



PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FORM (PIF) for INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

Note: PIFs are prepared by applicants and evaluated by DHR staff and the State Review Board based on information known at the time of preparation. Recommendations concerning PIFs are subject to change if new information becomes available.

DHR No. (to be completed by DHR staff) 029-0002

1. General Property Information

Property name: Ash Grove
Property address: 8881 Ashgrove House Lane
City or Town: Vienna, VA
Zip code: 22182

Name of the Independent City or County where the property is located: Vienna, Virginia

Category of Property (choose only one of the following):

Building X Site Structure Object

2. Physical Aspects

Acreage: 1 acre includes the main house, garage, original kitchen and smokehouse. Fairfax County Park Authority's complete Ash Grove Park is a total of 10 acres.

Setting (choose only one of the following):

Urban Suburban X Town Village Hamlet Rural

Briefly describe the property's overall location and setting, including any notable landscape features:

Ash Grove is located in the busy area of Tysons Corner, Virginia in the city of Vienna. It is surrounded by a townhouse complex called Westwood Village, which is a gated community. The main house, garage, original kitchen and smokehouse are located on 1 acre of land, which is part of a 10 acre parcel/park owned and maintained by Fairfax County Park Authority. The 10 acre parcel includes dense woods and a pond as well as public pathways. The 1 acre where the house, garage, original kitchen and smokehouse are located in a nicely landscaped area that includes a circular driveway and brick walkways.

3. Architectural Description

Architectural Style(s): Federal

If the property was designed by an architect, landscape architect, engineer, or other professional, please list here: _____

If the builder is known, please list here: Thomas Fairfax

Date of construction (can be approximate): 1790

Narrative Description (Please do not exceed one page in describing the property):

Briefly describe the property's general characteristics, such as its current use (and historic use if different), as well as the primary building or structure on the property (such as a house, store, mill, factory, depot, bridge, etc.). Include the materials and method(s) of construction, physical appearance and condition (exterior and interior), and any additions or other major alterations.

Ash Grove is a classic federal style property with a three-story entryway and a symmetrical design of the library and parlor opposite on the first floor with the master bedroom and guest bedroom above those on the 2nd floor. There is a small "connector" room from the foyer to the formal dining room on the first floor. Above that "connector room" is a master bath with two small bedrooms above the dining room. A kitchen/family room was added to the back of the structure (year unknown). On the third floor are two additional bedrooms.

As of July 15, 2025, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved having a Resident Curator, Sheila Consaul, occupy and restore the property, so the main house is currently used as a primary residence. The original kitchen and smokehouse are used only for educational purposes.

The current exterior appearance of the structures is good given the owner of the property Fairfax County Park Authority's diligence in maintaining the exterior. The main house could use a wash, has some rotting wood corners, and wooden shutters that are missing or in need of repair. Since July 2025, the Resident Curator has completed the restoration of most of the rooms of the main house save for the master bathroom and first floor powder room.

All the structures are constructed of wood siding on a brick foundation. The method of construction is unknown due to the structures' ages. The major additions to the main house include: a kitchen/family room that stretches across the back of the house and is accessed from the dining room; a two car garage with a living space above, which is accessed through the kitchen addition; and a porch that now spans from the new kitchen across to the dining room.

In a bullet list, include any outbuildings or secondary resources or major landscape features (such as barns, sheds, dam and mill pond, storage tanks, scales, railroad spurs, etc.), including their condition and their estimated construction dates.

- *Original kitchen – restored and standing*
- *Smokehouse – restored and standing*
- *Spring house – off the current property but within the larger park and in need of repair*

4. Property's History and Significance (Please do not exceed one page)

Briefly explain the property's historic importance, such as significant events, persons, and/or families associated with the property.

If the property is important for its architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, or other aspects of design, please include a brief explanation of this aspect.

