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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Floris Historic District

other names/site number DHR File No.: 029-5179

2. Location

street & number Bounded by Centreville Rd., West Ox Rd., Monroe St., and Frying Pan Branch not for publication N/A

city or town Herndon

vicinity X

state Virginia

code VA

county Fairfax

code 059

zip code 20171

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide X locally. (\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official

June 29, 2010  
Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined eligible for the  
National Register

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the  
National Register

\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action 8.12.10

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	buildings
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>8</u>	<u>28</u>	structures
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>34</u>	<u>49</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 4

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling;  
EDUCATION secondary structure  
RELIGION school  
RELIGIOUS FACILITY

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling;  
RELIGION secondary structure  
FUNERARY religious facility  
CEMETERY

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Vernacular  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival; Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE; CONCRETE; STUCCO  
roof METAL; ASPHALT; WOOD  
walls WOOD; METAL; ASBESTOS; BRICK;  
SYNTHETICS: Vinyl; CONCRETE  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**Historic Function (cont.)**

FUNERARY	cemetery
AGRICULTURE	agricultural field agricultural outbuilding
EXTRACTION	extractive facility
LANDSCAPE	natural feature object

**Current Function (cont.)**

RECREATION AND CULTURE	auditorium outdoor recreation marker
AGRICULTURE	processing, storage agricultural field animal facility horticultural facility agricultural outbuilding
LANDSCAPE	parking lot park natural feature object
TRANSPORTATION	pedestrian-related

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**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION**

The Floris Historic District is located west of Washington D.C., about one mile east of Dulles International Airport, in the highly suburbanized western portion of Fairfax County, Virginia. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources includes Fairfax County in its Northern Virginia cultural region.<sup>1</sup> The tight-knit village, roughly bounded by Centreville Road (Route 657), West Ox Road (Route 608), Monroe Street (Route 666), and the Frying Pan Branch, remains as a vestige of agricultural life from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. Suburban-style development has encroached upon the district on all sides, but the most salient features remaining within the district convey the feeling of a small dairying community. Floris is represented by man-made resources such as schools, churches, farmhouses, and agricultural buildings, and the last working farm in Fairfax County, Frying Pan Farm Park, which includes agrarian buildings as well as other complementary elements such as woods, plowed fields, pastures, green spaces, and Frying Pan Branch.

The district's topography is consistent with Virginia's Piedmont, with generally slight variances in elevation at 300 to 400 feet above sea level.<sup>2</sup> The open pasture and crop fields within Frying Pan Farm Park are mostly flat. Deciduous hardwood trees buffer the district on its north side from the recently extended Frying Pan Road and recent residential development. A row of trees lining a vehicular path at the park's northeastern corner blocks the park's view of some recent residential development. This area also contains a large stormwater detention area that is used by the park for interpretation of some wildlife and natural plant and insect species. Frying Pan Branch, which winds along the northern part of the district, north of Frying Pan Meetinghouse, has played a part in the history of Floris, from use in church baptisms to rock quarrying. A small waterfall in the Frying Pan Branch on the north side of the park marks a rock outcropping where quarrying occurred in the woods. A natural rock outcropping occurs on land behind the activity center building in the equestrian area of the park.

Spatially, the district consists of a rural village centered at the intersection of Centreville Road and West Ox Road in the southwestern portion of the district, the Frying Pan Meetinghouse property in the northwestern part of the district, and two distinct farms on its eastern side, forming a large portion of the land area within the district. The village area features low-density development on variable-sized lots. Frying Pan Meetinghouse sits in a discrete area, apart from the other portions of the district. The two extant farmsteads, which have been incorporated into Frying Pan Farm Park, are spaced as late-nineteenth-century and early-twentieth-century farms would have been, with buildings and structures centered near the farmhouse and pasture and crop fields located beyond this domestic area. Today, these farms also contain elements of the park for recreation and interpretation of period farms. Floris Historic District includes 10 main contributing resources, including the site of the Lee Farm. The Lee Farm was located just south of the Frying Pan Meetinghouse and is now incorporated into one of the park's trails. The non-contributing Cherok House site is located within the district at the northeastern corner of Centreville Road and West Ox Road. Bowman's Store was located on the west side of Centreville Road, across the street from the district, but was torn down in 2008 for a road expansion project. The locations of Bowman's Store and the Cherok House are vacant and a portion of each is being utilized in the expansion of Centreville Road. Eleven main resources are included in the Floris Historic District, and six of those are located within Frying Pan Farm Park, while five are located adjacent to the park. Ten of the eleven main resources are contributing to the historic district; Cherok House Site is the only non-contributing property.

The Lee Farm, included in Frying Pan Farm Park, was located just south of the Frying Pan Meetinghouse and is now incorporated into one of the park's trails. Most of the main resources also have additional contributing and non-

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contributing components that are associated with them. The non-contributing Cherok House site is located within the district at the northeastern corner of Centreville Road and West Ox Road. Bowman's Store was located on the west side of Centreville Road, across the street from the district, but was torn down in 2008 for a road expansion project. The locations of Bowman's Store and the Cherok House are vacant and a portion of each is being utilized in the expansion of Centreville Road.

The earliest contributing resource within the district, the Frying Pan Meetinghouse, was constructed circa 1785 and reflects the beliefs of its congregation through simple late-eighteenth-century architecture. Other main contributing resources within the district range in age from the last decade of the nineteenth century to the first two decades of the twentieth century. Architectural styles tend to be subdued, vernacular examples without high-style influences. The use of stone and concrete for foundations of contributing buildings and structures is almost universal. Some residential Colonial Revival-style details and forms are evident. Residential buildings generally include the use of two-story construction, gable roofs, overhanging eaves, exterior and interior brick chimneys, mostly two-over-two sash, wood windows, and various types of porches. All dwellings have had either additions or noticeable alterations, and most have both. Stylistic details are more evident on public buildings within the district. The Floris School and the Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop exhibit features of the Colonial Revival style. The Floris Methodist Church features a simple plan with Gothic Revival-style windows and later Colonial Revival-style elements.

The district retains essential features that it possessed at the time it achieved significance. Aerial photographs and other sources show that Floris consisted of a village centered at the junction of Centreville Road and West Ox Road with farms surrounding the village area.<sup>3</sup> Over time, specific road patterns have changed; however, the basic placement and composition of the village center remains much as it did during Floris's time of significance. The district has lost some resources since its period of significance, changes have been made to the extant resources, and the creation of Frying Pan Farm Park has added non-contributing resources, but Floris Historic District maintains key elements of its late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century farming community, which stands in stark contrast to the recent suburban development which envelops the area.

**Inventory**

In the following inventory, which is listed numerically by Virginia Department of Historic Resources architectural inventory numbers, all resources, primary and secondary, have been considered either contributing or non-contributing based upon the areas of significance as listed under Criterion C with ARCHITECTURE and Criterion A with AGRICULTURE and based upon the period of significance as circa 1785 – 1960. All non-contributing resources have, therefore, been so noted for being either constructed after 1960 or as having no integrity left to represent the period and areas of significance. The resources are keyed by the listed numbers to the accompanying sketch map.

A large portion of the district's land area is contained within, what is today, Frying Pan Farm Park. The park, operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority, began in 1960 with the acquisition of 4.5 acres. Additional resources and land have been added throughout the years. The park's mission is to preserve and interpret a 1920s through 1950s farm, agricultural processes, rural community life, and landscape.<sup>4</sup> The park consists of the Kidwell and Ellmore farmsteads, equestrian facilities, agricultural fair facilities, two early-twentieth-century schools, the Lee Farm site, and the eighteenth-century Frying Pan Meetinghouse. The historical resources within the Frying Pan Farm Park are associated

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with the individual farms and other properties within the park based on the property lines circa 1930s when dairying farming was at its height in Fairfax County. The park features elements of a traditional park, such as benches, trash cans, restrooms, pole lights, pedestrian paths, and information kiosks, which slightly inflate the number of non-contributing resources, though these do not detract from the district's overall historic appearance. The park currently has within its boundaries 34 contributing resources.

Other resources within the district are located adjacent to the park, centered at the intersection of Centreville Road and West Ox Road, and represent late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century village life in Floris. Additional contributing resources to the district include three houses (the Stover House, the Fox House, and the Higgins House) and the Floris Methodist Church. The Cheroke House (Cockerill-McFarland House) site is located within the district, but is considered non-contributing. Bowman's Store (029-0262), located at 2628 Centreville Road, was a key part of community life during the district's period of significance. Built in 1893 according to land tax records, the wood frame, two-story, Italianate-style house faced north. An addition was added at its rear in 1901 and a storefront addition faced Centreville Road. The building was demolished in 2008 for a road expansion project and the resource was excluded from inclusion in the district.

Floris Historic District is made up of the following main resources:

**Frying Pan Farm Park**

- 1) Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270)
- 2) Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268)
- 3) Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop (029-5179-0004; 029-0274)
- 4) Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204)
- 5) Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862)
- 6) Frying Pan Meetinghouse (029-5179-0012; 029-0015)

**Adjacent Properties to the Frying Pan Farm Park**

- 7) Higgins House (029-5179-0006; 029-0267)
- 8) Fox House (029-5179-0007; 029-0420)
- 9) Cheroke House/Cockerill-McFarland House Site (029-5179-0008; 029-0419)
- 10) Floris Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263)
- 11) Stover House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264)

**FRYING PAN FARM PARK**

**Ellmore Farm (029-0270; 029-5179-0001)  
2739 West Ox Road**

1. The *Ellmore Farmhouse* is a wood frame, two-story, side-gabled I-house sheathed in aluminum siding.<sup>5</sup> The rear of the main block features three two-story additions: a rear gabled ell, a shed-roofed infill addition, and a full-width, flat-

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roofed rear addition. An open shed-roofed porch that may have been screened at one time extends at the rear of the house. An enclosed staircase on the northwest side of the house was added in the twentieth century. The building rests on a solid, concrete-covered foundation and is topped by a recent standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves, aluminum soffit, fascia, and shutters. Two-over-two double-hung sash wood windows, light most of the house, however, paired and three-part six-over-six double-hung sash windows light the rear of the addition. An interior brick chimney rises on the rear ell and an exterior brick chimney rises on the southeast elevation of the main block. A post-1954 replacement front porch features Colonial Revival-style detailing.

c.1896

(Contributing building)

2. The **Ellmore barn** has been used as the park's visitor center since c.2005 and was previously converted from a barn into use as a church building in 1989 by the Chantilly Bible Church.<sup>6</sup> These functional changes have resulted in additions and alterations to the original barn. The barn once consisted of a gabled main block with shed extensions on its north and east elevations. Today, additional extensions appear at the rear (north elevation) of the building with noticeable one-story additions on the front and west elevations to accommodate the visitor center. However, the window fenestration, sheathing materials, and paint color mimic the original main block. The wood frame building is sheathed in board-and-batten siding and topped by a standing-seam-metal roof. A second-story door in the front gable was converted into a large, four-part, circular window. A hay hood extension of the front gable remains. The interior of the main gabled block is used as an auditorium today, and consists of open space with exposed support members.

c.1900

(Contributing building)

3. **Bathrooms**, constructed for park visitors, sit near the Ellmore Barn. The gable-roofed concrete building mimics the appearance of vertical wood siding.

2008

(Non-contributing building)

4. A recently constructed **picnic pavilion** has a steel-beam support structure.

2008

(Non-contributing structure)

5. **Pasture and crop fields**, located between the Ellmore and Kidwell farms, significantly contribute to the significance and eligibility of the district. The ordered agricultural space and field patterns that remain intact continue to be farmed and stand in sharp contrast to the highly developed land surrounding Floris.

(Contributing site)

6. A wood frame **pig run-in**, surrounded by a fenced area, is wood-sided and topped by a 5V-metal roof.

2003

(Non-contributing structure)

7. A small, wood frame **outbuilding**, located between the pig furrowing pen and the pig run-in and used as a pig nursery, features a front-gabled metal roof and is sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding.

2002

(Non-contributing structure)

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8. A frame *run-in shed*, located behind the property between the Ellmore and Kidwell farms, features a metal shed roof. 1998

(*Non-contributing structure*)

**Kidwell Farm (029-0268; 029-5179-0002)**  
**2709 West Ox Road**

9. The *Kidwell Farmhouse* consists of a side-gabled, two-story main block with a center gable front extension and a rear ell.<sup>7</sup> A one-story shed-roofed addition attached to the rear of the house features a modern handicapped-accessible ramp. A wrap-around porch is located on the front elevation and one side elevation and features turned posts and brackets. Two central brick chimneys rise through the recent standing-seam metal roof. The frame, wood-sided house rests on a solid stone foundation. Wood, two-over-two double-hung sash windows light the house. Recent renovations removed stucco covering to reveal the original wood siding. A bathroom added c.1950 in the front porch area was also removed.

c.1900

(*Contributing building*)

10. A *workshop* with a park office on its east side is located behind the Kidwell Farmhouse. The wood-sided, side-gabled building features a rear, shed-roofed extension sheathed in board-and-batten siding. Aluminum soffit and fascia covers the overhanging eaves of the workshop's 5V-metal roof. The front elevation has two double-leaf garage doors on the west side and an office door opens on the east side.

pre-1937

(*Contributing building*)

11. A front-gabled frame *shed* located behind the dwelling is sheathed in wood siding with fish-scale wood shingles that match the house's front gable. The building is covered by a metal roof.

c.1900

(*Contributing building*)

12. A *stone retaining wall* runs along West Ox Road at the front of the house and wraps around and into the driveway.

pre-1937

(*Contributing structure*)

13. A similar *stone wall* encloses a flower bed behind the house.

pre-1937

(*Contributing structure*)

14. A recently built *cider press barn* stands near the blacksmith shop and houses a c.1928 cider press brought from another property outside of Floriss. It is meant to represent a significant component of Fairfax County's agricultural production within the district's period of significance. The frame side-gabled, two-story barn, sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding, is topped by a new metal roof. Large sliding wood doors open to exhibit the press.

2006

(*Non-contributing building*)



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15. The *Kidwell Barn* is a reconstructed two-and-one-half-story barn sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding and topped by a gambrel roof. A large gable-roofed section is attached on the rear elevation.

1975

*(Non-contributing building)*

16. The *Middleton Barn*, moved from another site in Floriss, was originally attached to a bank barn. The two-and-a-half-story, side-gabled building is topped by a metal roof. Sheathed in wood siding, the building also features large, wood, sliding doors.

2002

*(Non-contributing building)*

17. A large *information kiosk* near the Middleton Barn has a wood floor with wood posts and is topped by a pyramidal roof.

c.1997

*(Non-contributing structure)*

18. A large, wood frame, modern *machine shed*, built near the Middleton Barn to house the park farm's equipment, features board-and-batten wood siding and large sliding doors.

2006

*(Non-contributing building)*

19. A reconstructed *corn crib* is located next to the machine shed. The structure, made of wood and chicken wire, rests on a concrete pier foundation and is topped by a 5V-metal roof. The corn crib was made to resemble a nineteenth-century corn crib found on the neighboring Middleton Farm.

1987, 2003

*(Non-contributing structure)*

20. A wood frame *outhouse*, moved in 1997 from the Middleton farm, and sheathed in board-and-batten siding, features a shed roof topped with wood shingles. A single-leaf board-and-batten door opens on the front elevation.

*(Non-contributing building)*

21. A reconstructed wood frame *dairy* sits between a smokehouse and a shed. Based on a 1920s-era building, the side-gabled dairy, topped by a metal roof and sheathed in wood siding, sits on a concrete foundation. A large, exterior, brick chimney rises on the rear elevation. Two- and three-light vertical wood windows light the building.

1920s, 1997

*(Non-contributing building)*

22. A wood frame *smokehouse*, moved from the Murphy dairy farm off Frying Pan Road in 1987, sits east of the dairy. The side-gabled structure is sheathed in board-and-batten siding and topped with a metal roof.

