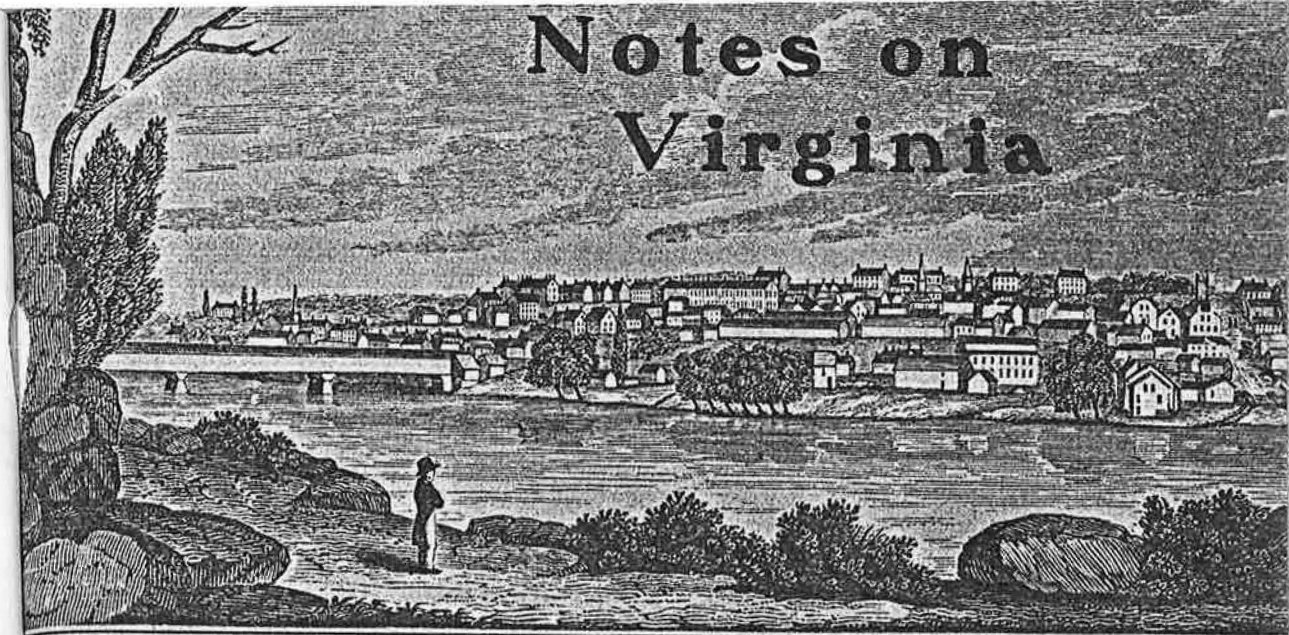


Notes on Virginia



PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION Numbers 3-4 Winter 1971 - 72

PERPETUATION by PRESERVATION in 1971

The Historic Landmarks Commission was established to serve the public welfare through "the perpetuation of those structures and areas which have a close and immediate relationship to the values upon which this State and the nation were founded . . ." (Acts of the General Assembly, 1966, c. 632). Over the past year, increasing attention has been given to urban neighborhoods and rural districts that visually reflect how past generations of Virginians lived and worked.

Preservation-minded citizens are increasingly concerned with the relationship of buildings to one another and to the economic, social, and political development of the locality or region, as well as to the outstanding personages and events in the history of the Commonwealth. Under this aspect, historic preservation has become an important element in the overall community concern with environmental protection.

People begin to sense their loss as the softer, more pleasing, older portions of their cities or countryside are encroached upon or demolished. Historic areas tend to be more humane in scale than whatever replaces them. They provide recog-

nizable visual relief from the harsh forms of contemporary architecture. They remain symbols of community identity and serve as moral counterweights to the more brutal aspects of incessant change. As historic districts become fewer, their individual importance is accentuated.

The VHLC is presently identifying architecturally and historically significant neighborhoods or districts around the Old Dominion. Several such areas have been placed on the Virginia and National Landmarks Registers. By means of such designation, the Commission recognizes the value of a particular and related group of buildings and sites to its own community and also to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Richmond's Church Hill neighborhood and the "Old and Historic Alexandria District" are well known instances of historic district zoning by local governing bodies. The Church Hill historic district, designated as such by the City in 1957, consists of an architecturally unified assemblage of middle class merchants' residences that may be effectively contrasted with suburban streets today.

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THE ECONOMICS OF PRESERVATION

In two recent addresses, one in California, the other in Richmond. C. Langhorne Washburn, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Tourism, challenged the American Travel Industry to "develop ways of preserving the significant cultural, archaeological and historic sites of America." In remarks specifically directed to Virginians and those concerned with tourism in the Old Dominion, Secretary Washburn spoke of the depredation of historic resources and of a threatening "army of fortune-seekers and opportunists, intent on exploiting what is historic and unique about Virginia.