From the [Fairfax County website](#):

Ash Grove Historic Site is located between the densely wooded Old Courthouse Spring Branch stream valley and the Westwood Village townhouse subdivision. The house is conveniently located on the edge of burgeoning Tysons Corner and approximately 2/3 mile from the new Spring Hill Metro Station.

History Overview: Ash Grove is one of the few standing 18th century Virginia houses built by the Fairfax family. In 1747, Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax, moved from England to Virginia to manage the Northern Neck Proprietary, land he inherited from his mother Catherine Culpeper Fairfax. It included more than 5 million acres of land in northern Virginia. In 1742, a piece of the land was subdivided and named Fairfax County. How the Fairfax family first used the land around Ash Grove is unknown but archaeology has uncovered signs of mid-18th century occupation.

In 1788, Bryan, eighth Lord Fairfax, gave thousands of acres of land to his son Thomas Fairfax. Thomas Fairfax built the front section of the Ash Grove house around 1790. The three-story tall Ash Grove house was one room deep with a center hall flanked by parlors. Many other buildings were at Ash Grove to support the house and farm. The two surviving outbuildings were built in the late 18th century. The square wood building was a meat house and the larger brick building was the kitchen and laundry. In 1833, Thomas Fairfax gave Ash Grove and over 4,000 acres of land to his son Henry Fairfax. Henry Fairfax and his family lived at Ash Grove until his death in 1847.

In 1850, James Sherman, a New York farmer, bought Ash Grove with 241 acres of land from Henry Fairfax's estate. For nearly 150 years, generations of the Sherman family lived in and preserved Ash Grove. James Sherman's son, Franklin Sherman, married Caroline Alvord and together they raised ten children at Ash Grove. The Shermans were leaders in Fairfax County and advocated for progressive education reform. During the 20th century, the Sherman family preserved Ash Grove despite an extensive house fire in 1960. At the time of the fire the house had just been documented by the Historic American Building Survey and most of the molding, windows, and doors had been removed for restoration. The house was able to be fully restored with many of the original architectural features and a new kitchen and garage addition was added to the rear.

In 1997 the property was subdivided for Westwood Village. At that time the parcel around the historic buildings was dedicated to the Park Authority for land and building preservation. Additional parcels have been added to the park to include the wooded slope down to the Old Courthouse Spring Branch stream valley.

Please list all sources of information used to research the history of the property, such as deeds, census and tax records, and/or published articles and books. (It is not necessary to attach lengthy articles or family genealogies to this form.)

- See Fairfax County, VA [website](#)
- [Ash Grove Site Summary](#)

5. Property Ownership (Check as many categories as apply):

Private: ____ Public\Local X Public\State ____ Public\Federal ____

Current Legal Owner(s) of the Property (If the property has more than one owner, please list each below or on an additional sheet.)

name/title: Fairfax County Park Authority

organization: County of Fairfax, Virginia

street & number: 12055 Government Center Pkwy.

city or town: Fairfax state: Virginia zip code: 22035

e-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov telephone: 703.324.8700

Legal Owner's Signature: _____

Date: _____

•• *Signature required for processing all applications.* ••

In the event of corporate ownership you must provide the name and title of the appropriate contact person.

Contact person: Stephanie Langton, AICP
Resident Curator Project Manager, Fairfax County Park Authority
Daytime Telephone: (703) 324-8791

Applicant Information (Individual completing form if other than legal owner of property)