1987

*(Non-contributing building)*

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23. A wood frame side-gabled *shed*, sheathed in wood siding, is topped by a 5V-metal roof and features a center-gabled porch.

2003

*(Non-contributing building)*

24. A wood frame animal *run-in* sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding is topped by a 5V-metal roof.

c.1993

*(Non-contributing structure)*

25. A wood frame, shed-roofed *rabbit hutch*, sheathed in T-111 wood siding, is topped with asphalt shingles.

2008

*(Non-contributing structure)*

26. A wood frame *chicken house* is sheathed in T-111 wood siding, wood boards, and chicken wire and topped by a 5V-metal roof.

c.2001

*(Non-contributing structure)*

27. A reconstructed wood frame *chicken house*, constructed with a partial tall ceiling to allow caretakers easier access, features an exterior penned area for chickens, board-and-batten siding, and nine-light casement windows.

c.2001

*(Non-contributing structure)*

28. A wood-framed animal *run-in*, sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding, is topped by a shed roof.

1996

*(Non-contributing structure)*

29. *Turkey/duck/peacock pens* made of wood posts and boards with wire have small shed-roofed shelters within.

1998

*(Non-contributing structure)*

30. The *antique machine shed* was constructed for the park from plans dating to the historic district's period of significance to house antique machinery. The wood frame shed-roofed building is open on one side and features an enclosed center gable section. The structure is sheathed in board-and-batten wood siding and topped by a 5V-metal roof.

1997

*(Non-contributing building)*

31. A *pig furrowing pen* sits next to the antique machine shed. The small, wood frame, metal-sheathed structure is topped by a metal roof.

2001

*(Non-contributing structure)*

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32. A *cell tower* rises in the woods near the upper riding ring. The non-conspicuous tower consists solely of a straight metal pole.

*c.2000*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

33. The *activity center* is a large gabled building with shed-roofed extensions on its sides and large dormer-like features on its roof. The building is metal-sided and roofed and rests on a concrete-block foundation. The interior consists of a large animal show area and offices along the sides. A gravel warm-up ring is located on the exterior's west elevation.

*1979*

*(Non-contributing building)*

34. The *upper riding ring* is enclosed with a two-board, wood fence and features two bleachers and one booth.

*1976*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

35. Wood *bee hives* are located near the activity center.

*1999*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

36 & 37. Two gable-roofed, wood frame, *prefabricated sheds* are topped with asphalt shingles and sheathed in T-111, wood siding.

*c.2000*

*(Two non-contributing buildings)*

38. An *equestrian course* consisting of jumps made from natural features, stone, and wood is located on land associated with the Kidwell and Ellmore Farms.

*post-1974*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

39. A *blacksmith shop* (029-0275; 029-5179-0003), Frying Pan Blacksmith Shop/Moffett Blacksmith Shop, built in 1912, was moved to the park in 1975 from the nearby town of Herndon and reassembled. The frame, wood-sided, side-gabled building, topped by a corrugated metal roof, features an interior brick chimney. Six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows light the building and double-leaf sliding doors with six-light windows in each open on the front elevation.

*1912*

*(Non-contributing building)*

**Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop (029-0274; 029-5179-0004)**  
**2709 West Ox Road**

40. Currently used as Frying Pan Farm Park's Country Store, the *Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop*, was constructed in 1920, at about the same time as the high school itself (no longer extant). The frame, hipped-roof building, clad in drop wood siding, sits north of the Floris School. A cupola and a brick chimney rise through the

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recent standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter tails. Sliding doors face West Ox Road and Kidwell Farm. A wood-paneled pedestrian door faces West Ox Road. Replacement paired wood windows with vinyl screen windows light the building. A porch that wraps around from the front elevation to a side elevation was added in the school's conversion to a store in 1961. Although the conversion to a store was done in recent years, the building's appearance continues to document its linkage to education.

1920

*(Contributing building)*

**Floris School (029-0204; 029-5179-0005)**  
**2709 West Ox Road**

41. The one-story *Floris School*, constructed in the Colonial Revival style, has a hipped roof with overhanging eaves and rests on a solid, poured-concrete foundation. Two, wide, brick, interior chimneys and a pyramid-roofed cupola rise through an asphalt-shingled roof. The stretcher-bond brick building's symmetrical front elevation features a tall concrete watertable and a concrete area near the roofline. A center, double-leaf front door with a large transom is flanked by two series of three nine-over-nine, double-hung sash windows. A large arch capped by a keystone dated 1911 and multi-light windows top the door. The interior of the building retains its basic room plan and its doorways have original transoms.

1911

*(Contributing building)*

42. Gable-roofed *bathrooms*, located near the Floris School, are constructed of concrete with a brick exterior.

1961, 2008

*(Non-contributing building)*

43. The large *4-H building*, built to commemorate the Fairfax County 4-H Fair held on site since 1948, is a corrugated metal building with a large front-gabled center with lower side sections. The interior is divided into stalls and has a concrete floor.

c.1960

*(Contributing building)*

44. A *storage box* for items related to dog shows sits near the lower riding ring.

c.1998

*(Non-contributing structure)*

45. The *lower riding ring* is an oval, gravel area surrounded by a low, two-board wood fence. The ring is also surrounded by light poles, booths, and bleachers.

1976

*(Non-contributing structure)*

46. A *shed*, located behind the 4-H building, is frame and covered in T-111 wood siding with a shed roof.

c.1994

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(Non-contributing building)

47. A *stone retaining wall* is found in front of the Floris School along West Ox Road.

c.1910

(Contributing structure)

48 & 49. Two *prefabricated wood frame sheds*, located in a play area beside the school, are gable-roofed and sheathed in T-111 wood siding.

c.2000

(Two non-contributing buildings)

**Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862)**

**2621 Centreville Road**

**(within Frying Pan Farm Park)**

50. Located on the east side of Centreville Road, the site features no extant buildings or structures. An open area at the edge of the woods features domestic vegetation that seems to mark the former location of the farm. This site is the former location of the Lee Farm. The house was apparently torn down in the early 1980s. Historically associated with the African American Lee family, the house and its dependencies are no longer extant. The site, however, is still evidenced by a cleared area and domestic vegetation. A park entrance off Centreville Road is located here.

pre-1900

(Contributing site)

51. A wood frame, *prefabricated gambrel-roofed shed*, located behind the 4-H building, is sheathed in T-111 wood siding and topped by an asphalt-shingled roof.

1998

(Non-contributing building)

52. A *diesel tank shelter* sits behind the 4-H building. The structure consists of a gable roof supported by wood posts on a concrete base.

c.1990

(Non-contributing structure)

**Frying Pan Meetinghouse (029-0015; 029-5179-0012)**

**2615 Centreville Road**

53. Deeded to the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1984 and located within Frying Pan Farm Park, the individually National Register-listed *Frying Pan Meetinghouse* is also named Frying Pan Old School Baptist Church, and Frying Pan Spring Meetinghouse. Built between 1783 and 1791, the meetinghouse stands on its original site, with its cemetery,

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a spring and a baptismal pond on Frying Pan Branch, at least three original stone boundary markers, and a twentieth-century outhouse. With the exception of a nineteenth-century interior balcony and stairs and a recent restoration, the

meetinghouse has not seen any major changes to its materials or design. The building's plain style matches the beliefs of

the Baptist congregation who constructed it. The rectangular Frying Pan Meetinghouse consists of a one-room, one-and-a-half-story, post-and-beam building with an exterior sheathed in lapped pine clapboards painted white. A wood-framed, side-gabled roof, which is flush on the gable ends and overhangs slightly on the front and rear elevations, is covered with wood shingles. The building rests on a stone foundation. The front elevation features a centered six-over-six double-hung sash window flanked by two doors and two, replacement, symmetrical, four-light windows on the second story. Additional windows and doors appear on the other elevations. An interior brick chimney located at the middle edge of the front elevation is a replacement. Some of the building's features, such as windows and sheathing materials, were replaced in-kind during the aggressive restoration effort in 2005. Other renovations are documented throughout the life of the building.

*c.1785*

*(Contributing building to Frying Pan Meeting House National Register nomination)*

54. A **cemetery**<sup>8</sup> adjoins the meetinghouse on its east side, with the exception of the graves of two Hutchisons, a husband and wife, located south of the church near the property boundary. The cemetery has an unordered appearance and contains a mixture of marked and unmarked graves. The cemetery site topography is relatively level near the church and descends a gentle slope eastward before rising again in elevation. Most of the gravestones are small fieldstone markers and comprise both head and footstones. Graves located on the downward slope are marked with roughly shaped stones and rocks. The portion of the cemetery near the meetinghouse is now well tended, but this has not always been the case. The level of craftsmanship ranges from initials scratched into fieldstone to professionally carved mortuary art. The initials CFI were carved on the headstone of an unidentified individual whose grave is located beyond the downward slope. In contrast, neatly carved on the top of the granite headstone for Samuel W. Hutchison is the word "FATHER." Carved on the face of the stone at the top is a mortuary art pattern of leaves on branches with flowers. Within the center of the art is a banner with the words "PEACE BE THINE." Following historic Christian burial practices, the burial chambers in the Frying Pan Baptist Meetinghouse cemetery orient along an east-west axis. The headstones are situated towards the west, and footstones, if they exist, are situated towards the east. Also following historic Christian burial practices, the wife is buried to the left of her husband. African American graves, segregated from others, are located in the southeast corner of the original lot. This area, situated outside the current Frying Pan Baptist Meetinghouse parcel boundary as delineated on the Fairfax County tax maps, is located on the adjacent parcel also owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The African American burial area is currently overgrown with an understory of briars and groundcover. Several possible grave markers were identified that appear to be made of cementitious material poured into a hole. Evidence to suggest when the church began using a portion of the churchyard for burials is sparse. While many of the carvings on the gravestones have worn away, or were possibly never engraved, the earliest legible date of death is May 20, 1884 on the marker of Samuel F. Ellmore. It has been noted that Mortimer Lane, a Private in Company B of Mosby's Rangers, was buried in the cemetery in an unmarked grave. Mortimer died in 1910. The most recent date of death that can be discerned on a gravestone is November 2, 1938 on the marker for Mary Alice Hutchison. Perhaps burials were discontinued in the cemetery.

*c.1884*

*(Contributing site to Frying Pan Meeting House National Register nomination)*

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55. A manmade **baptismal pond** is denoted by a depression in the woods behind the church, near Frying Pan Run.  
*c.1797*

*(Contributing site to the Frying Pan Meeting House National Register nomination)*

56. Three boundary markers denoting the edges of the original meetinghouse lot appear near the church. A **small stone** with recent fencing is located near Centreville Road.

*c.1847*

*(Contributing object)*

57. The second marker, a very **large rock**, is located in the woods not far from the baptismal pond.

*c.1797*

*(Contributing object)*

58. An **outhouse** is located behind the meetinghouse and cemetery within thick woods. The simple, concrete-block building is topped by a corrugated metal, shed roof. A matching outhouse nearby was torn down.

*c.1960*

*(Contributing building)*

59. A **spring**, located north of the meetinghouse, is lined with dry-laid local fieldstone in an oval shape.

*c.1785*

*(Contributing structure)*

60. The third marker, a **pile of stones**, marks the southeastern corner.

*c.1797*

*(Contributing object to the Frying Pan Meeting House National Register nomination)*

**Additional Resources Within Frying Pan Farm Park Boundaries**

61. A **farm pond** was restored by the park and now sits in the woods at the rear between the Ellmore and Kidwell Farms.

*c.1935*

*(Contributing structure)*

62. A **rock outcropping** along Frying Pan Branch at the rear of the park denotes the site of rock quarrying.

*c.1937*

*(Contributing site)*

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ADJACENT PROPERTIES TO THE FRYING PAN FARM PARK

**Higgins House (029-0267; 029-5179-0006)**

**2705 West Ox Road**

63. The *Higgins House* is a wood frame, side-gabled dwelling sheathed in asbestos shingles and resting on a stone foundation with a stucco covering. A standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves covers the symmetrical, two-story house. A cornice board adorns the front elevation and raking cornice boards on the side elevations feature partial returns. Decorative boards adorn the corners of the main block. Two-over-two, wood, double-hung sash windows light the first floor and six-over-six windows light the second story. The one-story front porch is not original and is in severely deteriorating condition. The front door is wood-paneled and features one large light. A long shed-roofed addition is attached at the rear of the dwelling.

*c.1905*

*(Contributing building)*

64. A concrete-block *pump house* sits behind the dwelling. The front-gabled structure features wood siding in the gables, a board-and-batten front door, and is topped by a 5V-metal roof.

*c.1950*

*(Contributing structure)*

65. Located behind the dwelling on the east side of the driveway, a deteriorating wood frame *outbuilding* features a metal shed roof and is sheathed in board-and-batten siding.

*post-1905*

*(Contributing building)*

66. Behind the dwelling and other outbuildings are two horse barns and a pasture. One *barn* is a small, wood frame, side-gabled building with one-and-one-half stories that rests on a solid stone foundation.

*c.1905*

*(Contributing building)*

67. The second *barn* is a long, modern, side-gabled building with multiple horse stalls.

*c.1975*

*(Non-contributing building)*

68. Located behind the dwelling on the west side of the driveway, a frame *horse shelter* is topped by asphalt shingles.

*c.1975*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

**Fox House (029-0420; 029-5179-0007)**

**2703 West Ox Road**

69. The *Fox House*, a Colonial Revival-style, two-story, side-gabled dwelling, faces Centreville Road. Almost symmetrical, the front elevation features a center door flanked by two windows with three second-floor windows. Stone steps lead to a front porch supported by battered wood posts with an arched ceiling sheltering the front door. The



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wood frame building, sheathed in aluminum siding, rests on a solid, stone foundation. The roof of the main block is covered in 5V metal and features overhanging eaves. Two-over-two, double-hung sash windows with wood surrounds light the house. The south gable end of the house facing West Ox Road includes an enclosed stone porch with multi-light wood windows and an exterior flower bed. A two-story, shed-roofed addition extends to the rear, and a one-story addition is attached on the north elevation of the rear addition.

*c.1900*

*(Contributing building)*

70. A **stone retaining wall** parallels West Ox Road.

*c.1900*

*(Contributing structure)*

71. A one-story, wood frame, side-gabled **outbuilding** with a corrugated metal roof and asbestos shingle siding sits north of the dwelling and rests on a solid, stone foundation. The building features two-over-two and four-over-four wood windows with wood surrounds and a paneled-wood front door.

*Post-1900*

*(Contributing building)*

72. A one-story, wood frame, front-gabled **garage** sits along West Ox Road east of the dwelling. Topped by a corrugated metal roof with exposed rafter tails, asbestos shingles cover the exterior. A gable opening appears on the rear elevation and beaded-board, double-leaf doors open on the front elevation.

*Post-1900*

*(Contributing building)*

73. A gable-roofed **well house** sits west of the dwelling. The structure features a stone base, wood posts, a concrete floor, and an asphalt-shingled roof.

*Post-1900*

*(Contributing structure)*

74. An **ornamental well house** sits along West Ox Road and features an octagonal wood frame and a wood-shingled gable roof.

*c.2000*

*(Non-contributing structure)*

**Cherok House/Cockerill-McFarland House Site (029-0419; 029-5179-0008)**  
**2633 Centreville Road**

75. The Cherok House, described in an architectural survey as a Victorian-style, front-gabled house with several additions, is no longer extant. The site included at least one outbuilding. Currently the site is vacant and a portion of the lot was utilized in the expansion of Centreville Road.

*c.1905*

*(Non-contributing site)*

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**Floris Methodist Church (029-0263; 029-5179-0009)  
2629 Centreville Road**

76. The *Floris Methodist Church*, constructed in 1895, features several later additions and alterations at its front and rear elevations. The original wood frame block is front-gabled with an added front, centered tower and steeple. Sheathed in beveled-wood, clapboard siding, the building rests on a solid, stone rubble foundation. A standing-seam-metal roof with exposed rafter tails covers the church. Gothic windows with pink textured glass light the main block and

Colonial Revival-style detailing adorns the entrance area. An interior, brick chimney rises through the roof on the main block. The first addition at the rear features the same wood siding found on the main block and two-over-two wood windows light the section. A large rear addition features vinyl siding, vinyl windows, and two-over-two, horizontal wood windows. Multiple shed-roofed additions and a screened patio area extend to the rear. A large asphalt parking lot abuts the church on its south elevation, and children's play areas are located south of the church at the edge of the parking lot.