"The real problem, perhaps the word is 'opportunity', is to preserve and publicize the diversity and variety of the American heritage." This was the key-note reiterated on the basis of varied surveys of opinion conducted in North and South America, Japan and Oceania among potential travellers. Many travellers visit Europe rather than the United States because they are "seeking what we are destroying in our own environment—the variety and sense of continuity that comes from preserving links with the past."

The regional and ethnic variety that once characterized American society and culture has come under massive assault the Secretary observed:

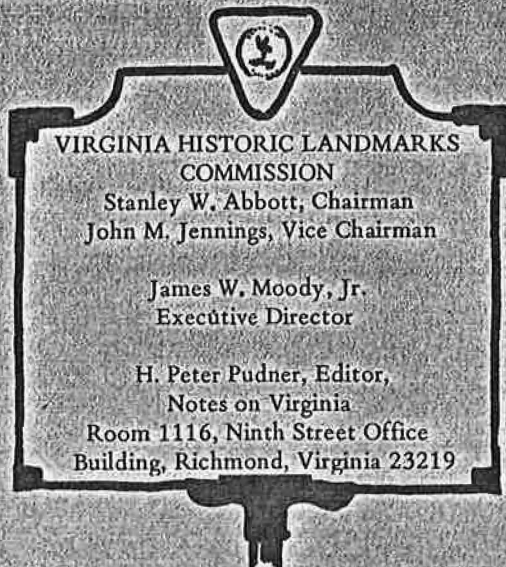
- "historic, old neighborhoods are being torn down to make way for modern office buildings.
- "Ethnic enclaves, with their distinctive sub-cultures, are being displaced [through urban renewal].
- "Natural wonders are being encroached upon by steadily-advancing suburbs.
- "Regional, cultural differences and quaint local folk art are being erased by mass production, standardization and a host of other forces."

The travel industry has been indifferent to the destruction of tourist resources with unique potential. Indeed, a segment of the industry has actively participated in the process of destruction by systematically replacing authentic tourism assets with mass-produced mediocrity. Instead of trying to capitalize on the unique, regional cultures of our country, the peculiar-sectional styles of architecture, types of cuisine and forms of entertainment, it is standardizing our tour product."

Preservation is important to the travel industry: "An historic site, or an archaeological treasure, or a quaint enclave which draws sightseers, is an irreplaceable touristic resource." Such an asset can "produce profit for our industry, revenue for the host community and satisfaction for our customer, the tourist." But all of this, Mr. Washburn emphasized, is contingent upon preservation and sensible promotion. Once lost, these resources cannot be replaced; they "Benefit no one—except in some cases the demolition industry."

Mr. Washburn compares the construction of tourist facilities which are incompatible with local styles of architecture or land forms to strip mining, de-forestation and soil depletion. Such activity subtracts something irreplaceable from a potentially-productive asset. It is harmful, over the long run, to an industry which is one of the Commonwealth's leading employers.

Tourist attractions such as Virginia's historic and cultural, natural and architectural resources are doubly important to the "host community." They are economic assets with more than economic meaning. They distinguish a community and contribute to the quality of life available for its permanent citizens. These particular geese not only lay golden eggs, but are domestic animals so much a part of the family that the old place would not seem like home without them.



THESES & DISSERTATIONS on VIRGINIA

A bibliography of "Theses and Dissertations on Virginia History" has been compiled by two Georgetown University professors, with the assistance of librarians, faculty and staff members, and students at the larger Mid-Western, Eastern, and Southern universities. The list, including 1170 master's theses and doctoral dissertations accepted by history and related departments, was published in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Vol. 79 (January 1971), pp. 55-109.

Author, short title, university, date and degree awarded are included for each entry, and each work is assigned to one of a dozen general categories. The result is a tedious task well done, and a major new tool for students of Virginia. There is something of interest here for all researchers however general or restricted their interests may be. Inevitably, other researchers will happen upon works not included in the preliminary printed list. In the interest of all, these should be forwarded to the compilers or to the editor of the *Virginia Magazine*.

GOOD BREEDING

One of America's foremost agricultural historians, John T. Schlebecker, addressed the members of the Pioneer America Society at their annual meeting this past December. Dr. Schlebecker is Director of the Department of Agriculture and Mining, Smithsonian Institution, and a founder of the Association of Living Historical Farms and Agricultural Museums. These historical farms are being established in the several sections of the country to convey to the present and future generations a sense of the reality of farming under differing regional, crop, chronological and technological conditions.

Dr. Schlebecker discussed the difficult but necessary task of developing and utilizing authentic plant and animal material in historic preservation projects. Historically accurate stalls, stanchions, and yokes will not accommodate modern hybrid animals which are much larger than their ancestors of the last and preceding centuries. The solution? Why to breed back of course, or to find surviving examples of earlier strains and breeds! There is a scientific as well as antiquarian basis for keeping alive earlier

types of livestock and plants.