name/title: Sheila Consaul, Resident Curator

organization: _____

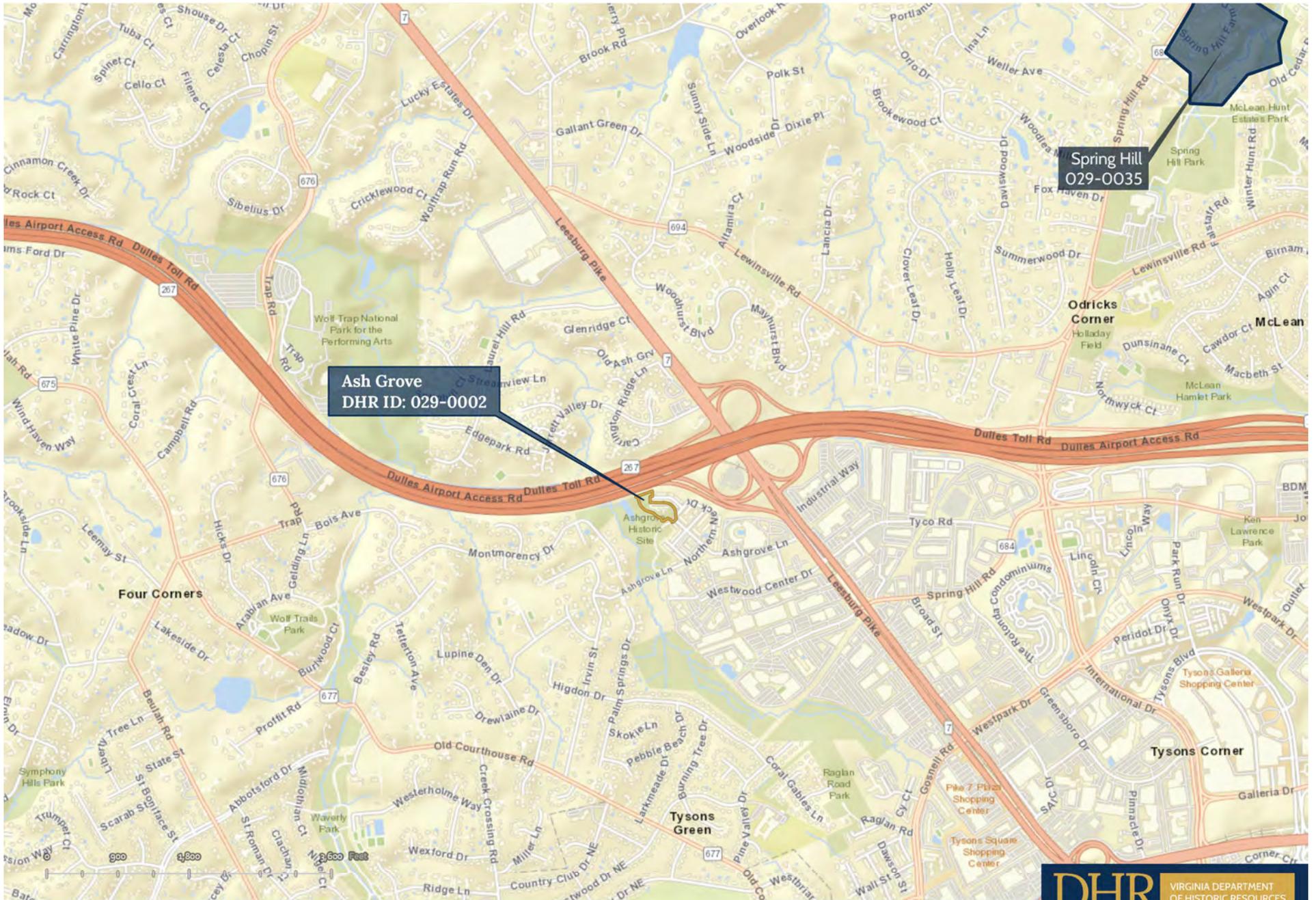
street & number: 8881 Ashgrove House Lane

city or town: Vienna state: VA zip code: 22182

e-mail: residentcuratorashgrove@gmail.com telephone: 703.391.8818

Date: Dec 17, 2025

PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH CONTINUATION SHEETS TO THIS FORM. THANK YOU!