1895

*(Contributing building)*

**Stover House (029-0264;029-5179-0010)  
2625 Centreville Road**

77. The two-story, wood frame *Stover House*, located north of the Methodist church, features a main block with two sections: a front-gabled roof on the north side and a side-gabled roof on the south side. A two-story front porch supported by simple wood posts extends the length of the front façade and the rear elevation includes a one-story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch. Standing-seam metal covers the roof and the frame house is sheathed in aluminum siding. The symmetrical side-gabled section of the front elevation features a center door with Colonial Revival-style detailing flanked by two, two-over-two windows. The second story features three, six-over-six casement windows that simulate a frieze band. Vinyl shutters adorn all windows on the first-floor front and side elevations of the main block. The front-gabled section of the front elevation features two, first-floor, two-over-two windows and a second-story window that has been bisected by the porch roofline. A corbelled brick chimney rises on the interior between the two sections of the main block, and an exterior corbelled brick chimney rises at the rear of the side-gabled section through the rear porch.

c.1895

*(Contributing building)*

78. A wood frame, front-gabled *garage*, located beside the neighboring church, is sheathed in wood siding and topped by a standing-seam metal roof with overhanging eaves. A double-leaf, metal garage door opens on the front elevation and the building rests on a concrete floor.

c.1950

*(Contributing building)*

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79. A wood frame, front-gabled *shed* clad in wood siding is located slightly north of the garage. The building may have had a domestic use, as evidenced by a corbelled, interior, brick chimney that rises through the standing seam-metal roof with exposed rafter tails. Six-light windows light the building and a paneled door opens on the front elevation.

*c.1930*

*(Contributing building)*

80. A wood frame, shed-roofed *shed* is located behind the dwelling in a fenced area. Topped by a standing seam-metal roof, the building features exposed rafter tails and vertical wood siding.

*c.1930*

*(Contributing building)*

81. A frame, shed-roofed *outbuilding*, located within the fenced area appears to have been an outhouse.

*c.1975*

*(Contributing building)*

82-87. Approximately six *shed-roofed structures* function as horse stalls within the fenced area behind the dwelling. The frame structures appear to have been built at various times with slightly different materials. A small grazing area lies behind the stalls.

*c.1975*

*(Six non-contributing structures)*

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance circa 1785-circa 1960

Significant Dates circa 1785

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Floris Historic District, located in western Fairfax County, Virginia, is locally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of agriculture for its representation of the development of a community based on dairy farming production in Northern Virginia from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries.<sup>9</sup> The rise of dairy farming in Virginia, and Fairfax County in particular, continues to be represented by the development patterns and architecture of Floris as the center of a vibrant dairying community. The district is also recommended eligible for listing under Criterion C for its architectural significance and features styles consistent with its period of significance, including Early Republic/Vernacular, Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, and other vernacular forms from the late eighteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries. The district's period of significance spans from circa 1785, the construction date of the earliest building the Frying Pan Meetinghouse, through the development of the dominant dairy farming industry and construction of Floris as a cohesive village, to circa 1960 with the creation of Frying Pan Farm Park, clearly marking the downturn in Fairfax County dairying.

**DETAILED HISTORY**

**Floris/Frying Pan**

European settlement of the Floris community, known originally as Frying Pan, began in the early eighteenth century, with large numbers of settlers arriving by the 1780s.<sup>10</sup> The Frying Pan vicinity, placed in Loudoun County with the drawing of its eastern boundary line in 1757, did not become a part of Fairfax County until 1798, when the line was redrawn to its present configuration.<sup>11</sup> Throughout the 1700s, the land now comprising Floris was owned by multiple generations of the Carter family, an extremely influential and wealthy early Virginia dynasty, with land holdings that stretched well beyond Frying Pan.<sup>12</sup> In the early years, the Carters rented their holdings at Frying Pan to tenant farmers for tobacco production and, for a short time, operated a copper mine.<sup>13</sup> As early as 1783, Robert Carter set aside land for a group of Baptists to construct a meetinghouse.<sup>14</sup> Built between 1783 and 1791, this individually listed National Register property stands at 2615 Centreville Road and is a contributing resource to the historic district (029-5179-0012, photograph 1). Today, the property includes its cemetery, a spring and the site of a baptismal pond on Frying Pan Branch, at least three original stone boundary markers, and a twentieth-century outhouse. From the group's inception, the congregation welcomed African Americans, both free and slave, and the church's cemetery includes the unmarked burials of African-American members in a separate area.<sup>15</sup>

Soon after construction of the meetinghouse, diarist John Davis wrote an account of Frying Pan, which he described as "four log huts and a meetinghouse."<sup>16</sup> With the exception of the meetinghouse property, no extant resources within the district represent the period between the late eighteenth century and the late nineteenth century. This may be illustrative of the fact that the region experienced a downturn as prominent land developers, such as the Carter family, passed away, the soil became depleted from overuse, and farmers moved south and west to new lands.<sup>17</sup> The *Frying Pan Farm Park Cultural Landscape Report* explains the Frying Pan region in the nineteenth century as growth began anew:

In the 1840s, immigrants from the North began to move into Virginia and bought up the fallow land, using white laborers to farm it. Gradually, the area began to recover, with former subsistence-level agricultural practices shifting to a more diversified and commerce-based economy. The establishment of improved

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transportation systems, including better roads and new railroad lines, spurred growth in the area during this period.<sup>18</sup>

The 1878 G.M. Hopkins map provides a snapshot of Frying Pan after the interruption of the Civil War, but just prior to its development as a major dairying center.<sup>19</sup> The road network is recognizable in much the same configuration as it is today, with West Ox Road, Centreville Road, and Monroe Street essentially forming the south, west, and east lines of the district. Within the district, only a schoolhouse, the Andrew Lee House (029-5179-0011), and the Frying Pan Meetinghouse are depicted, and of these resources only the meetinghouse remains today. The school, one in a series of buildings erected for the education of the community's white children, was most likely a one-room building constructed in 1876.<sup>20</sup> The Andrew Lee House and the later Stover/Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010, photograph 15) represent the African American presence in the farming community.<sup>21</sup> Intermixed African-American communities had also developed during the pre-Civil War period, just north and south of Frying Pan.<sup>22</sup>

The Frying Pan post office was established in 1889.<sup>23</sup> By this time, Frying Pan had become a rural vacation destination for residents of Washington, D.C. Some attribute a c.1892 change in the village's name from Frying Pan to Floris to the dissatisfaction of visitors with the settlement's original name.<sup>24</sup>

Reconstruction period legislation led to the development of separate schools for white and black children in the Floris community.<sup>25</sup> A white school was constructed on West Ox Road in 1876 and a black school was built at the corner of Centreville Road and Frying Pan Road in 1878. A two-room school replaced the one-room white school in 1900 and that was replaced in 1911 with the extant four-room, brick building (029-5179-0005, photograph 11).<sup>26</sup> The Floris School stands as a well-preserved example of early-twentieth-century, Colonial Revival-style school architecture and continues to support educational and community functions as a part of Frying Pan Farm Park. The school originally housed elementary classes and two years of high school.<sup>27</sup> The three-story Floris Vocational Technical High School for white students opened next to the 1911 Floris School in 1920 and consisted of "eight classrooms, an auditorium, a small gymnasium, a kitchen, and restrooms."<sup>28</sup> Consolidation of area high schools to nearby Herndon occurred in 1930, and with the students' removal, the three-story school elementary school, and the one-story building was used for storage.<sup>29</sup> The Fairfax County Park Authority tore down the 1920 high school building in the 1960s for development of Frying Pan Park.<sup>30</sup> At about the same time as the construction of the high school building, a wooden building was constructed for the school's agriculture classes and shop work.<sup>31</sup> This building also retains a high level of physical integrity and is used as the park's country store (029-5179-0004, photograph 12). A new elementary school opened in Floris in 1955 outside the district boundaries.<sup>32</sup>

An August 1930 map of Fairfax County depicts a quarry on Frying Pan Branch, which would have been the site of the McNair Farm, on the north side of today's Frying Pan Farm Park.<sup>33</sup> Today, a rock outcropping along Frying Pan Branch marks the rock quarry (photograph 8).

**Dairy Farming**

The market for dairy products in nearby Washington, D.C. began to grow in the late nineteenth century.<sup>34</sup> The trend has been attributed to several factors, including: 1) the concentration of the population in cities that created practical markets for specialized farm products, 2) the post-Civil War interest in scientific farming, 3) the introduction of the railroad into outlying areas, and 4) community cooperation.<sup>35</sup> As a result, outlying rural areas, such as Floris, shifted from diversified agricultural production toward a dairying specialization to meet this new demand. "A local historian

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and dairy farmer, Harry Middleton, has estimated that there were around 214 dairy farms in the Floris area just before World War II.<sup>36</sup> Individual accounts of people who lived in Floris during the first half of the twentieth century confirm the importance of dairy farming to the community.<sup>37</sup> Cow herds of Holsteins, Guernseys, and Jerseys typically comprised the stock of Floris farms.<sup>38</sup>

Transportation conditions affected the ability of farmers to get their products to market. For Floris farmers, transporting milk from farm to market generally included two main steps: getting the milk from the farm to the train station and the rail trip from the station to market. As late as 1918, few paved roads existed in Fairfax County, but by 1930, the major roads in western Fairfax County were surfaced.<sup>39</sup> These improvements helped farmers get their products to the train station for the rest of the journey. The Washington and Old Dominion Railroad (W&OD), with a station in nearby Herndon, ran from Bluemont in western Loudoun County to the Washington area, and served the Floris community throughout the heyday of dairying.<sup>40</sup> This line, which even ran a daily milk train, was instrumental in conveying milk to the city.<sup>41</sup> During the early years of dairy production, the milk was transported by horse and wagon to the train station, but the first half of the twentieth century saw a gradual transformation to motorized vehicles.<sup>42</sup> "More standardization occurred through the years, to the point in the 1950s where large tractor trailers would visit each dairy farm and load up the pasteurized milk products, thereby saving the farmer daily trips to the train station."<sup>43</sup>

"From the extracurricular activities in the schools, the 4-H programs, the meetings of the Grange, the PTA, and ladies church groups, literally everyone had a stake in Floris's success as one of the top milk producers in Fairfax County in the early to mid-twentieth century."<sup>44</sup> Community cooperation also came through the formation of agricultural groups such as the Farmers Club and the Grange, and when "farmers banded together to finance needed improvement of Centreville Road and large dairy barns were constructed."<sup>45</sup>

Better technology, equipment, and farming methods added to the forces behind the amazing growth of the local dairy industry. Improvements in harvesters and plows, the transition to gasoline-powered machinery, and ultimately, the introduction of the all-purpose tractor in 1924 aided in the speed with which large crops could be planted and harvested to support dairying.<sup>46</sup> "Mechanized milking equipment was developed around 1900 but not universally adopted until the 1920s."<sup>47</sup> The electricity to run some of the new technology was not available in Floris until the 1920s, and the Lee and McNair families of Floris, for example, wired their houses in 1925.<sup>48</sup>

With increased milk production, the late nineteenth century also brought increased scrutiny from city agencies in Washington, D.C. regarding the safety of milk production and consumption. By the 1920s, Washington enacted laws to regulate the safety and quality of milk.<sup>49</sup> The regulations sought general cleanliness as well as "steam sterilization of equipment, TB testing of all dairy animals, minimum square feet of window height per stall, no non-dairy animals housed in the dairy barn, hair clipped from each cow's flank and udder, clean 'cow towels' for washing and drying each udder before milking."<sup>50</sup> As a result of the regulations, the northern Virginia region was not only a top producer, but had a high quality product.<sup>51</sup>

The shift toward dairying and the increase in wealth that came with this transition is represented today by the number and size of houses that remain in Floris that were constructed in that period.<sup>52</sup> Extant houses that remain within the district include: the Kidwell Farmhouse (029-5179-0002, photographs 2 and 3), the Ellmore Farmhouse (029-5179-0001, photograph 9), the Stover House (029-5179-0010, photograph 15), the Fox House (029-5179-0007, photograph

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13), and the Higgins House (029-5179-0006). All were built during the period of increased dairy production. Today, the Kidwell Farmhouse, built c.1900, functions, with its outbuildings and fields, as the centerpiece of Frying Pan Farm Park's interpretation of a functioning period dairy farm. The dwelling was meticulously restored by the park using documentary evidence and retains a high level of physical integrity.<sup>53</sup> A few of its outbuildings are original to the property, while others have been brought from neighboring farms or reconstructed from period pictures or designs. The Ellmore Farmhouse, a more recent park acquisition, built c.1896, retains its basic form and style, but has conspicuously lost its original front porch and currently features aluminum siding. The c.1895 Stover House has undergone a number of exterior changes, but continues to be recognizable as a period house. Its complement of outbuildings adds much to the integrity of this resource. The Fox House, built c.1900, was constructed in the Colonial Revival style and faces Centreville Road. The dwelling retains its basic form and style, but some exterior materials and details have noticeably changed. The Higgins House, built c.1905, is an undistinguished house, with several outbuildings, including small barns used to board horses.

The last dairy operation in Fairfax County was closed in 1997.<sup>54</sup> While the Floris of today is a far cry from the community during the height of dairy production in the 1920 and 1930s, the remaining resources of the village within the district convey the importance of agriculture in the life of Floris residents.<sup>55</sup>

**Frying Pan Farm Park**

"A transformation of the area started in the late 50s and early 60s" and included a sharp downturn in agricultural production.<sup>56</sup> Rapid suburbanization and the opening of Dulles International Airport just to the west of the village greatly changed the landscape of the area.<sup>57</sup> This, coupled with abandonment of the early-twentieth-century school buildings due to the opening of the 1955 Floris Elementary School, gave rise to Frying Pan Park. The park's formation represents a clear indication of the downturn of agricultural production in Floris, and thus marks the end of the period of significance.

A large portion of the district's land area is contained within, what is today, Frying Pan Farm Park. The park, operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority, began around 1960 with the acquisition of the earlier school property.<sup>58</sup> The local 4-H chapter and the Future Farmers of America had begun using the property for fairs as early as 1948 and built a building for that purpose c.1960, just prior to the closing of the school (photograph 12).<sup>59</sup> The community wished to see these events continue and envisioned greater agricultural interpretation and recreation, including the possibility of a model farm.<sup>60</sup> Toward these goals, about 33 acres of the former Kidwell Farm was purchased by the Park Authority in 1965 (photograph 2).<sup>61</sup> Around this time, equestrian activities and facilities began at the park. After additional acreage was added to the park in the early 1970s, the Difficult Run Pony Club (later Reston Pony Club) helped to enhance equestrian facilities.<sup>62</sup> The park acquired a portion of the Ellmore Farm in 1974.<sup>63</sup> Later in the 1970s and 1980s, small additions were made to park land and buildings threatened with demolition from the vicinity of Floris were moved to the park, including the Moffett blacksmith shop (029-5179-0003) and the Murphy Farm smokehouse.<sup>64</sup> Arthur Carter, the last trustee of Frying Pan Meetinghouse, agreed to convey the church property to the Fairfax County Park Authority after residents concerned about the condition of the Frying Pan Meetinghouse approached him about turning the church over for preservation purposes.<sup>65</sup> The main parcel of the Ellmore Farm, including the house and barn were conveyed to the park in 2001.<sup>66</sup> Additional improvements, restorations, and reconstructions have occurred throughout the years, since the park's inception, as the park's mission became more finely tuned. In 2006, the park's name was changed from Frying Pan Park to Frying Pan Farm Park, to capture its intended mission.<sup>67</sup>



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**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

According to the park's website, "Today, the park preserves and interprets a 1920s through 1950s farm, agricultural process, rural community life and landscape for the educational, cultural and recreational enrichment of citizens and visitors of Fairfax County."<sup>68</sup> While there are many non-contributing features of the park due to reconstructions and moved buildings, even the non-contributing resources aid in the interpretation of the extant contributing resources. Some features, including the equestrian courses, are non-contributing, but have aided in the preservation of open space within the park and are non-intrusive.