A disastrous failure in last summer's corn crop was narrowly avoided through the use of an out-dated strain of seed corn. In this instance, the community retained the capacity to reintroduce an older-type seed, the merits of which had generally been forgotten or disregarded. Through progressive hybridization, agricultural scientists had eliminated many defects in producing the more profitable modern seed. Laboring to solve specific problems they had overlooked others. They had inadvertently bred out the immunities which alone prevented the tragedy anticipated last summer.

While concerned with the preservation of antique tools of agriculture in museums, Dr. Schlebecker uses authentic modern reproductions in the operations of the historical farms. The old ones can rarely stand the strain of regular use. What is more, the speaker observed—with a twinkle of the eye and a glance towards his preservationist audience—our ancestors did not use old tools; any more than George Washington and his fellow burgesses lived in old houses or visited an old Raleigh's Tavern.

"WE ARE ALL REPUBLICANS
WE ARE ALL FEDERALISTS"

Let us say, as Jefferson no doubt intended, that some goals, being so obviously imperative, transcend those political and ideological differences which otherwise divide the community. The importance of historic preservation has recently been the theme and thesis of articles written by articulate spokesmen for the New Left and the Traditionalist Right:

"As I wander, speechifying, over the face of this land, I observe that most people in the seats of the mighty seem quite indifferent to the doom of visible monuments of American civilization. By urban 'renewers,' by federal and state highway builders, by high rise developers, by Burger Kings, the public and domestic and commercial architecture of yesteryear is being swept away.

"In nearly every city or town I visit, the

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city fathers decree boredom for the rising generation, by neglecting or deliberately erasing almost anything historic or architecturally interesting. . . .

“What can you do about this mischief, gentle reader? Why, join your local [preservationist group, if it be imaginative and energetic] and donate some money to their treasury; for the profiteers of bulldozer ‘renewal’ are well financed, but it is otherwise with the preservationists.—Russell Kirk in *National Review*, Dec. 17, 1971.

“Around every corner here [Savannah] there is some heartening bit of evidence that, when a city cares, its heritage can be preserved—not at a great sacrifice, nor at the cost of turning itself into a bloodless museum, but with benefit to all. Tourism is only the most obvious, and not necessarily the most desirable, result. [Consider the effect on property values] . . . When the fine old Victorian Hotel Desoto declined badly and took its downtown neighborhood with it, a local group headed by Mills Lane of the Citizens and Southern Bank bought the property and brought in architect Ted Aeck of Atlanta to design a congenial new building; now, as the Desoto Hilton, it not only blends acceptably with the historic district, but is the centerpiece of a redeemed neighborhood.

“The historic foundation has even been able to use federal urban renewal funds not to bulldoze old houses, but to restore them to beauty and usefulness. Property appreciation in the historic district is felt to have increased perhaps threefold in the last 10 years. . . .

“Savannah retains many of its old families, and thus more of a sense of its own traditions. Even so, it took a shock to get historical preservation moving here, and local sources suggest that came in the 50s, when the old City Market was torn down to make way for a parking garage. . . .

“Even earlier, in the 30s, Savannah allowed three of the original 23 town squares laid out

in Oglethorpe’s plan to be destroyed for a super-highway that never materialized. But the other 20 are still here, green and ringing with the shouts of children, living evidence that a city need neither decay nor accept ugliness and destruction as the price of progress.”

—Tom Wicker, *Richmond Times-Dispatch* (N. Y. Times Service), Dec. 9, 1971.

“What with the dismal sprawl and social disintegration of Megalopolis, there is talk in this land of grand schemes for New Towns, in which thousands—eventually, hundreds of thousands—of people could be settled, to begin civic life with a perfectly fresh start. . . . If we are to embark upon this business, we ought to exercise our imagination, and look for sound models of urban planning, before we begin to pour the concrete. It is all too possible to build the slums of the future, even though those slums are very costly. . . .

“The other day, for the first time in some 26 years, I walked the streets of old Savannah. More than any other city in this country, Savannah enjoys the amenity of beautiful squares. . . . Savannah’s squares, with their trees and shrubbery and statues and fountains are open to all comers, and the life of the city flows through them. . . .

“Preservation alone cannot save a city’s vitality, any more than a woodlot can be kept productive merely by cutting no senescent trees. Continuity requires renewal—but renewal in a tradition, harmonizing with a city’s past. . . . From its beginnings, Savannah was a genuine community, and moral imagination seems to have entered into its very architecture. . . .

“The only real knowledge we possess is knowledge of the past. If there are to be any New Towns satisfactory for living in, they must take into account the humane scale and the patterns of neighborliness.”

—Russell Kirk, *National Review*, February 18, 1972.

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Several cities and counties appear to be moving in the direction of historic planning. Loudoun County is preparing historic zoning. Richmond and Fredericksburg have established historic districts, Warrenton and Danville are considering similar ordinances. In October, 1971, the Lexington City Council adopted an Historic Zoning ordinance designed to preserve the historic and architectural compatibility of the oldest sections of the city.