Ash Grove
DHR ID: 029-0002

Spring Hill
029-0035

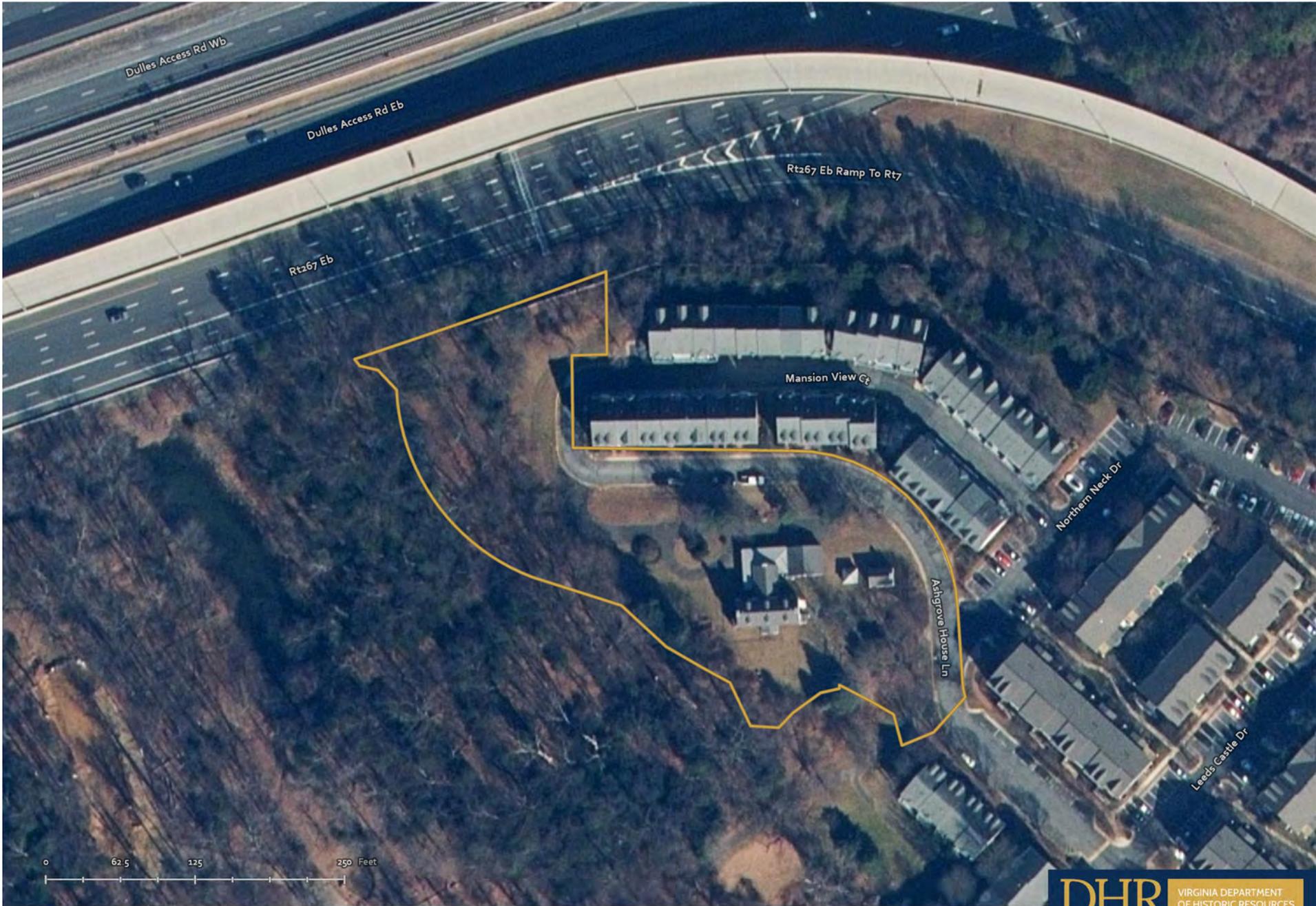
Ash Grove
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- Ash Grove
- VLR/NRHP/NHL Listed



DHR VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Created By: D. Bascone, 2/2/2026
Sources: VDHR 2026, ESRI 2026, VDOT 2026, VGIN 2026
Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.



Ash Grove
Fairfax County, Virginia
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 Ash Grove



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