**Archaeological Potential**

Limited archaeological testing has occurred within the Floris Historic District, and there are known and potential prehistoric and historic sites within its boundaries. Testing has occurred at the Frying Pan Meetinghouse property (as recently as 2006), at the neighboring Lee House site, and a couple of other locations within Frying Pan Farm Park. Review of the documentary record, including historic accounts and nineteenth-century maps, suggests additional archaeological resources are extant. A moderate potential exists for prehistoric features in the area of Frying Pan Branch. While ground disturbance has occurred throughout much of the district via cultivation and the construction of a number of buildings in the park, there likely remain enough intact features of prehistoric and historic resources to warrant future testing, especially to shed light on the early historic occupation of the village then known as Frying Pan.

**Significance Summary**

The arrangement of historic buildings, landscapes, and other resources within Floris today represent a tight-knit farming community that nurtured the development of specialized agrarian practices in the rise, specialization, and domination of dairy farm production in Virginia from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Suburban-style development has encroached upon the district on all sides, but the most salient features remaining within the district convey the feeling of a small dairy farming community. The architectural styles of the district represent its period of significance and include styles from the late eighteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries.

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Name of repository:** Fairfax County Park Authority; Virginia Department of Historic Resources

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** approximately 138 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
x See continuation sheet.			

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Darrell E. Cook, Architectural Historian/Helen P. Ross/DHR Staff  
 organization Virginia Department of Transportation date January 22, 2009  
 street & number 1700 North Main Street telephone (757) 925-1598  
 city or town Suffolk state VA zip code 23434

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name various  
 street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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[http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/about\\_dulles\\_international\\_2/about\\_dulles\\_international](http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/about_dulles_international_2/about_dulles_international) (accessed 10/22/2008).

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National Park Service**

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REGISTRATION FORM**

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**Floris Historic District  
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- Cockerill-McFarland House (029-0419)*
- Floris Historic District (029-5179)*
- Floris Methodist Church (029-0263)*
- Floris School (029-0204)*
- Fox House (029-0420)*
- Frying Pan Blacksmith Shop (029-0275)*
- Frying Pan Country Store (029-0274)*
- Frying Pan Farm (029-0268)*
- Frying Pan Meetinghouse (029-0015)*
- Higgins House (029-0267)*
- Stover House (029-0264)*
- Testa House (029-0270)*

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**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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**GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**UTM References**

The location of the nominated historic district is shown on the accompanying location map. The location is approximately delineated by a polygon with the following UTM reference points in Zone 18, 1983 North American Datum: 1) E 290740 N 4312870 2) E 291460 N 4312790 3) E 291840 N 4312440 4) E 291970 N 4312020 5) E 291580 N 4311770 6) E 290770 N 4312330.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the nominated Floris Historic District, Fairfax County, Virginia, is shown by the accompanying scaled map and site plan. Beginning at the northwestern corner of the district, the boundary includes the Frying Pan Meetinghouse parcel along Centreville Road and extends generally in an easterly direction on the north side of the Frying Pan Branch until a short distance from a recent residential subdivision. The boundary continues south and east around the subdivision until it reaches the tree line and park driveway located on the east side of Frying Pan Farm Park. The boundary runs along the north side of the tree line, between the tree line and the park driveway, until it reaches Monroe Street. The boundary continues southwest along Monroe Street to the corner of Monroe Street and West Ox Road. The boundary runs northwest along West Ox Road to its corner with Centreville Road. The line continues north along the east side of Centreville Road to the point of beginning at the Frying Pan Meetinghouse parcel.

Within the described boundary, extant resources are found in three discrete areas: the village core (Floris School, Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop, Stover House, Floris Methodist Church, Fox House, and Higgins House); Frying Pan Meetinghouse; and the two adjoining farms (Kidwell Farm and Ellmore Farm). Most of the land area and the following extant resources are located within Frying Pan Farm Park: Floris School, Floris Vocational Technical High School, Frying Pan Meetinghouse, Kidwell Farm, and Ellmore Farm. The sites of the non-extant Lee Farm and Cherok House are also within the district's boundary.

**Boundary Justification**

Within the described boundary of the Floris Historic District, the extant resources convey the feeling of its historic late-eighteenth to mid-twentieth century rural setting. Outside the boundary of the district, dense, modern residential and commercial intrusions have supplanted the original resources and open spaces associated with the agricultural nature of Floris during its period of significance.

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**Section Photographs Page 26**

**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

**All photographs are common to:**

**NAME OF PROPERTY:** Floris Historic District

**LOCATION:** Fairfax County, Virginia

**VDHR FILE NUMBER:** 029-5179

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Darrell E. Cook

**DATE:** June 11 and 12, 2008

**NEGATIVES STORED:** Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Frying Pan Meetinghouse, looking northwest

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:5

**PHOTO:** 1 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Kidwell Farm, looking north

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24263:6

**PHOTO:** 2 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Kidwell Farmhouse, looking southwest

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:24

**PHOTO:** 3 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Kidwell Farm, outbuildings, looking northwest

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:23

**PHOTO:** 4 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, landscape, looking northwest

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:8

**PHOTO:** 5 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, equestrian course, looking southeast

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:2

**PHOTO:** 6 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, farm pond

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24265:24

**PHOTO:** 7 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, quarry site

**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24265:18

**PHOTO:** 8 of 15

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National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**Section Photographs Page 27**

**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Ellmore Farmhouse, looking northwest  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:15  
**PHOTO:** 9 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Ellmore Farm barn (current visitor center), looking northeast  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24264:10  
**PHOTO:** 10 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, Floris Schoolhouse, front perspective, looking northwest  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24263:23  
**PHOTO:** 11 of 15

**VIEW OF:** Frying Pan Farm Park, landscape, including Floris Vocational Technical High School (current park Country Store) and the 4-H building, looking north  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24263:21  
**PHOTO:** 12 of 15

**VIEW OF:** 2703 West Ox Road, dwelling, front elevation, looking southeast  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24265:8  
**PHOTO:** 13 of 15

**VIEW OF:** 2633 Centreville Road, landscape showing site of former Cherok House and Floris Methodist Church, looking north  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24265:6  
**PHOTO:** 14 of 15

**VIEW OF:** 2625 Centreville Road, dwelling and yard, including adjoining Floris Methodist Church, looking southeast  
**NEGATIVE NUMBER:** 24266:23  
**PHOTO:** 15 of 15

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

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**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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  - <sup>2</sup> United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey, *Herndon (Virginia) Quadrangle*, (Washington: 1966 (revised 1983)).
  - <sup>3</sup> 1937 aerial photograph found in John Milner Associates, Inc., *Frying Pan Farm Park Cultural Landscape Report*, (Charlottesville, Virginia: 2008), p.53.
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  - <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
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  - <sup>7</sup> John Milner Associates, Inc., p. 35.
  - <sup>8</sup> Description of cemetery largely taken from Shaffer, Wilson, Sarver, and Gray, PC, *Frying Pan Baptist Meeting House: Historic Structure Report*. (December 31, 2004), pp. 86-89.
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  - <sup>11</sup> "A Brief History of Floris and Dairying in Fairfax County."
  - <sup>12</sup> John Milner Associates, Inc., p. 15.
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  - <sup>14</sup> Floris Friends, p. 233.
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  - <sup>21</sup> "A Brief History of Floris and Dairying in Fairfax County."
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  - <sup>23</sup> Ibid., p. 35.
  - <sup>24</sup> Floris Friends, pp. 58 and 250.
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  - <sup>26</sup> Glenn Birch, ed., p. 94.
  - <sup>27</sup> Ibid.
  - <sup>28</sup> Floris Friends, p. 188.
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  - <sup>31</sup> Ibid., p. 94.
  - <sup>32</sup> Floris Friends, p. 189.
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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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Section ENDNOTES Page 29

**Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia**

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40 Floris Friends, p. 64.  
41 Ibid.  
42 Ibid.  
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61 Ibid., p. 56.  
62 Ibid., p. 57.  
63 Ibid.  
64 Ibid., p. 58.  
65 Floris Friends, p. 196.  
66 John Milner Associates, Inc., p. 59.  
67 Ibid.  
68 <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fpp/>



24264: 5

Frying Pan Meetinghouse [029-5179-0012]  
2615 Centreville Road [029-0015]

Floriss Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia  
Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
Meetinghouse, looking NW  
Photo 1 of 15



24263:6

Frying Pan Farm Park [029-5179-0002]  
2709 West Ox Road [029-0268]

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Kidwell Farm, looking north

Photo 2 of 15



24264: 24  
Frying Pan Farm Park [029-5179-0002]  
2709 West Ox Road [029-0268]  
Floris Historic District  
Fairfax County, Virginia  
Darrel E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Kidwell Farmhouse, looking SW

Photo 3 of 15





24264: 23

Frying Pan Farm Park [029-5179-0002]

2709 West Ox Road [029-0268]

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Kidwell Farm outbuildings, looking NW

Photo 4 of 15



24264:8

Frying Pan Farm Park

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

landscape, looking NW

Photo 5 of 15

[029-5179-0002]  
[029-0268]



24264: 2

Frying Pan Farm Park

[029-5179-0002]

Floris Historic District

[029-0268]

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Equestrian course, looking SE

Photo 6 of 15



24265: 24

Frying Pan Farm Park

[029-5179-0002]

Floris Historic District

[029-0268]

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 12, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Farm pond

Photo 7 of 15





24265:18

Frying Pan Farm Park [029-5179-0002]

Floris Historic District [029-0268]

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E Cook

June 12, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Former quarry site

Photo 8 of 15



24264:15

Ellmore Farm

2739 West Ox Road

[029-5179-0001]  
[029-0270]

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Ellmore Farm dwelling, looking NW

Photo 9 of 15



24264:10

Ellmore Farm

Floris Historic District [029-5179-0001]

Fairfax County, Virginia [029-0270]

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Ellmore Farm barn (current visitor center), looking NE

Photo 10 of 15



24263:23

Floris Schoolhouse

2709 West Ox Road

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

[029-5179-0005]  
[029-0204]

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

School, front perspective, looking NW

Photo 11 of 15





24263: 21

Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop

2709 West Ox Road

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 11, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

(L) Shop building (Current Country Store)

(R) 4-H building, looking north

Photo 12 of 15

[ 029-5179-0002 & 0004 ]  
[ 029-0274 & 0268 ]



24265:8

Fox House

2703 WestOX Road

[029-5179-0007]  
[029-0420]

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 12, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Dwelling, front elevation, looking SE

Photo 13 of 15



24265:6

Cherok House (site)

2633 Centreville Road

[029-5179-0008]  
[029-0419]

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

June 12, 2008

Negative at Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources

Landscape showing site of Cherok House and Floris Methodist Church,

Photo 14 of 15

looking north



24266:23

Stover House

2625 Centreville Road

Floris Historic District

Fairfax County, Virginia

Darrell E. Cook

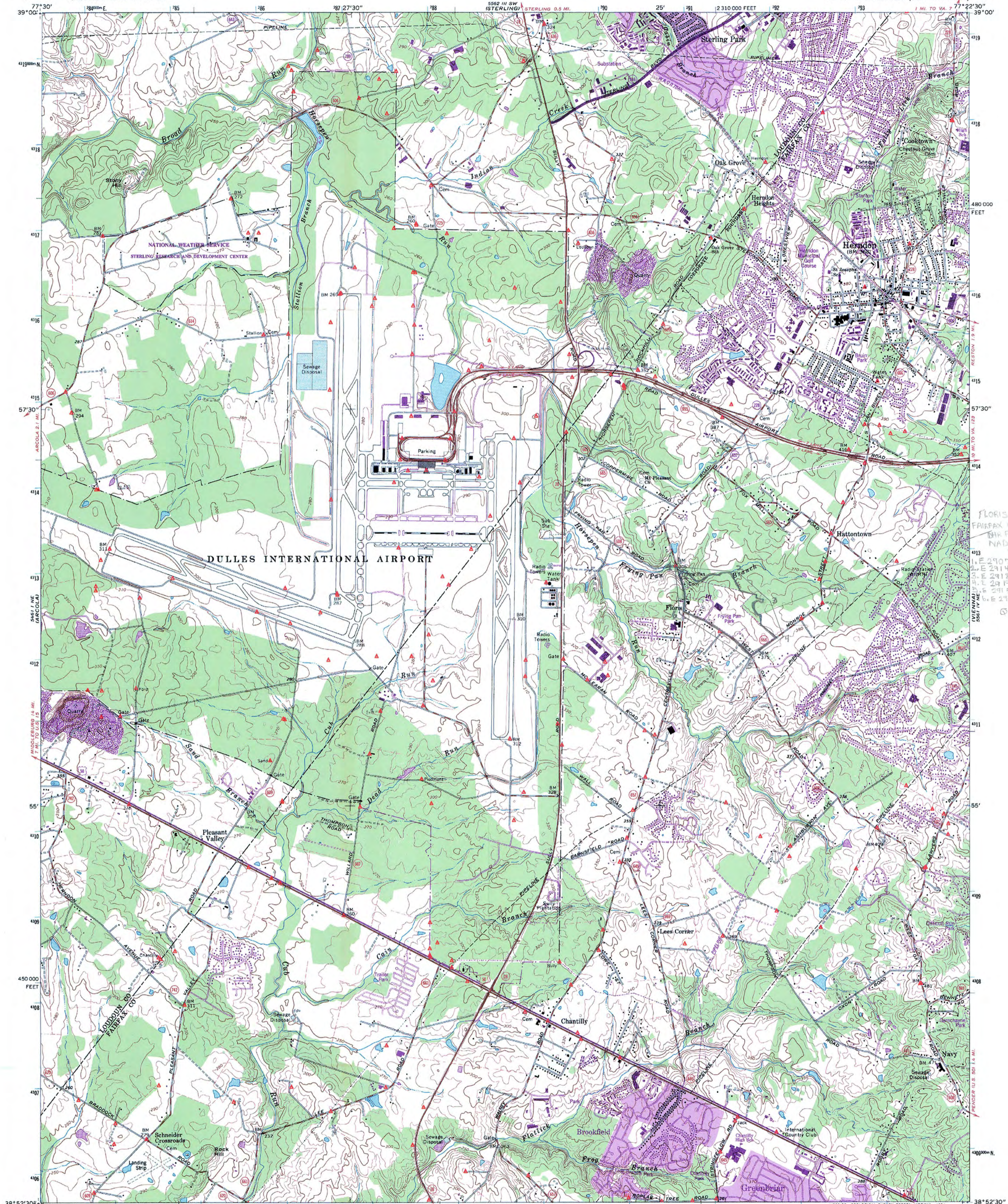
June 12, 2008

Negative at Virginia Department of Historic Resources

House and yard (foreground), Floris Methodist Church (background),  
looking SE

Photo 15 of 15

[029-5179-0010]  
[029-0264]



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1949. Field checked 1951. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1966  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Virginia coordinate system, north zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 8 meters south and 25 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fences and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

SCALE 1:24,000  
CENTREVILLE UNT. 6612.3 MI.  
(MANNASSA) 5561 IV SW  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

