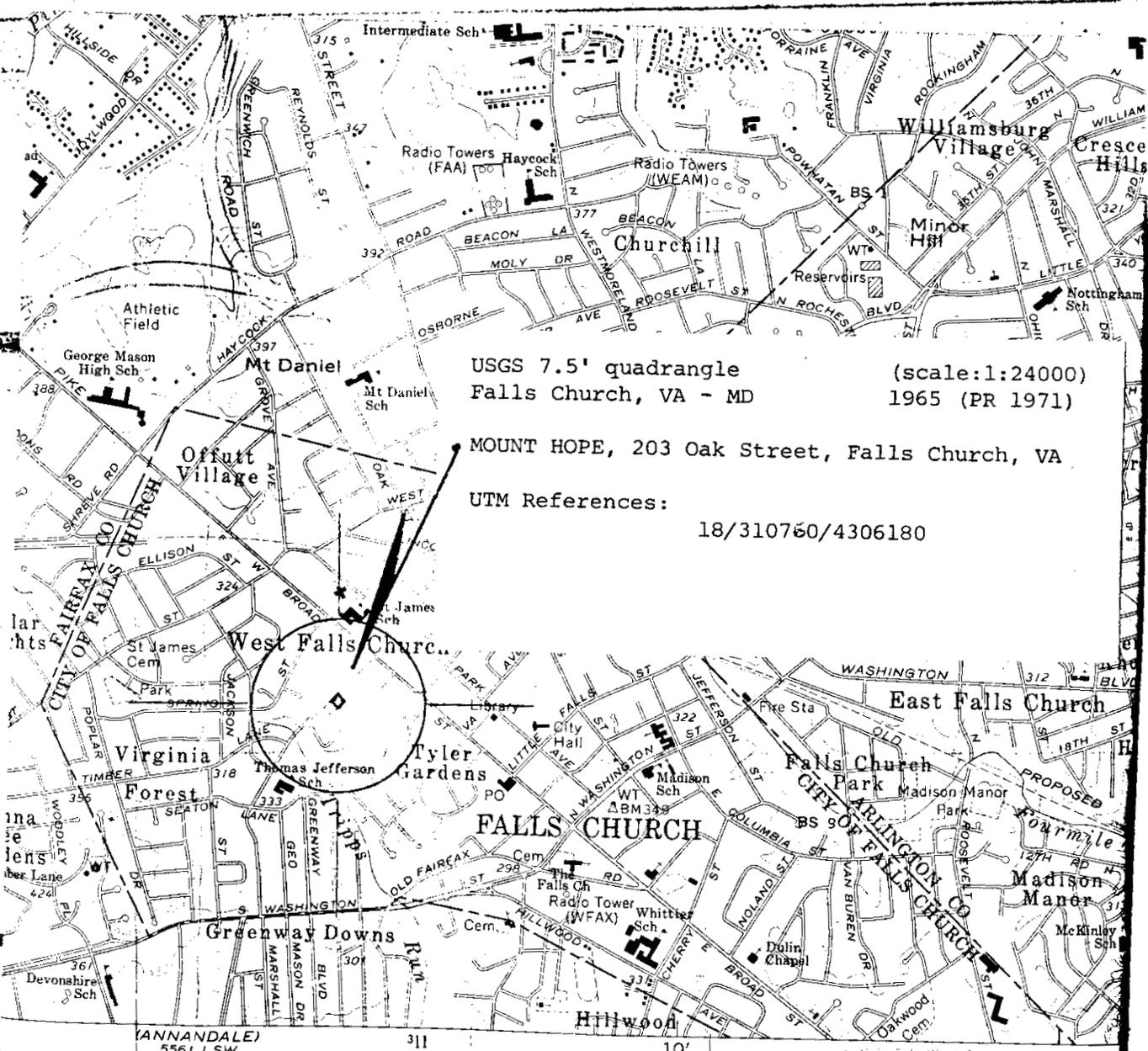
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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
 H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director
 title VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION date August 21, 1984

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

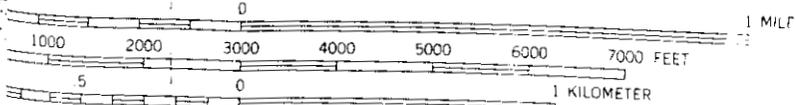


USGS 7.5' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Falls Church, VA - MD 1965 (PR 1971)

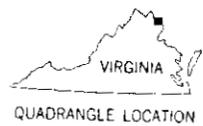
MOUNT HOPE, 203 Oak Street, Falls Church, VA

UTM References:
 18/310760/4306180

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 ESTABLISHED BY THE U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
 INFORMATION ON MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
 FOR A LIST OF PUBLISHED TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

INTERCHANGE 14
 GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL 65