The beautiful setting of the Valley, indeed the overall aesthetic impression of Lexington, has not essentially changed since the latter-nineteenth century. Recent commercial development has occurred to the east, between the town limits and Interstate 81, rather than downtown. The recently-adopted ordinance creates an Historic Area in Downtown Lexington in which no structural changes may be made without a building permit and a certificate of appropriateness issued by the Planning Commission.

A Lexington Preservation District—including the two college campuses, as well as much of the central portion of town—was placed on the Virginia and National Landmarks Registers last spring. The VHLC report identifying this District concludes with the observation that: "Lexington has in abundance—if in fragile equilibrium—what other communities aspire to." The City Council has made a commitment towards preserving that equilibrium, towards preserving, that is, Lexington's identity as a community.

* * *

Several of Richmond's varied historic districts were in the news during 1971:

The "MONUMENT AVENUE Old and Historic District" was established by act of the City Council on February 22, 1971. Nationally recognized as a unique memorial to the heroes of the Confederacy, Monument Avenue is also one of the grandest residential boulevards in America. In a series of architecturally dignified townhouses, churches, and apartment buildings—including representative works by such prominent architects as John Russell Pope, William Lawrence Bottomly, and Virginia's Duncan Lee—there are almost no architecturally or scenically discordant intrusions.

Already established as a Virginia and National Historic Landmark, Monument Avenue now has the protection of its new zoning classification. According to the City Code, exterior alteration or modification of structures within an "Old and Historic District" cannot be undertaken without the approval of the Commission of Architectural Review. City Council, which established a Monument Avenue Commission "to preserve and foster the historical and aesthetical values of Monument Avenue," has itself taken a major step towards the fulfillment of that goal.

WEST FRANKLIN STREET from the termination of Monument Avenue to Monroe Park retains its residential character although it has been progressively incorporated into the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. The elm, oak, and maple-lined street displays a colorful variety of architectural motifs including French Renaissance, Second Empire, Italianate, Romanesque, and Georgian Revival. Although these widely divergent styles were set next to one another, there is an underlying harmony derived from the uniformity of scale and recurring materials.

This section of West Franklin Street recalls an epoch in the social history of Richmond. The architecture is a reflection of the prosperity, influence, and cosmopolitan taste of businessmen at the turn of the century. Experience has proven the adaptability of these former residences to the primary functions of academic life. The neighborhood has humane and individual qualities unobtainable in a massive and depersonalized, high-rise urban campus.

The ante-bellum section of FRANKLIN STREET, to the east of VCU towards the Capitol, presents an irregular skyline created by the juxtaposition of high modern buildings and older residences. The random selection of surviving structures suggests the magnificence of the neighborhood in its prime. Linden Row was added to the Register of Historic Landmarks during the past year. This series of eight houses contributes a sense of elegance to what is now a commercial neighborhood. The only surviving example of Franklin Street's ante-bellum terrace row houses, Linden Row has been preserved through adaptive re-use as offices and apartments.

Over a long year which began with the demoli-

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tion of the 154-year-old Archer Anderson House and ended with the recent announcement that the neighboring Mayo Memorial Church House faces a similar fate, there was one dramatic plus for preservation on downtown Franklin Street. The Garden Club of Virginia purchased the three-story, stuccoed brick Kent-Valentine mansion for use as their State headquarters. The sale of the property was no ordinary sale; but rather, as a representative of the Valentine family said: "it represents the combined efforts of the buyer, the seller and the intermediary, the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, exerted over a period of several years to achieve a goal—the preservation of an architecturally significant and pleasing house situated in an area of the city where land values would dictate the demolition of the house and construction of a high-rise structure in its place." The Valentine family, sold the property to an organization dedicated to the preservation of this landmark and further protected the historic and visual integrity of the property by granting the VHLC, as agent for the people of the Commonwealth, an Open-Space Easement on the house and lot.

The destruction, last winter, of the 1100 block of East Main Street brought adverse national attention to Richmond and Virginia. The IRON-FRONTED commercial buildings of this block and those directly adjoining it "contain some of the best and most typical examples of 19th-century commercial architecture," wrote Pulitzer-prize winning architectural critic Ada Louise Huxtable in the course of a lengthy *New York Times* article devoted to the proposed demolition. Richmond's "Iron Fronts" represented one of the few homogeneous survivals of their genre; they were also a symbol of Richmond and Virginia's post-Appomattox economic revival.

The Architecture Department at the University of Virginia offered a sensitive alternate scheme for this portion of the new, block-square First and Merchants' banking headquarters. According to the *Times*, the schematic drawing accompanying these plans showed clearly "how much more colorful and interesting their historical variety is than the bland anonymity of the modern replacement. . . . The idea of adaptive re-use of landmark structures that is working so well in other cities was given short

shrift because of cost. Moreover, by not saving its own historic row, the bank has probably doomed the better row beside it."