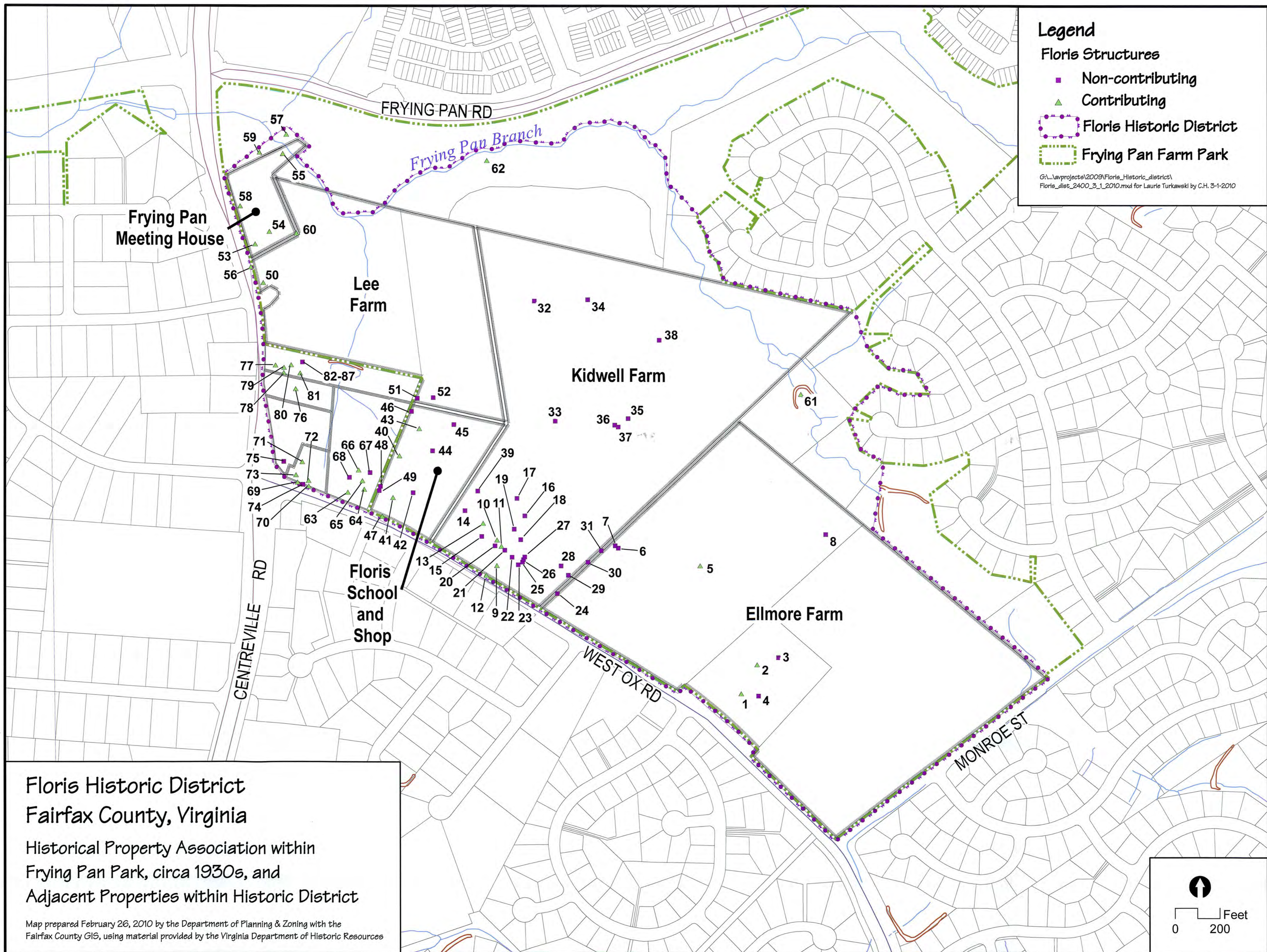
ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty - - - - -  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
U.S. Route □ State Route ○

HERNDON, VA.  
38077-H4-TF-024  
1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1983  
DMA 5561 IV NW - SERIES 1984

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
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Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked  
Map edited 1983  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas





**Floris Historic District**  
**Fairfax County, Virginia**  
 Historical Property Association within  
 Frying Pan Park, circa 1930s, and  
 Adjacent Properties within Historic District

Map prepared February 26, 2010 by the Department of Planning & Zoning with the Fairfax County GIS, using material provided by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources

**Legend**

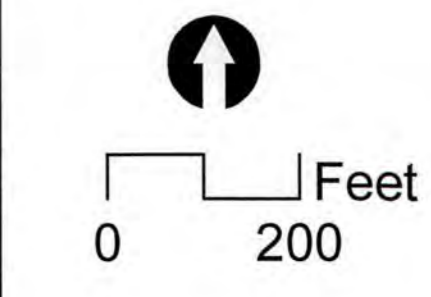
**Floris Structures**

- Non-contributing
- ▲ Contributing

⬢ Floris Historic District

⬢ Frying Pan Farm Park

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# National Register of Historic Places

## Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2017

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**Summary — Floris Historic District (2017 Update)**

The Floris Historic District (029-5179) was listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR) on September 17, 2009 and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) on August 12, 2010, under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture and Criterion C in the area of Architecture, with a period of significance of circa 1785 to 1960. The nomination notes that the historic district is locally significant “for its representation of the development of a community based on dairy farming production in Northern Virginia” (Cook and Ross 2009).

The purpose of this amendment is to update the Number of Resources within the district (Section 5); the Inventory (Section 7); the Areas of Significance, Period of Significance, Significant Dates, and Narrative Statement of Significance (Section 8); and Major Bibliographical References (Section 9) based on new research. New Additional Documentation (Section 12) includes geo-referenced historic maps and aerials and photographs of new buildings at the Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival Grounds within Frying Pan Farm Park (FPFP), which is managed by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), and three adjacent properties, which were recently resurveyed. Content is organized by section headers 5, 7, 8, 9, and 12 from the current edition of the NRHP nomination form.

There were 33 contributing resources and 47 non-contributing resources on the original nomination form, along with 4 others that previously contributed to the individually listed Frying Pan Meeting House (029-5179-0012; 029-0015). There are now 34 contributing resources and 47 non-contributing resources. Section 7 reflects the demolition of buildings and new construction within the historic district. It should be noted that several non-contributing resources dating to the 1970s will be eligible to contribute in the next decade.

Section 7 includes a complete inventory organized by properties within FPFP and those adjacent to it. The inventory reflects changes in historic names based on new research and moves one (1) secondary resource, a farm pond originally keyed in the nomination as 61, from the Meetinghouse property (029-5179-0012; 029-0015) to Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) where it is more geographically aligned. Within the park, several secondary resources, which were previously recorded as part of Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204), Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), and Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862), have been organized under a new survey number (029-5179-0013) to highlight the history and significance of the Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds, currently known as the Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival Grounds, and the FPFP. Floris Extension activities began as early as 1916 at Floris School, the first community fairs began in the 1920s, the fairgrounds were officially established in 1948, and a barn was built to commemorate the 1948 fair in 1960 when the model farm park was established. The new survey number for the fairgrounds (029-5179-0013) covers equestrian and agricultural fair facilities.

Section 8 expands upon the original Statement of Significance from settlement to the recent past, providing more details about intensively surveyed adjacent properties whose owners and occupants are associated with the Area of Significance in African-American Ethnic Heritage as well as more on the history of the 4-H Fairgrounds and FPFP to support Areas of Significance in Community Planning and Development, Education, Entertainment/Recreation, and Social History. The amendment context, original context for Floris Historic District (Cook and Ross 2009), and the Frying Pan Meeting House nomination context (Kell and Sacchi 1990) also support the newly identified Areas of Significance in Social History and African-American Ethnic Heritage, and extending the period of significance to end in 1967, so that it ends at the traditional 50-year cutoff.

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**SECTION 5: Classification**

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Non-contributing	
<u>20</u>	<u>26</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>8</u>	<u>20</u>	structures
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<b><u>34</u></b>	<b><u>47</u></b>	<b>Total</b>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 4

**SECTION 7: Description**

**Inventory**

The inventory below is organized by properties located within FPPF and those that are adjacent to the park. Corrections and updates to the inventory include changes to historic names based on new research, all of which are explained in the bullet lists below. For example, one (1) secondary resource, a farm pond originally keyed in the nomination as 61, was incorrectly associated with the Meetinghouse property (029-5179-0012; 029-0015) in the original nomination. It is correctly associated with Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) as part of this update. Within the FPPF, several secondary resources, which were previously recorded as part of Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204), Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), and Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862), are now organized under a new survey number (029-5179-0013) to highlight the history and significance of the Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (now known as the Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival Grounds) and the FPPF.

The current inventory of contributing and non-contributing resources within the Floris Historic District follows the bullet lists.

Within Frying Pan Farm Park

Frying Pan Farm Park

- Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) is modified by moving one (1) secondary resource, a farm pond keyed as 61 in the original nomination, from the Meetinghouse property (029-5179-0012; 029-0015) to Ellmore Farm where it is more geographically aligned; and one (1) secondary resource, a pig furrowing pen keyed as 31 from Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268) to Ellmore Farm because it is within its original property boundary next to pig pen and nursery.
- Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268) is modified by moving seven (7) secondary resources (keyed as 17, 32-34, and 36-38 in the original nomination) from this resource to Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (029-5179-0013) and one (1) secondary resource noted above to Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270).
- The Moffett Blacksmith Shop (029-0275; 029-5179-0003) does not include new information.
- Floris Vocational Technical High School Shop (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) does not include new information.

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- Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) is modified by moving four (4) secondary resources (keyed as 43-46 in the original nomination) to Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (029-5179-0013).
- Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) is modified by moving two (2) secondary resources (keyed as 51-52 in original nomination) to Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (029-5179-0013).
- Frying Pan Meetinghouse (029-5179-0012; 029-0015) is modified by moving the farm pond from this resource to Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) because it is geographically and historically linked to the farm.
- Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (029-5179-0013), currently known as the Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival Grounds, is identified with a new survey number consisting of 13 previously recorded secondary resources from Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204), and Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) with the newly identified fairgrounds site recorded as the primary resource. Two new barns and a dog training area are newly surveyed secondary resources.

Adjacent Properties to the Frying Pan Farm Park

- Ellmore Tenant House, previously referred to as the Higgins House (029-5179-0006; 029-0267), includes new information in Sections 7 and 8. One non-contributing stable and one contributing outbuilding are no longer extant and have been removed from the inventory and resource counts.
- McFarland House, previously identified as the Fox House (029-5179-0007; 029-0420), includes new information in Sections 7 and 8. Recent research into primary documents indicate that the Cockerille and McFarland families are actually associated with this surviving resource rather than a house (029-5179-0008; 029-0419) that was destroyed with the widening of Centreville Road. One non-contributing object is no longer extant so has been removed from the inventory and resource counts.
- Floris Methodist Church, present-day First Korean United Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), does not include new information.
- Edward Lee House, previously identified as the Stover House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264), includes new information in Sections 7 and 8.
- Cherok House Site (029-5179-0008; 029-0419) previously had the alternate name, the Cockerill-McFarland House. New research indicates the Cockerille and McFarlands were associated with 029-5179-0007; 029-0420.

Frying Pan Farm Park

**2739 West Ox Road**

**029-0270**

**Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0001**

**Ellmore Farm within Frying Pan Farm Park**

Primary Resource: Ellmore Farmhouse ca. 1896

Secondary Resource: Ellmore Barn ca. 1900

Secondary Resource: Pasture and Crop Fields pre-1937

Secondary Resource: Farm Pond ca. 1935

Secondary Resource: Run-in Shed 1998

Secondary Resource: Pig Furrowing Pen 2001

Secondary Resource: Pig Nursery 2002

Secondary Resource: Pig Run-in 2003

Secondary Resource: Bathrooms 2008

Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Contributing Site Total: 1  
 Contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

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Secondary Resource: Picnic Pavilion 2008 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**2709 West Ox Road 029-0268 Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0002**

- Kidwell Farm within Frying Pan Farm Park**
- Primary Resource: Kidwell Farmhouse ca.1900 Contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Stone Retaining Wall along road ca. 1900 Contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Stone Retaining Wall flower bed ca. 1900 Contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Shed ca.1900 Contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Workshop/Office pre-1937 Contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Kidwell Barn reconstructed 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Corn Crib reconstructed 1987, 2003 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Smokehouse moved to the park in 1987 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Run-in shed ca.1993 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Run-in shed 1996 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Privy moved to park in 1997 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Dairy ca. 1920 reconstructed 1997 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Machine shed from historic plans 1997 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Turkey/duck/peacock pens 1998 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Bee Hives 1999 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Chicken House ca. 2001 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Chicken House reconstructed ca. 2001 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Middleton Barn moved to park 2002 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Shed 2003 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Machine Shed 2006 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Cider Press Barn ca.1928 moved to park 2006 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Rabbit Hutch 2008 Non-contributing Structure Total: 1

**2709 West Ox Road 029-0275 Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0003**

- Moffet Blacksmith Shop within Frying Pan Farm Park**
- Primary Resource: Blacksmith Shop 1912 moved to park 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**2709 West Ox Road 029-0274 Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0004**

- Florin Vocational Technical High School Shop within Frying Pan Farm Park**
- Primary Resource: School Shop (historic), Park Country Store (current) 1920 Contributing Building Total: 1

**2709 West Ox Road 029-0204 Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0005**

- Florin School within Frying Pan Farm Park**
- Primary Resource: School 1911 Contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Stone Retaining Wall along road ca. 1900 Contributing Structure Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Bathrooms 1965 Contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Shed ca. 2000 Non-contributing Building Total: 1
  - Secondary Resource: Shed ca. 2000 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**2709 West Ox Road 029-5179-0013**  
**Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds within Frying Pan Farm Park**

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Primary Resource: Fairgrounds 1948	Contributing Site Total: 1
Secondary Resource: 4-H Barn 1960	Contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Lower Riding Ring 1964	Contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Equestrian Course post-1974	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Upper Riding Ring 1976	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Activity Center 1979	Non-contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Diesel Tank Shelter 1990	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Shed ca. 1994	Non-contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Kiosk ca.1997	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Shed 1998	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Storage Box ca. 1998	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Shed ca. 2000	Non-contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Shed ca. 2000	Non-contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Cell Tower ca. 2000	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Dog Training Ring	Non-contributing Structure Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Barn 2012	Non-contributing Building Total: 1
Secondary Resource: Barn 2012	Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**2621 Centreville Road** **029-5179-0011** **Other DHR Id: 44FX0862**  
**Lee Farm Site within Frying Pan Farm Park**  
 Primary Resource: Historic Non-Aboriginal Site, ca. 1869 house razed 1980s Contributing Site Total: 1

**2615 Centreville Road** **029-0015** **Other DHR Id: 029-5179-0012**  
**Frying Pan Meetinghouse / Frying Pan Old School Baptist Church (Individually listed to the NRHP)**  
 Primary Resource: Church ca. 1783-1791 Previously Contributing Building to NRHP- Listed Resource Total: 0  
 Secondary Resource: European-American and African-American Cemetery discernable burials 1884-1938  
Previously Contributing Site to NRHP- Listed Resource Total: 0  
 Secondary Resource: Manmade Baptismal Pond ca. 1797  
Previously Contributing Site to NRHP- Listed Resource Total: 0  
 Secondary Resource: Pile of Stones Marker ca. 1797  
Previously Contributing Object to NRHP- Listed Resource Total: 0  
 Secondary Resource: Spring lined with dry-laid local fieldstone in an oval shape ca. 1785  
Contributing Structure Total: 1  
Contributing Object Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Large Rock Marker ca. 1797 Contributing Object Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Three Boundary Markers ca. 1847 Contributing Site Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Quarry at Frying Pan Branch Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Privy 1960

**Adjacent Properties to Frying Pan Farm Park**

**2705 West Ox Road** **029-0267** **029-5179-0006**  
**Ellmore Tenant House**  
 Primary Resource: House ca. 1901 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Stable ca. 1905 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Pump House ca. 1950 Contributing Building Total: 1

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Secondary Resource: Stable ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**2703 West Ox Road** **029-0420** **029-5179-0007**

**Cockerille-McFarland House**  
 Primary Resource: House ca. 1909 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Stone Retaining Wall along road ca. 1900 Contributing Structure Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Garage/Mortise-and-Tenon Stable ca. 1900 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Shed pre-1937 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Well ca. 1900 Contributing Structure Total: 1

**2629 Centreville Road** **029-0419** **029-5179-0008**

**Cherok House (Destroyed)**  
 Primary Resource: Site Non-contributing Site Total: 1

**2629 Centreville Road** **029-0263** **029-5179-0009**

**Floris Methodist Church**  
 Primary Resource: Church ca. 1895 Contributing Building Total: 1

**2625 Centreville Road** **029-0264** **029-5179-0010**

**Edward Lee House**  
 Primary Resource: House ca. 1896 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Garage pre-1937 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Domestic Outbuilding pre-1937 Contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Large Shed ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Small Shed ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Stable ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Stable ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1  
 Secondary Resource: Stable with three irregular additions ca. 1975 Non-contributing Building Total: 1

**SECTION 8: Statement of Significance**

**Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)**

Previously identified:

AGRICULTURE  
ARCHITECTURE

Newly identified:

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
EDUCATION  
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION  
ETHNIC HERITAGE: AFRICAN AMERICAN  
SOCIAL HISTORY



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**Period of Significance** circa 1785 – 1967

**Significant Dates** circa 1785, 1869, 1896, 1911, 1920, 1948, 1960

**Summary Statement of Significance**

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Floris Historic District is currently listed as locally significant under Criteria A and C in the areas of Agriculture and Architecture. It is also locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage: African American, Social History, Community Planning and Development, Education, and Entertainment/Recreation with a Period of Significance from circa 1785 to 1967, to reflect the current 50-year cutoff for properties where significant activities have continued into the more recent past. The roles of enslaved and free African Americans have been central to Floris since the founding of the Frying Pan Meeting House (029-5179-0012; 029-0015), where both black and white people worshiped from Frying Pan’s settlement through the Civil War (1861-1865) until Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church was established by black congregants in 1867 (Kell and Saachi 2007). Six years after the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, Andrew and Mary Cook Lee became the first black landowners in the Floris area and the first to develop within the current historic district, purchasing 20 acres (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) around the Meeting House and establishing a dairy farm in an era when very few African Americans owned land. Their sons William and Edward continued the endeavor with Edward and his wife Fannie building and farming on a subdivided piece of his father’s land (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) in 1896. In 1915, Edward Lee became a founding member of the first rural branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in America in an effort to protect their rights to this land. Two more generations of Lees remained as important black figures in the community with Edward’s son, Floyd, working as a dairy farm hand and serving in World War I and grandson, Calvin, serving in World War II. When Andrew and Mary Lee first purchased in the historic district, they were among 3.8 percent of African Americans who owned land in the county. When Calvin and Valry Lee sold it over 100 year later in 1978, African Americans comprised less than 4 percent of Fairfax County’s total population, down from a pre-World War II high of 16 percent. Despite their contributions to the dairy economy and service in the wars, the Lees were forced to attend segregated schools, churches, and county and community fairs and would not have been admitted to festivities occurring on a lot abutting their backyard. Within the Floris Historic District, these properties represent local African-American history as well as the complex social history of race relations from the earliest years of the United States when churches were more integrated yet tied to the violence and oppression of slavery through the Civil War, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, two World Wars, and the African-American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. In addition, the remaining properties historically associated with white residents contribute to this complex history as they represent an era of segregation and complacency if not aversion as white neighbors perpetuated exclusion of four generations of Lees and other black families from neighboring Willard (present-day Dulles Airport), from white Floris schools, 4-H fairs, and other local events while employing them to tend their fields and do their laundry. FPPF represents this flawed past as well with FCPA using eminent domain to condemn land associated with the Edward Lee House under pressure from increasing white equestrian users and the 4-H extension agent in 1962, two years before the Lees would be able to use the segregated park after passage of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The FPPF and the various resources within its bounds also are significant in the areas of Social History,

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Education, and Entertainment/Recreation. Florin School and the Vocational Shop represent the remnants of early-20<sup>th</sup> century rural public school education and the role of agricultural extension agencies and social clubs within these schools before the establishment of facilities like those at the Fairfax County Junior Fair Grounds (029-5179-0013) and the FFPF. They are also significant in social history as places where women were empowered to be self-sufficient leaders. Schools not only operated by day, but became community centers by night and on weekends, hosting talent shows, concerts, club meetings, continuing education classes, and homemaking and farming competitions. In 1948, the local 4-H group officially established the Fairfax County Junior Fair where it had unofficially held community fairs since the 1920s behind the Florin schools, thereby allowing the area to continue in the capacity of an educational and recreational center when the public schools abandoned these buildings. The establishment of the FFPF in 1960 also achieved many of the original goals of the Florin Vocational School and the Florin 4-H by providing education, entertainment, and recreation through the loose interpretation of local rural lifeways in the face of unprecedented suburban sprawl following the expansion of the Capital Beltway and the building of Dulles Airport in the mid-twentieth century. As such, the Farm Park is significant as an early example of FCPA’s role in post-World War II Community Planning and Development and has since its inception has represented the clash between Fairfax’s rural past and suburban present and how the government responds to that as equestrian activities associated with the middle-to-upper class non-agrarian population have competed for resources with the agricultural interpretation and model farm aspects, championed by the older community.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

**African-American Heritage and Social History in Frying Pan (1785 – 1978)**

*The Integrated Frying Pan Meeting House (ca. 1785 – 1867)*

In 1702, Lord Fairfax of England appointed Robert “King” Carter (1662-1732) of Lancaster County, Virginia, as his agent in the Northern Neck of Virginia, which lay between the waters of the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers (Kilmer and Sweig 1975) (Figure 1). In 1728, Robert Carter, Sr., sons Robert Carter, Jr. (1704-1732) and Charles Carter, and son-in-law Mann Page formed the Frying Pan Corporation to operate a copper mine and shared the cost of supplies, including enslaved labor. The same year, Charles and Robert Carter, Jr. made the first of many acquisitions for the company, purchasing 762 acres, known as the Frying Pan or Copper Mine tract. Around this time, West Ox Road was constructed. Upon his death in 1732, Carter, Jr.’s five-year-old son, Robert “Conciliator” Carter, III (1728-1804), inherited a fourth interest in the Frying Pan Corporation. After the death of the original partners, he managed the company’s land from 1761 to 1797, leasing to tenant farmers who produced tobacco and later wheat as mining had proved unsuccessful. Between 1783 and 1791, Robert Carter donated two acres to the Bull Run Baptist Church for a meeting house (029-5179-0012), located north of the Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010), though he warned he did not have clear title. In 1797, the heirs of the other Frying Pan Corp. partners sued Robert Carter for their share of the properties, including the Frying Pan tract, where the church stands, and enslaved laborers, which Carter had begun to emancipate. Following a chancery court case, Carter received what was identified as Lot 3, the Frying Pan tract. After he died in 1804, the court divided the property among his heirs in 1822 (Shaffer, Wilson, Sarver & Gray, PC 2011:2.2-2.4) (Figure 2). The death or exit of Carter’s descendants and the depletion of soils around Frying Pan facilitated an economic downturn in the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century like in many other southern communities. The land around the meeting house changed hands multiple times among distant investors in Washington D.C. and elsewhere, who subdivided periodically

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yet did not develop within the present-day Floris Historic District until after the Civil War (Fairfax County Deed Book [DB] 54:417; 54:417; 63:179; 50:373; 63:261; 66:139; 69:202; 71:86; 78:421).

The Frying Pan Meeting House (029-5179-0012) is individually listed and is contributing to the Floris Historic District, making it by far the oldest resource in the district. It contains the circa 1785 Bull Run Baptist Church meeting house, an African American/Anglo American cemetery dating to 1847, a ca. 1797 baptismal pond, and a pile of stone markers, which contribute to the individual listing (Kell and Sacchi 1990). Additionally, the property contains three boundary markers associated with the church, a 1785 springhouse, and a 1960 privy, which are listed as contributing to the historic district. The church minutes show that from its earliest years there were a number of African Americans members, who were noted as either enslaved or free, for example, “Henry belong to George Lee” and “Mariah a free woman” (Holman and Etue 2015:44). This integrated congregation likely formed not out of enlightenment, but more out of oppression as free and enslaved blacks were discouraged from gathering in large numbers due to whites’ fears of subversion and uprising. Depending on the number of members, blacks attended the same service as whites, but in a segregated section. With larger congregations, a separate service might be held for the black members with a set number of white attendees to monitor activities. At the meeting house, African Americans sat in a separate gallery and were monitored closely. Restrictions tightened further after Nat Turner, an enslaved minister, led a rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia, where over 60 white people were killed in 1831. The next year, the Virginia Assembly forbade all people of color from receiving an education or preaching and required a certain ratio of white people to attend black services. Little changed in these worship patterns before the Civil War (1861 – 1865) (Wallace 2003).

Leading up to the Civil War, new roads and railroads crossed the Dranesville district containing the historic district, and in the 1850s, free black communities developed to the north at two intersections on Old Ox Road; however, development went stagnant at the onset of the war. Captain Nathaniel Michler’s 1864 map of the area noted Frying Pan Church in “ruins” (JMA 2008:30). As noted on its Historical Marker and previous nomination, the Meeting House stood at the center of frequent war activity, so this information will not be repeated in this context (Robison 2016).

*The Freedmen’s Bureau and the Lee Family Settlement (1865 – 1896)*

In 1865, all enslaved people were freed under the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The U.S. War Department established the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (the Freedmen’s Bureau) to provide “assistance to tens of thousands of former slaves and impoverished whites in the Southern States and the District of Columbia. It issued food and clothing, operated hospitals and temporary camps, helped locate family members, promoted education, helped freedmen legalize marriages, provided employment, supervised labor contracts, provided legal representation, investigated racial confrontations, settled freedmen on abandoned or confiscated lands, and worked with African American soldiers and sailors and their heirs to secure back pay, bounty payments, and pensions” (Freedmen’s Bureau 2016). In the face of progress towards racial equality through the Bureau’s work, the Civil Rights Acts of 1866 and 1875, and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1868 and 1870, white leaders in the South passed a variety of laws known as black codes in an attempt to continue to oppress black free people in the early years of Reconstruction (VHS 2004). On the local level, white individuals terrorized blacks, through harassment, public torture, lynching, and arson (EJI 2016).

During this period, African Americans self-segregated in search of a new beginning apart from white oppression.

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They formed their own churches where they could express themselves and raised funds to open schools as adequate funding was not supplied by localities. African-American attendance dropped dramatically at the Frying Pan Meeting House. When leadership asked why they no longer attended, some responded that the building was too cold; however, the reality was a new black church had formed outside of the district (Robison 2016). Between 1864 and 1868, fifteen schools were established in Fairfax County for formerly enslaved and free people on land primarily donated by Northerners, including the Herndon (“col’d”) School, better known as the Frying Pan School formerly located to the northwest of the current historic district on the land of New Yorker John Webster. The school was completed in June of 1866 and torched on November 27 by “rascals” who piled brush against the door and set it on fire. Orrin E. Hine, the Freedmen’s Bureau agent for Fairfax who was also a New Yorker, oversaw reconstruction of the school nearby with new and salvaged materials supplied by the Bureau. The 15 foot-by-16-foot hewn log school reopened on January 2, 1867 (Robison 2014).

Due to harassment during this period, most African Americans settled around each other in areas like Willard (present-day Dulles Airport one mile west of the district) and Merrifield; however, at least a few individuals bought land in isolated pockets, usually from Northerners, perhaps finding affordable land due to its perceived decline in quality. White founding families of Fairfax lamented Northern “carpet baggers” buying up land and either settling it or selling it to black people in the “Tragic Era”, contending that slavery was a “paternalistic and friendly affair” (Friedman 2013:43). The farm families that came to Floris during Virginia’s Reconstruction came from the North and South and tended to stay on the land for two or more generations until widespread suburbanization in the mid-twentieth century displaced them. In 1868 after a decade of absentee ownership, James and Ellen Dripps of Washington, D.C. conveyed 80 acres near the Frying Meeting House to George Kenfield, a Northerner from Vermont (DB 88:151), who lived south of the historic district and farmed land within the district for 20 years (Hopkins 1877; U.S. Federal Census 1870, 1880). The year after the Kenfields’ arrival, Anna Keiler of Washington, D.C. sold 20 acres, including parts of present-day FPPF, to the African-American Lee family from Fairfax County. The first of four generations to own the land, Andrew (ca. 1830-ca. 1896) and Mary Cook Lee were married and had children before the war. Whether they were previously enslaved is not known (U.S. Federal Census 1870). In 1870, they were in the extreme minority as only 3.8 percent of African Americans owned real estate; the low percentage was due in part to the number of formerly enslaved people added to this statistic after the war. By 1890, 21 percent of blacks would own land (Schweninger 1989:52-53).

The Lees were the first and only people for many years to settle in the historic district and built a house worth \$100 around 1869. This house is no longer extant but its location is a contributing archeological site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) within the present-day FPPF (DB 88:173; Fairfax County Tax Records). In the census the next year, Andrew’s farm was valued at \$500, which was in line with the value of his white neighbors’ land per acre, and his personal items at \$200. A 72-year-old white retired farmer from New York, F.B. Van Bunn, and a 14-year-old black child also from New York lived with the Lees at this time. Andrew worked as a farmer, and his wife kept house. He could not write, and she could not read, but all of their children attended the black Frying Pan School, which the Freedmen’s Bureau had rebuilt in 1867 (U.S. Federal Census 1870, 1880).

After the Kenfields and Lees came to the area, a school for white children that is no longer extant was built within the historic district in 1876 and it appeared on an 1879 map of the area (Netherton et. al. 1978) (Figure 3). By some accounts, a substantial interracial community grew; however, the Lees were relatively isolated as African Americans in the district and were relegated to the roles of domestic servants and laborers, who would have worked 15-hour days. Less than ten miles north, Route 7 was a notorious corridor associated with lynching,

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and harassment remained commonplace (U.S. Federal Census 1870, 1880; Pryor 1979).

*Early Jim Crow Era and the First Rural Branch of the NAACP (1896 – 1917)*

Following an economic depression in the 1890s, racial tension escalated in the South. Whites saw blacks as a threat to their jobs and papers exaggerated or fabricated black crime. In 1896, the Supreme Court upheld racial segregation instituted by individual states' black codes in *Plessy v. Ferguson* by introducing the "separate but equal" doctrine. In Virginia, this "both confirmed the status quo and gave impetus to even more rigid segregation laws" (VHS 2004). In 1902, Virginia amended the state Constitution to require segregation in schools though they already were. Segregation on streetcars followed, and in 1912, the Virginia General Assembly enacted enabling legislation that allowed cities and towns to segregate neighborhoods and districts through zoning ordinances (Henderson and Hussey 1965:1). Spurred by the long agricultural recession and increasing restrictions and violence, African Americans began leaving the rural south for the urban north in what became known as the Great Migration before the onset of World War I. This may have affected Fairfax County less so because of its proximity to Washington D.C., a destination in the quest for better jobs and less racial discrimination. Second- and third-generation black landowners who had no mortgage, like the Lees, were also less likely to participate in this flight north than sharecroppers and tenant farmers (Schweninger 1989:52).

The bulk of building activity in the Florin Historic District occurred around this time, reflecting resiliency of local farmers and a subtle shift towards early suburbanization as many lots were smaller and some houses were occupied by professionals working in the local schools and shops (Figure 4). In 1889, the area became populated enough to merit the establishment of the Frying Pan post office (Netherton et. al. 1978). Bowman's Store (029-0262) was built around 1893. It was razed in 2008 for the widening of Centreville Road. Florin residents also relied on Herndon stores (Pryor 1979:90). Florin Methodist Church (029-0263; 029-5179-009) at 2629 Centreville Road was built directly south of the Lees' property around 1893. During this period, the area began to attract vacationers from Washington, D.C., as had other surrounding communities with improved transportation. The influx of visitors is thought to have prompted the name change from Frying Pan to Florin in the 1890s (Florin Friends 2000).