This block of landmark-quality structures will be replaced by a "giant economy landmark" or an "instant-modern-image-architecture pre-packaged in New York and California," as the plans for the new banking center were described in the national media. Meanwhile attention has turned to the nearby Shockoe Slip area, a low-scale neighborhood of brick commercial structures centered around the triangular-shaped plaza known as Shockoe Slip at the intersection of South Thirteenth and East Cary Streets. A recent study that dealt primarily with the potential of the buildings within this district found that 80% of the structures are "completely serviceable from a structural standpoint." The study further noted:

"This small-scaled five block area centered around the fountain plaza is considered a prime support area for the new high rise development and the central business district. This support area would be pleasure and retail oriented, offering many different exciting small places in which to shop, dine or just brouse, in a relaxed atmosphere of the nineteenth century, with twentieth century buildings of the same scale filling in the fabric of the area where it has been destroyed."

The *Richmond News-Leader* devoted a front-page article to the recent addition of the Shockoe Slip area to the Virginia Landmarks Register, and to the concern expressed by area property owners that the landmark status would impede plans "to change or modify or modernize" their buildings. The article was begun with an excerpt from the VHLC's description of the area: Against the towering heights of Main Street development, the Shockoe Slip neighborhood is a slow-paced world inhabited predominantly by suppliers of wholesale goods operating in three or four story structures. The buildings, although individually simple in design, achieve an intricate pattern and texture along the slopes of East Cary Street. The pattern is based on the repetition in each three bay unit of a lyrical rhythm in 3/4 time, where pitch and tempo are regulated by window size, location and degree of curvature of the window head.

"The composition's effect is heightened by the staccato accents of the ornamental iron and brickwork as changing light plays on the corbeled, arched, cast and inset masonry and metal patterns." The presence in the district of buildings functionally related to the James River and Kanawha Canal orients the area to that commercial venture whose stone remnants still exist to the south and west.

THE JAMES RIVER & KANAWHA CANAL HISTORIC DISTRICT: FROM SHIP LOCKS TO BOSHER'S DAM: This linear historic district consists of the earthen excavations, stone locks, and other related objects which once formed a portion of the greatest pre-railroad internal improvement in Virginia. A boat moved from the lower to the upper James River by means of the "Tidewater Connection"; it could then travel from Richmond to Buchanan beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains passing through ninety canal locks with a total lift of 728 feet.

The Tidewater Connection consisted of five great stone locks which formed a water stairs. Most of the stonework for these locks still exists although portions of the walls have been buried under dirt and trash. During 1971, the Reynolds Metals Company announced plans for developing this portion of the canal. Executives of the corporation have developed plans to restore three blocks of the Tidewater Connection, and to utilize the canal, after restoration as both a recreational facility and as a linear reflecting pool for their new addition to the North Plant Complex.

The foresight evidenced in this proposed restoration is in stark contrast to the demolition of the East Main Street Iron-fronted buildings by another private corporate giant. It also compares favorably with proposals made for the use of the canal during the past year by the City of Richmond. In the 1968 edition of the Richmond Regional Planning Commission's Historic Sites and Structures in the Richmond Region, the canal was featured on the cover and described in the text as "a great, though neglected, historic treasure of national significance."

This past year, however, the same Commission approved, over the objections of its own environmen-

tal impact panel, the City's proposal that the eastern eight blocks of the canal be framed in concrete and used by the city as a sewage overflow retention basin to prevent diluted sewage from being poured into the James River during periods of heavy rainfall. Any such serious alteration to the canal would hinder, if not preclude, the development of the Capitol area portion of the canal system as a cultural and recreational asset for the community.

At year's end the Attorney General of Virginia advised the State Water Control Board that it must consider the overall environmental ramifications, and not merely the technical feasibility, of the proposed sewage-retention basin. As a direct result of this advisory opinion, the City withdrew its application for State approval of the project. Mr. Miller's judgment, having quasi-judicial standing under Virginia law, should influence the procedure followed by other regulatory and advisory agencies.

* * *

Rural Virginia provided the setting for the most controversial of the Old Dominion's conservation and preservation problems during 1971. The proposed construction and operation of a penal center at the Green Springs in Louisa County has generated more publicity than the demolition of the commercial block on East Main Street in Richmond and the plans—good and bad—for development of the canal system combined.

The fertile soil surrounding the once famous Green Springs gave rise to a prosperous, stable, and relatively compact agricultural community which represents the rural life of Virginia as it has evolved from the mid-18th century to the present. The rolling farmland provides a picturesque pastoral setting for the fine homes, large and small, which were built and maintained there for over two centuries. Preservationists argue that the life and appearance of this carefully balanced and limited area cannot survive the intrusion of an object such as a prison and hospital.

The Green Springs Association has challenged the use of public funds for the project as violative of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and also of the Virginia "Open-Space Land Act" of

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1966, and those sections of the new Virginia Constitution inspired by a recognition of the public's vital interest in, and the vulnerability of, scenic and historic open spaces. Residents of the area have expressed interest in granting easements and forming a land trust, hopefully leading to a large rural preservation zone.

While the matter is not yet settled, several significant trends are evident. The debate in the courts and in the press indicates that national resources, unheard of a decade ago, are now available to local preservationists. The Green Springs Association has had the support of several editors. Hundreds of interested individuals around the Commonwealth have signed petitions, written letters, and offered advice and money. As plaintiffs in the federal courts, the Association was aided by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Natural Resources Defense Council. Finally, in November, the U. S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that federal money may not be released for the project until the effects the prison center would have on the historical environment of the area have been considered.

* * *

The old County courts of rural Virginia are unique landmarks. No other institution or complex of buildings better represents the life of early Virginia in its political and legal, social and economic phases. According to a prominent historian: "No other institution in the eighteenth-century Virginia county was so colorful, lively, and variously important as court days." The court and court days retained their preeminence well into the twentieth century in rural and agricultural counties.

Court house complexes confer distinction upon many small villages in the Old Dominion. During the past year four of these were added to the Virginia Landmarks Register:

HANOVER COUNTY COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION ZONE: The well-preserved and proportioned seat of Hanover County retains all the essential elements and atmosphere of the classic historically distinctive, rural-Virginian administrative community. The famous court house, a major

monument of colonial Virginia's public architecture, and court-house green form the historic as well as the visual focal point of the community. The venerable, rambling, frame Hanover Tavern across the road from the court complex completes the traditional court house community.

FLUVANNA COUNTY COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION DISTRICT: The simple Roman-Revival court house stands at the top of a steep knoll overlooking the Confederate monument. In continuous use since 1831, the building remains practically unaltered in fabric or form. The stone jail (museum) and small lawyer's office date from the same period.

LUNENBURG COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION ZONE: The two-story brick temple-form court house visually dominates this tiny community as it has for nearly a century and a half. Lunenburg, with its sprinkling of 19th-century buildings and outbuildings, remains one of the most picturesque and best preserved of Virginia's old court house communities.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION ZONE: The assemblage of buildings on and around the court square in Eastville include the present (and fifth) court house built in 1899; three buildings maintained as museums: the 1732 court building, early clerk's office, and (circa. 1814) debtor's prison; the 18th-century tavern; a fine brick store house (circa. 1800); and several small, frame law offices. The whole group, with its picturesque buildings of many eras and styles, evokes the sense of continuity and history that forms such an important part of life on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

PLANNING for PRESERVATION is a matter of pressing importance for the smaller-urban and rural neighborhoods adjacent to Metropolitan Washington. Concerned citizens and public officials from Clarke, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William and Stafford Counties and the city of Fredericksburg participated, on February 23rd, in a regional planning conference held at Warrenton under the auspices of the Landmarks Commission, American Institute of Architects, and the State Planning Commission.

VHLC architectural historian Tucker H. Hill was coordinator for the program which included lectures on historic, architectural, and topographical aspects of comprehensive planning. Other staff members to participate were Junius Fishburne, Calder Loth, and consultant Russell Wright. Architectural historian Loth spoke on the topic of "Preserving Our Historic Environment"; Mr. Wright addressed himself to "Preservation in Northern Virginia." Executive Director James W. Moody, Jr. introduced the several speakers and served as moderator.

WISHART HOUSE, VIRGINIA BEACH: Representative of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, and the Landmarks Commission inspected the work in progress at the Wishart House on March 1st. The APVA now owns the property and has made a major commitment of resources to its restoration.

One of the oldest-surviving buildings in America, the 17th-century Wishart House is being preserved through the cooperative efforts of the two Virginia preservation organizations. There are tentative plans to restore the house as a plantation museum according to an article in the current issue of the Association's newsletter, "Discovery."

ARCHITECT'S DRAWINGS: The administration of SOUTHERN SEMINARY JUNIOR COLLEGE, Buena Vista, has donated to the VHLC a complete set of measured plans for the school's historic main building. The Valentine family has permitted the Commission to duplicate the architect's drawings prepared at the time of the circa 1904 alterations to the KENT-VALENTINE HOUSE in Richmond. The Commission appreciates these generous acts and solicites similar materials for its reference library.

VHLC architectural historian Calder Loth and regional representative Katherine (Mrs. Mallory J.) Read visited the Weblin and Keeling Houses on March 1st, and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard's Quarters "A" and Trinity Church (both in Portsmouth) on February 29th.

Sometime during the Presidency of Woodrow Wilson, an unknown compiler began the systematic collection of materials relating to old Virginia buildings and their associated legends, anecdotes, and history. Over the years, illustrated materials—ranging from realtors advertisements to lengthy newspaper and magazine articles—were gathered and organized by counties into 23 scrapbooks. These books are now on permanent loan to the Landmarks Commission through the courtesy of the Manuscripts Division of the University of Virginia's Alderman Library.