Andrew and Mary Lee presumably died around 1896 as their son William and his family occupied the house at the Lee Farm Site (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) by 1900 (U.S. Federal Census). Another son, Edward, and his wife, Fannie, built a neighboring house (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) at 2647 Centreville Road on three quarters of an acre of the original 20-acre property in 1896 (Fairfax County Tax Records). The two brothers maintained their dairy farms mortgage free and sent their children to the same black school that they had attended, then known as Florin Colored School. The children went to work after seventh grade as there was no high school for African American students in Fairfax County (U.S. Federal Census 1900, 1910, 1940; Robison 2014).

In 1891, Mary W. Ellmore and her two children built the Ellmore Farmhouse (029-5179-0001; 029-0270). Members of the white Ellmore family, including local politician William H. Ellmore, operated a dairy farm there until 1945 at 2739 West Ox Road, now within FPPF. The Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268) house at 8907 West Ox Road within FPPF was built around 1900. Divided from the Kenfield farm, the Ellmore Tenant House (029-0267; 029-5179-0006) at 2705 West Ox Road adjacent to the park is a typical vernacular I-house built by George B. Sinclair on 3.425 acres around 1903 (DB 136:28; Fairfax County Tax Records). Sinclair was a farmer, who lived there with his son George, a blacksmith, and his daughter Charlotte (U.S. Federal Census

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1910). Between 1911 and 1918, George and his wife Clairamonde maintained the property before selling it to William Ellmore (DB 168:323-324; 193:35). Within FFPF, a non-contributing blacksmith shop (029-0275; 029-5179-0003) was moved to the park in 1975 from another property dating to 1912 and demonstrates what George's shop might have looked like. The neighboring Cockerille-McFarland House at 2703 West Ox Road (029-5179-0007; 029-0420) was built around 1909 in the Colonial Revival style on 2.3 acres, which local farmers James and Emeline Cockerille purchased from George Kenfield's remarried widow in 1903. They likely leased it until leaving it to their niece, Virginia McFarland, who was a music teacher and frequently performed in local recitals (DB 270:299; Fairfax County Tax Records; U.S. Federal Census 1940; Floris News 2 June 1925). The property includes a mortise-and-tenon stable that has been sided with asbestos and now serves as storage. Most, if not all, of the white-owned farms that were settled around the Lees employed labor from the black community of Willard and may have employed the Lee children (Pryor 1979:159; U.S. Federal Census 1900, 1910).

In the first quarter of the twentieth century after the bulk of Floris's development occurred, two major organizations took shape in America and would soon make their way into local politics and community planning and development in Fairfax County. In 1909, W.E.B. DuBois, Moorfield Storey, and Mary White Ovington founded the grassroots Civil Rights organization, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), in Illinois in reaction to ongoing racial tension, violence, and oppression. In 1915, the movie *The Birth of a Nation* portrayed the first Ku Klux Klan (KKK), which operated from 1865 and 1871, as the saviors of white America, prompting the establishment of the second KKK in Atlanta, Georgia after a long period of dormancy. "The first Klan of Reconstruction and the third Klan of the Civil Rights era were both concentrated in the Deep South, but the second Klan spread across the United States... between 1915 and 1940" due to growing fears of immigrants and continued demonization of African Americans (Kneebone 2015). As parts of Washington D.C. and Northern Virginia attracted blacks in the Great Migration and NAACP chapters were established, whites reacted by founding "Klaverns" of the KKK between Merrifield and Falls Church and near Tysons in Fairfax County in addition to other communities in Arlington, Alexandria, and D.C.

Considered the first rural chapter in the United States, the Falls Church and Vicinity Branch of the NAACP was established in Fairfax County in 1915 by the Colored Citizens Protective League (CCPL) who first gathered to fight proposed discriminatory land regulations (Friedman 2013:43). "In January 1915 the Town Council of Falls Church proposed an ordinance which would have confined Negro residents to a small section of the town, and would have prevented them from living in the area designated for whites even though their homes were already in the restricted districts" (Henderson and Hussey 1965:1). This would upend families who had settled after the Civil War and had not moved due to hostility towards blacks purchasing real estate. The proposed law might also set a precedent for other parts of the county. As a representative of an early black landowning family surrounded by numerous new white-owned farms, Edward Lee (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) was one of 39 people listed on the first membership roll (ibid.:2)..

Today known as the Fairfax Branch of the NAACP, the group hired attorneys from D.C. in response to a council referendum on May 25, 1915 and fought the proposed ordinance based on the unconstitutionality of the Falls Church plan. The council abandoned the proposal, and the NAACP branch began to focus on improving educational facilities, which remained extremely underfunded and inferior to white counterparts, despite the lip service paid to the "separate but equal doctrine." Black public school teachers received less pay while doing more work such as driving children to school and performing janitorial tasks after hours. White public schools were reconstructed in brick, like the contributing Floris School (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) within the historic district

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in 1911, while frame and log black schools, like the one where the second and third generations of Lee children attended, were minimally maintained. Those who did not have to work on farms, which were few, might exceed a seventh grade education by traveling to Washington, D.C. at their own expense (Henderson and Hussey 1965:7).

### *Involvement in World War I (1917 – 1918)*

“When war erupted in Europe in August 1914, most Americans, African Americans included, saw no reason for the United States to become involved. The black press sided with France, because of its purported commitment to racial equality, and chronicled the exploits of colonial African soldiers serving in the French army” (Williams 2011). The U.S. did eventually enter the war and, after fighting overseas, black veterans returned home with a new sense of confidence and set of skills for battling inequality on the home front. The national NAACP membership jumped from 9,000 in prewar years to 100,000 with the establishment of a large number of branches in the American South. In 1919, whites reacted in a series of anti-black riots in numerous cities across the country, including Washington, D.C. Involving extreme violence, the events became known as Red Summer due to the bloodshed. With a growing sense of fear and resentment of black progress, whites targeted returning veterans in hate crimes and lynchings, and despite their service, many veterans were denied medical care and other assistance, particularly if they were known to participate in protests and groups such as the NAACP. In 1917, Senator James K. Vardaman of Mississippi, warned, “Impress the negro with the fact that he is defending the flag, inflate his untutored soul with military airs, teach him that it is his duty to keep the emblem of the Nation flying triumphantly in the air, and it is but a short step to the conclusion that his political rights must be respected” (EJI 2016).

As noted, Edward Lee was a founding member of the Falls Church and Vicinity Branch of the NAACP in 1915, making him one of only 300 members registered with the organization in the entire South before World War I (there were 9,000 members nationwide) (EJI 2016). His youngest son, Floyd, worked as a hand on a dairy farm prior to June 1917. Despite Floyd’s rheumatism, he enlisted on November 30, 1917, and served until August 29, 1919 as a Corporal in Company E, 367 Infantry, 92<sup>nd</sup> division (U.S. World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918). Soon after his return, he married Lillian B. Brown on October 27, 1919, in Washington, D.C. and moved his new wife in with his parents (District of Columbia, Compiled Marriage Index, 1830-1921; U.S. Federal Census 1920). Described as black in her marriage certificate and mulatto in the 1920 census, she was born in Purcellville, Virginia, in 1898. They had one son, Calvin Wendell, two years after their marriage (1921-1996). Whether Floyd participated in the NAACP like his father is unknown. Though some black veterans were denied benefits, he likely collected disability as a job was never listed in subsequent census records and his 1942 World War II draft card noted his status as “Disabled Veteran” (U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942).

### *Advances in Education between World War I and World War II (1918 – 1942)*

Very little changed in the way of civil rights for African Americans between the wars, though a number of antiquated schools throughout the South were replaced with assistance from the Rosenwald Fund, created by Booker T. Washington, a Hampton Institute graduate and Tuskegee Institute founder, and Julius Rosenwald, a German Jew and philanthropist, who was president of Sears. Other privately funded philanthropic funds, such as the Anna T. Jeanes Foundation, paid for similar efforts. African American farm ownership decreased in the South as black residents continued to head north in search of better opportunity. In 1918, the *Floris Gazette* was established, alternatively going by the *Frying Pan Sizzle* and the *Floris News*, and only periodically reported on the black community, noting a few car accidents and updates on school busing. During this time, black students

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continued to study in the 1870 building outside of the historic district, while white children were in the third elementary school built in Floris since the Civil War. The white children had access to a county-funded bus, while black children like Calvin Lee either walked, got a ride from a teacher, or hopped on a private colored school bus that was usually filled to capacity (Seaberry 1992; *Floris News* 28 October 1925). In 1925, the 1867 school adjacent to the district was deemed overcrowded and additional space was rented. Finally, in 1932, the one-room building was replaced with a two-room Rosenwald school also outside of the district at Ox and Squirrel Roads. In 1937, the county school board supplied funds for a bus for African American students in the Floris-Herndon-Willard area and planned for a Northern Virginia regional black high school in Manassas, which also had bus service. As the black community struggled to find space for basic instruction, the white community had campuses large enough to host rallies. On August 5, 1925, the *Frying Pan Sizzle* reported on a KKK parade of 200 people concluding with a meeting on the Herndon school grounds. “Dr. White of Atlanta, Ga. made a very interesting address concerning the Klan and it’s [sic] work. A baby carried by one of the Klansman Dressed up in a K.K.K. uniform & hood attracted much attention.”

In 1934, only around 15 percent of the black population in Fairfax County owned land; the other 85 percent continued to support themselves primarily as agricultural laborers (Garnett and Ellison 1934). Because the Lee families were among the minority of African Americans who lived on owner-occupied, debt-free land, the Great Depression had less effect on them financially. Edward and Fannie Lee died respectively in 1925 and 1928, leaving the Edward Lee House to the third generation. Floyd and Lillian Lee purchased the 2.974 acres containing the house from the rest of the heirs in 1929 (DB 249:479). The Edward Lee House was valued at \$700 in the federal census the next year. By 1930, descendants living at the Lee Farm (029-5179-0011; 44FX0862) no longer farmed; William Lee’s widow, Emma was a laundress working out of the house and her son was employed as a laborer at Georgetown College. By 1940, the Lee Farm was no longer occupied by Lees, and the property was eventually razed, but the undisturbed lot contributes to the district as an archeological site. Floyd Lee’s family remained in their house (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) and likely added the cross-gabled addition, Mount Vernon-style porch, and plumbing, reflected in a \$500 increase in value in ten years. The 1940 census illustrates the progression in African-American education. Floyd and Lillian Lee, both in their 40s, had attended school until seventh grade, while their 18-year-old son had finished his second year in high school likely by traveling to Manassas (Henderson and Hussey 1965:7).

*Involvement in World War II (1942 – 1945)*

As World War II began in Europe in 1938, in the U.S. initially “black recruits refused to enlist without assurances that they would have full access to the military’s varied roles and rewards... and created the ‘Double V’ Campaign, which called for victory over fascism abroad and victory over racism at home” (EJI 2016). However, the Selective Service Act of 1940 limited African-American participation and maintained segregation in the U.S. armed forces. Though a select few received flight training (the Tuskegee Airmen), most African American recruits were assigned janitorial or orderly work and were barred from the frontlines initially. On the home front, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802 in 1941, which forbade racial discrimination in hiring for the domestic war industry, yet the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC), which it created, lacked authority and met resistance, particularly in the South. By 1942, less than three percent of war workers were African American. In the military, despite the continuance of discriminatory practices, due to the universal draft, the number of blacks serving increased from fewer than 4,000 in 1941 to 1.2 million in 1945 (EJI 2016). When many African Americans were reluctant to fight for the U.S. because of how poorly they were treated, Calvin Lee willingly enlisted in an unspecified branch after two years of college on March 23, 1943



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“for the duration of the War or other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise according to law” (U.S., World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946). He went on to become a Corporal in the U.S. Army like his father.

*Black Exodus during and after the Civil Rights Era (1946-1978)*

In the 1950s and 1960s, Fairfax County’s population exploded due to the completion of the Capital Beltway around Washington D.C. and Dulles Airport; yet during the height of the Civil Rights era, the percentage of the county’s population who were African American dropped from 16 percent in 1940 to 4 percent in 1970 (Henderson and Hussey 1965:7). The planning process for Dulles Airport may help to explain this trend. Air travel expanded rapidly due to major technical advancements in flight in World War II and an abundance of trained pilots returning from war. In 1948, the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) (predecessor of the Federal Aviation Agency) began to analyze hundreds of sites and narrowed in on three alternatives in Loudoun and Fairfax counties for a new airport to complement Washington D.C.’s National Airport, which was completed in 1941. In 1951, the community of Burke was selected, but white residents protested and the exponential population growth of the area prompted the search to continue. In January 1958, the CAA selected the alternative that they referred to as Chantilly, which was locally known as Willard. The protests of the largely African-American community were ignored, in contrast to the successful protests of the white community in Burke. In September 1958, during an era that lacked requirements for public hearings and environmental reviews, the federal government merely had to condemn 9,800 acres belonging to 87 Willard area landowners to acquire the land it wanted for the airport. "When the airport came in, they said they had to have it," resident Leslie Coates [whose family had worked in Floris] said... "They put a price on it, and you could take it or leave it. They weren't too rough on me. I was black, and it would be harder for me to relocate than anybody else. At that time, it was hard for a black person to buy land. If you didn't have it, you just couldn't buy it" (Seaberry 1992). This had been true since Jim Crow laws went into effect and remained in some areas well after the official end of the Civil Rights Movement in the late 1960s, explaining why black families like the Lees frequently maintained properties for multiple generations even when everyone around them had moved on (Scheel 2002).

Despite the Supreme Court’s *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision in 1954, which mandated school integration, Fairfax County schools and extracurricular activities stayed segregated, a policy in keeping with Virginia’s “Massive Resistance” laws. Just as African Americans began leaving the county in growing numbers, the first black county high school, Luther P. Jackson, finally opened in Merrifield in 1954, one year after the consolidation of the black Floris elementary with Rock Ridge and Oak Grove. Virginia would not concede to school integration until 1964 and some local school districts remained effectively segregated into the 1970s; however, in 1961, two black children integrated the white Floris School that had been completed in 1954 southwest and adjacent to the historic district (Russell-Porter 2000; O’Neill 1996:82).

Calvin Lee returned from the war and married Valry Ann Lacy in Richmond in 1956 (Virginia, Marriage Records, 1936-2014). His father died in 1959 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, which had only allowed integrated burial sections since 1948 when “President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981, which established, ‘that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin’” (U.S. National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962; ANC 2016). Lillian Lee lived for nine more years, a period in which FCPA took part of her land by eminent domain for FFPF. Neither of the elder Lees left a will, thus as sole survivor, Calvin inherited the Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) when she died in 1967 (DB 4818:777). In 1978, he sold the property to

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Bonnie Kerns Stover and retired in Florida, reflecting the changing suburban landscape of Fairfax and the upward mobility of black families in the post-Civil Rights era (ibid.; Florida Death Index, 1877-1998). Calvin Lee died in 1996 and is buried at Quantico National Cemetery (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010).

**Education, Recreation, and Community Planning and Development during Suburbanization of Fairfax County (1911 – Present)**

*Floris Schools, Fairs, and Agricultural Clubs (1911 – 1954)*

Between the Civil War and the second World War, the themes of agriculture, education, and recreation were inextricably connected in the schools, clubs, and fairs in rural America. Though major improvements had been made in farming since the Civil War, many older farmers resisted adopting evolving scientific methods, which were developed and promoted at land grant colleges of agriculture. Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI or Virginia Tech) was established by the Morrill Act of 1862 for white students, and Virginia State University (VSU) by the Second Morrill Act for black students in 1890. A privately funded black college established in 1868, Hampton Institute, also had agricultural instruction. Educators noted that youth were more receptive to the new methods developed at these types of schools and began to reach out to farm children. Under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 created the Cooperative Extension System, which consisted of satellite offices out of the land grant colleges to promote improved scientific methods in rural schools and encourage participation in state, county, and local fairs, where ideas and stock could be exchanged and competitions held for best farm products.