Coverage for the several regions of the Commonwealth is uneven, varying in accordance with the interests of the compiler and of his primary sources, the national, Washington, and Richmond press. For favored counties, the collection documents by means of newspaper clippings and photographs the destruction of worthy buildings, by man and the elements, over four decades. It also indicates the fluctuating state of public interest in historic structures and sites.

The collection records the incidental and the trivial, but also matters as poignant as the relocation of 1,256 Virginians in 1941 to make way for Camp A. P. Hill in Caroline County. With the thoroughness of an urban renewal project, "four communities, eight churches, and ten schools" along with 299 homes were destroyed according to contemporary newspaper accounts.

The training area, now a familiar part of the landscape along Route 301, took out "of Virginia one of its typical rural sections, an area where families stepped into the footsteps of their forefathers of several generations, where property is without deed because it has not changed hands since the days of the king's land grant. . . ."

Documented records of the appearance of a building or site at a specified time in its history materially assist the Landmarks Commission in its work. Thanks are due to the unknown benefactor who began his contribution to our survey and preservation efforts a half century and more before there was a VHLC.

The General Assembly has directed the Landmarks Commission to prepare a register of historical, architectural, and archaeological sites within the Commonwealth which are of State-wide or national significance. The Commission began considering nominations in the fall of 1968; by the end of June 1970, 213 properties had been approved for addition to the Virginia Register.

An installment of the Virginia Landmarks Register containing brief statements on each of the first 213 register properties was published during the summer of 1970. An enumeration of the 52 additions to the Register between July 1970 and May 1971 appeared in the first issue of Notes on Virginia. Notice of 13 subsequent additions were included in the second issue of Notes. There were 305 landmarks included in the Virginia Register as of December 31, 1971. Notice of the more recent additions appear below and elsewhere in this issue of Notes.

SEARS HOUSE, STAUNTON: Significant for its association with Dr. Barnas Sears, a prominent educator who came to Staunton in 1867 to be general agent and administrator of the Peabody Fund, the Sears House is also a classic and, for Virginia, rare example of the small "bracketed cottage" so popular throughout the Northern and Western States in the 1860s.

WOMAN'S CLUB, RICHMOND: Built for Bolling Haxall in 1858, this three-story, Italian Villa style structure was sold in 1900 to the Woman's Club. It ranks among the city's most handsomely embellished ante-bellum mansions, being ornamented with especially notable ironwork.

BARRET HOUSE, RICHMOND: Built in 1844 for the tobacconist William Barret, this was one of ante-bellum Richmond's finest Greek Revival houses. Scheduled for destruction in 1929, and reprieved by the Depression, it was sold to two of Richmond's more effective preservationists. Its preservation through adaption to business use, has assured the house a permanent place in the life of Richmond.

WESTON MANOR, HOPEWELL: An excellent example of late-Georgian plantation architecture

and one of the few plantation houses left on the historic lower Appomattox River, the architectural interest of Weston Manor is enhanced by the fact that nearly all the original fabric is intact, and that no structural alterations have taken place.

WHARF AREA, STAUNTON: The Wharf Area survives as an unusually picturesque and excellently preserved example of a Turn-of-the-Century warehouse and commercial district. The buildings in the area visually manifest the remarkable growth of Staunton during the second half of the nineteenth century.

BROOKE'S BANK, ESSEX COUNTY: The house and setting of Brooke's Bank form a classic picture of the 18th-century Tidewater plantation. The building's fine interior is well preserved; its almost completely unaltered basement is a rare survival.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL CHAPEL, RICHMOND: In 1887, the white frame, Gothic Revival chapel was completed on the grounds of what was then the Confederate Soldier's Home. It was built with contributions from the veterans themselves, at a time when money was scarce throughout the South, and dedicated to the memory of their dead comrades.

WEST FREEMASON STREET AREA, NORFOLK: The only historic residential neighborhood in Norfolk to escape levelling during that city's massive urban renewal program, the West Freemason Street area consists of some fourteen blocks of 18th, 19th, and 20th-century structures located on the western edge of the center city.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND: Known for many years as "Dr. Hoge's Church," after the great pastor who inspired its construction and served its congregation for a half century, Second Presbyterian is one of the outstanding public buildings of Virginia's mid-19th century.

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL HOSPITAL, PORTSMOUTH: The original portions of the Naval Hospital were completed in 1829-1833. They stand, not only as a testament to the nation's early interest in the welfare of its seaman, but also as a major example of Greek Revival architecture by John Haviland. Haviland, a leading architect of the period, designed

and supervised every aspect of the early construction.

OLD DONATION CHURCH, VIRGINIA BEACH: Lynnhaven Parish Church commonly known as Old Donation was built in 1736. The popular name for the brick, one-story structure, is post-colonial in origin, perhaps deriving from the benefaction of a former rector who died in 1776.

HENRY COALTER CABELL HOUSE, RICHMOND: Sole survivor of the distinguished 19th-century residences on Gamble's Hill and architecturally significant for its "Egyptian" portico, the Cabell House has the distinction of being the first historic home in Richmond to be preserved through adaptive re-use as offices.

CASTLE HILL, ALBEMARLE: Thomas Walker built the earliest or frame portion of Castle Hill in 1764; Dr. Walker's granddaughter, Judith Page Walker and her husband, William Cabel Rives added the large brick portion around 1825. Each of the houses is typical of its period and type: the former a sophisticated farm dwelling of the colonial period, the latter an early-19th century Piedmont plantation house. The two distinct houses are joined back to back by a connecting hall. The carefully chosen location and handsome grounds provide a beautiful setting.

CROZET HOUSE, RICHMOND: The original, basically Federal, character of this circa 1814 structure has been preserved. It was the residence of Cladius Crozet from 1822-32. As State Engineer, Crozet mapped watercourses, planned highways, and helped to found the Virginia Military Institute.

SCOTT-CLARKE HOUSE, RICHMOND: This typical Richmond Greek Revival Townhouse was a product of the City's ante-bellum prosperity. With the neighboring Brandsford Mansion, it clearly evokes the atmosphere and character of Fifth Street in the 1840s.

NEW LONDON ACADEMY, BEDFORD COUNTY: The only public school in Virginia to operate under a charter from the General Assembly, New London Academy continues in operation on its original (1796-98) site. The 1837-39 classroom building and an early kitchen symbolize the historic continuity

of the academy, in addition to providing contrast to the dominant, post-World War II campus-style structures.

FERRY FARM, STAFFORD COUNTY: Eminent as the boyhood home of George Washington, Ferry Farm was the home plantation of Augustine and Mary Ball Washington following 1738. The old ferry road and the picturesque setting on the bank of the Rappahannock River, overlooking Fredericksburg, are all that remain from the colonial period.

HENRICO, HENRICO COUNTY: This early-17th century town was built to replace Jamestown and to be the site of a projected "university and College." Henrico failed due to the Indian massacre of 1622 and the subsequent revocation of the Virginia Company's charter. The town site, undeveloped over the past three-and-one-half centuries, is completely forested.

SOUTHERN SEMINARY MAIN BUILDING, BUENA VISTA: Originally built as a hotel during the great Shenandoah Valley land boom of 1889-1891, this vast and rambling crescent-shaped structure is set near the edge of a promontory overlooking downtown Buena Vista with splendid views of the surrounding mountains.

HERBERT HOUSE, HAMPTON: One of the oldest standing buildings on the lower Peninsula, the Herbert House has superb Georgian brickwork, refined masonry detailing, and retains most of its structural wood framing. Although suffering somewhat from additions, it remains a relatively-scarce example of an early, two-story, single-room-deep brick structure.

LEIGH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, RICHMOND: Designed by Samuel Sloan of Philadelphia, this Greek Revival structure exemplifies the architectural excellence of ante-bellum Richmond. The building was dedicated in May 1857 and has remained in continuous use by the congregation.

Two recent additions to the Register, SHOCKOE SLIP in Richmond and NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE PRESERVATION ZONE, are mentioned in the course of the lead article "Perpetuation by Preservation in 1971."

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BROAD STREET STATION, RICHMOND: Among the last of the great terminals built during the "Golden Age of Railroads," Broad Street Station remains a monument of civic and commercial pride expressed through architecture. Designed, along with the Jefferson Memorial and the National Gallery, by John Russell Pope, the station ranks among the Commonwealth's most ambitious and distinguished architectural landmarks. The interior of this monumental edifice is as functional and elegant as the facade.

BEVERLEY MILL, PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY: Named for its late-19th century owners, Beverley Mill was built some time prior to 1759, expanded and modernized during ante-bellum Virginia's agricultural revival, and continued in operation through World War II. The huge, five-story stone structure retains its 29-foot metal waterwheel and sluice gate as well as the stone mill race.

HOWARD'S NECK, GOOCHLAND COUNTY: Located in a commanding position in a bend of the upper-James River across from the picturesque old village of Cartersville, Howard's Neck Plantation, retains most of its original land, and continues in operation as a productive farm. The main complex—focusing on the Federal residence and a particularly complete set of ante-bellum outbuildings, and including gardens and grounds—offers valuable insights into the historic plantation life of Piedmont Virginia.

GENERAL DOUGLAS MAC ARTHUR MEMORIAL, NORFOLK: Norfolk's old city hall (1850-1918) and courthouse (1850-early 1960s) building was renovated to serve as a memorial and final resting place for General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, whose mother was a native of that city. The General's remains are interred under the dome of the rotunda; the remainder of the building is given over to his papers and memorabilia.