Considered the founder of 4-H (head, heart, hands, and health), A. B. Graham started what he called a Tomato Club or Corn Growing Club in Clark County, Ohio, in 1902. T.A. Erickson started similar afterschool programs and a fair in Douglas County, Minnesota, the same year. By 1924, the clover emblem was adopted and 4-H clubs nationalized within the Cooperative Extension System (4-H.org n.d.). In Virginia, the first known Corn Club organized in Dinwiddie County in 1908 and Tomato Clubs in Nottoway and Halifax Counties in 1910. In Fairfax, the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) appointed its first full-time agricultural agent, C.F. Fowler, and funded demonstrations with youth in 1913 (Sakas 2002:158). With passage of the Smith-Lever Act, Fowler became an extension agent through the state rather than the county. In his first Annual Report in 1916, Fowler wrote that corn clubs had been in existence for five years in Fairfax, but the first record of one is of the club he organized that year. He enrolled 29 boys and placed each youth in charge of one acre, along with the latest corn seed and instruction from VPI. Local papers reported the boys' yields as higher than their fathers at 75-2/7 bushels per acre (Sakas 2002:4, 157-158; Fowler 1916). Corn clubs generally only included boys. Girls joined tomato clubs and "were encouraged to tend 25 tomato plants on 1/10-acre plots. Home demonstration agents taught girls to preserve... in glass jars for home use, and tin cans to sell for profit" (Sakas 2002:5). Boys and girls had some freedom in dealing with livestock, planting domestic gardens, and producing crafts despite gender, while both boys and girls learned about forestry and beekeeping.

In 1917, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appointed its first Home Demonstration Agent, Edith Thompson, and the second extension agent, Harry Derr, who served for 20 years and created an extensive photographic collection of Fairfax's farms and schools, including the Floris area (available at Fairfax County Library Virginia Room). The two agents worked together on input and output to improve the efficiency of farms and health of families as "less than four percent of the farms had running water in 1920, and electricity was still a

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rural luxury as late as the mid-1930s” (Sakas 2002:1, 3). They also served the community during World War I, when corn and tomato club members became an important part of food production, while older siblings went off to war, and supplied the food for hot lunches at the whites-only schools. An early 4-H leader on the national level discouraged the formation of black canning and corn clubs, because he believed it would promote self-sufficiency, leadership, and eventually subversion (Butler and Roy 2014). While African American extension agents were hired, they could work only with African American farmers, whose access to the extension programs often was more limited than that of white farmers. There is no evidence of an offering for Fairfax’s black community in these early years.

During World War I, the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act of 1917 passed. Three years later, Derr promoted the creation of a whites-only county vocational high school (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) at Floris and arranged for white boys “to work for local dairymen so they could earn their keep and stay in the school. His efforts to introduce agricultural subjects in other county schools were less successful, despite many talks and lantern slide shows. Decrying the introduction of French and Latin at the expense of agricultural education, Derr concluded that the county was ““deliberately educating the farm children from the farm”” (Sakas 2002:64). He and Floris farmers lamented in annual reports and local op-ed pieces about the exodus of capable farm youth, seeking more money in the cities and the influx of incapable city dwellers looking for more fresh air in the country while offering nothing in return. Various accounts noted that the newcomers brought invasive plants, which they did not tend properly, and invasive moths and beetles, which damaged crops, all while ignoring trespassing laws and picking the farmers’ wildflowers (Pryor 1979).

Like agricultural clubs and schools, state, county, and community agricultural fairs were segregated. The first fairs in the U.S. were held before the Civil War, but became more widespread after the establishment of agricultural colleges. In a federal Reconstruction effort, Oliver Hudson Kelley, a Northern employee of the Department of Agriculture, toured Virginia and other parts of the South to inspect farming practices, finding welcome in otherwise hostile areas from fellow Masons. Appalled at the conditions, he began the Patrons of Husbandry in 1867 to organize social and educational gatherings in groups called Granges, which he hoped would unite Northerners and Southerners in the same way Masons did. The Fairfax Agricultural Society was organized in October 1848 and eventually became known as the Fairfax County Fair Association (FCFA). Members of the society organized the Northern Virginia Grange before 1879 (Robison 2008). In 1883, the Grange held a whites-only fair in Fall Church. Prior to 1913, the County Fair moved from site to site, renting open land in present-day Dunn Loring, City of Fairfax, and other sites. In 1913, FCFA purchased almost 18 acres at present-day Paul VI Catholic High School in the City of Fairfax, where it hosted its annual three-to-four-day event until the land was bisected by U.S. 29 in the late 1920s (DB R7:99). Two years after the fairground was established, the FCFA began hosting the Fairfax County Colored Fair on separate days (Virginia Education Association 1915). These continued until 1924 and offered much of the same educational and entertainment activities as the whites-only county fair held, but with a few stark differences. The blacks’ fair held poetry contests on famous black figures, such as Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Harriett Tubman, while the whites’ fair prominently featured the KKK as masters of ceremony and musical performers. They gave away gold, shot off fireworks, and burned or lit electric crosses on Klan Days as reported by county extension officers in Annual Reports (Schy et. al. 2016).

On July 17, 1925, several white Floris men met to establish the first local community fair (029-5179-0013), which they held on August 22, 1925, behind the Vocational School (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) where Floris fairs are still held today. The Lees were excluded from these events, which shared a boundary with their

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properties, 029-5179-0011; 44FX0862 and 029-5179-0010; 029-0264. Derr supplied judges for various competitions, and the local women sold lunch (*Frying Pan Sizzle* 29 July 1925). This event spurred the creation of several chapters of national organizations to provide additional support and resources for ongoing groups in Floris. In 1926, a local chapter of Future Farmers of America Club (FFA) formed as one of 88 original founding chapters and provided supplemental instruction for youth in the Vocational High School; future county extension agent and FFPF founder, Joseph Beard, was a founding member. With roots in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s earlier Reconstruction era efforts, a Floris Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry was organized to educate adults “on a variety of topics, such as diseases effecting dairy cows, road conditions, methods to keep milk at the right temperature, and cooperative efforts between farmers to buy seed together in large quantities” (Barnes 1967; Robison 2008; Glakas 2015).

Organization of the first official 4-H Club at Floris followed in January of 1928 (*Herndon Observer [HO]* 26 January 1928:1). It began to hold meetings and events at the local schools (029-5179-0004; 029-0274 and 029-5179-0005; 029-0204) and organized a livestock group (*Fairfax Herald [FH]* 10 February 1928:1). By the late 1920s, 4-H had evolved into a multi-generational organization where the membership took on duties that the extension agents could no longer handle due to growing membership numbers. While FFA and the Grange strictly focused on agricultural practices in the field, 4-H club activity provided a holistic picture of family farm life, including activities, such as musical events, services projects, and games, in addition to farming and home production (Sakas 2002:6). By the 1930s, the 4-H Frying Pan Ramblers organized and sometimes sang with the Floris Orchestra (*HO* 26 January 1935:5; *FH* 5 June 1936:1). Derr noted in one annual report that it was easy to get families to sign up but not to follow through (Sakas 2006). Despite his concerns, the Floris Home Demonstration Cub were winners of the most effective club in the county in 1930 (Pryor 1979:63). By 1936, the first black 4-H club organized in the county outside of the historic district. In Derr’s Annual Report, he wrote, “The colored club at the Vienna School was organized, but we did not expect much from it... A few days ago we were considerably surprised to have the Principal of the School send in her report ... Nearly every colored boy and girl nine years up to eighteen did some work ... Taking it in we feel it is a credible showing for a colored school that has not received its full share of assistance in club work” (Pryor 1979).

The Vocational High School (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) only operated until 1930 when the white Floris students were consolidated with Herndon High School as part of a statewide consolidation effort (Netherton et. al. 1978:522). The main building was converted for more elementary school space and the auditorium continued to be used for community, club, and school recitals and plays as well as country music and minstrel shows, which historically featured white people in blackface. It also hosted the Floris Orchestra:

The November meeting of the Floris Community League will be held next Friday night instead of the First Wednesday night in the month. The newly organized Floris Orchestra will give its first program at this meeting and they promise us some real [sic] good music. A play entitled “Order of Independent Women” will be presented by the students and some of the faculty. This is a wonderful play and you should not miss it. There are also several other attractive features in store for this meeting, Next Friday night Nov. 4 (*Floris Gazette* 28 Oct 1927).

During the Great Depression (1929-1939), as a whole Fairfax County farmers suffered like many Americans affected by drought and crashing markets. 4-H encouraged its members to “keep yearning within earning” and focus on home production of clothing. In contrast, local Floris families appeared to have not been as badly affected with few properties changing hands. William Ellmore rose in prominence before and during the

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Depression. His wheat crops were featured in Harry Derr's 1925 Annual Report and seeds shared with other farmers (Pryor 1979:15). He served as a trustee on the Fairfax County School Board in the mid-1920s, member of the Fairfax County Board of Equalization in 1930, president of the County Agricultural Board, and on the Board of Supervisors from 1932 until his death in 1935. His family also did well with his son operating the dairy farm. His daughter Mary Elizabeth Ellmore graduated from the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg, Virginia, (present-day James Madison University [JMU]), and became principal of Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) in 1929. His other daughter, Emma Virginia Ellmore, also attended the State Teachers College and began teaching at Floris School before moving to Herndon High School (Shaffer, Wilson, Sarver & Gray, PC 2011:2.6). The Ellmore Tenant House (029-5179-0006; 029-0267) was occupied by other teachers who served Floris schools for white children.

When William Ellmore (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) died in 1935, Edith Rogers, a founder of the Floris Grange, was asked to fill his vacancy on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, making her the first woman to do so and thereby playing a significant role in the advancement of women in professional roles in the region. She had recently attained a Bachelor of Science from American University while serving as principal of a school in Great Falls (Glakas 2015).

While serving on the Board of Supervisors, Edith worked to balance the urbanization of Fairfax County with the needs of the farming community. When the Fairfax County Grange appeared before the Board to recommend Joseph Beard, a Floris native, to succeed Harry Derr as Fairfax County's new Agricultural Extension Agent, Edith made the motion to hire him. ... One year she took out a special ad on the front page of the *Herndon Observer* newspaper, asking people to come to a special meeting at the high school to talk with her about a proposed tax hike, warning that there was a "very serious situation," saying that the people may be facing an unprecedented tax increase. She cautioned, "Farm land is now bearing more than its share of the taxes." ...

In 1936 the Dranesville District Democratic Club elected her as their representative to the Democratic Convention in Norfolk. That same year she was elected as an officer to the Order of Eastern Star, a Freemasonry-related organization open to women (Glakas 2015).

Despite growing concerns about urbanization, Floris remained fairly unchanged in 1937 (Figure 5). In 1939 after losing re-election to the Board of Supervisors due to a vote regarding road apportionments, Edith Rogers became a census enumerator, the Superintendent of the Floris Fair, the chairperson of the Red Cross fundraising drive, a Democratic Primary official, and Civil Defense Council member (Glakas 2015).

In the 1940s, farmers still dominated the County Board of Supervisors, but after World War II, they steadily lost their influence and ultimately control over land use in Fairfax other than the conservation of the Floris Fairgrounds (029-5179-0013) and eventually the Frying Park Farm Park. Properties within the Floris Historic District transferred ownership much more frequently, a reflection of the rapid growth, changing cultural landscape, and increasing transience of Fairfax County residents. In 1939, Ellmore's widow Minnie and their children sold their tenant house (029-5179-0006; 029-0267) to Floyd Kidwell (DB 325:341). Raised on the neighboring Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), he lived there with his wife Elizabeth and continued to operate the dairy farm for only six years before moving back to his childhood farm (U.S. Federal Census 1940) (Figure 6). Marking a significant cultural shift, he sold the property not to a farmer, but to a proprietor of a lunch room, J. D. Thompson, in 1945 (DB 453:75). Two years later, a house painter and his wife, Ralph and Louise Presgrave, bought the tenant house (DB 535:78).

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The *Herndon Observer* and *Fairfax Herald* regularly announced 4-H socials, contests, and shows throughout the 1930s and 1940s and publicized a fair in 1942 (FH 14 August 1942:1). In 1940, nationwide there were 1,420,297 boys and girls enrolled in 4-H, including 78,668 segregated African-American boys and 108,779 girls (Murray 1942:167). The first official Fairfax County Junior Fair, now known as the Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival (029-5179-0013), was held in 1948 and has occurred for 68 consecutive years behind Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) within present-day FFPF. The *Fairfax Herald* reported on August 20, 1948, on pleasant weather and a good crowd; the girls competed in flower arrangement, dressmaking, and canned food, and both boys and girls competed in livestock and farm produce (Sakas 2002:28). Announcements regarding the fairs over the years all read similarly with youth competing in sewing, crafts, poultry, horse events, dog shows, beekeeping, and rabbit shows among others. In 1960, in commemoration of the 1948 fair, the contributing 4-H Barn (029-5179-0013) was built as plans for the FFPF were underway. In the 1960s and 1970s equestrian courses, supporting storage buildings, and an activity center were built on the fairgrounds, all of which are non-contributing to the district, but should change in status once they are 50 years of age or older as they are associated with the district's areas of significance in Education and Entertainment/Recreation (Figure 7).

### *The Creation of the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Frying Pan Model Farm Park (1950 – 1967)*

In 1906, the National Antiquities Act passed, allowing the U.S. president to declare National Monuments. Ten years later, the National Park Service (NPS) was formed under the U.S. Department of the Interior and entrusted with management of both cultural and natural resources. With the considerable assistance of New Deal programs developed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression, “On June 15, 1936, Virginia became the first state to open an entire park system of six parks on the same day. The new parks offered modern outdoor recreational facilities while protecting areas with significant natural resources” (DCR n.d.). As with all other aspects of public life in Virginia, the state park system originally was segregated. Before the twentieth century, park planning on the local level only occurred in cities and significantly sized towns, beginning with the designation of the Boston Common in Massachusetts in 1634 (Cranz 1982). By 1790, the National Mall in Washington, D.C. was designated, and by 1799, Thomas Jefferson devised a checkerboard plan of greenspace, which could be applied to gridiron towns everywhere (Reps 1965). In the early-to-mid-nineteenth century, municipalities began to create picturesque rural cemeteries on the edge of cities. The rolling hills, winding paths, ponds, and beautiful monuments immediately began to attract picnickers, and in turn, stirred the American Park Movement, whose champions were Andrew Jackson Downing, Frederick Law Olmsted, and Calvert Vaux, Olmsted's collaborator on Central Park in New York in the mid-nineteenth century. The development of large anchor parks featuring seemingly natural settings, landscaped parkways, and commuter suburbs in America became interrelated in the late nineteenth century. In addition to his role as the father of modern landscape architecture, Olmsted and his associates are largely responsible for the modern American suburb of zoned semi-rural subdivisions connected by large feeder roads. After 1900, the Progressive movement demanded “‘reform parks’ that provided recreation opportunities, particularly for children, in close-to-home neighborhood parks. Thus was born the notion of the playground” (Walls 2009). With white flight from the cities into the suburbs in the mid-twentieth century, early city parks were neglected, and the type was considered unnecessary in new communities where everyone had a big backyard and a swing set, but suburbanites would begin to demand much larger facilities with a wider variety of amenities that further put demands on what little open space was left. Beyond the traditional means of creating parkland “by public acquisition through eminent domain, tax incentives, or police power”, a variety of innovative methods were born in this era including “compensable regulations, development rights easements, transferable development rights, and land banking” (Roe 1976:421).

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In Virginia, Fairfax County became a leader in suburban park planning as it was faced by development pressure earlier than most Virginia jurisdictions. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) was established under the Virginia Park Authorities Act of 1950 to develop and administer a system of parks and public recreational areas and immediately began to acquire strategically located parcels for a variety of passive, active, and cultural parks (Graft 1980; Virginia General Assembly 1950). Although local governments did not enshrine racial segregation in ordinances concerning public parks, the parks typically were segregated by strong social custom that discouraged intermingling of races. Within two years, the FCPA was working with the U.S. Congress (1952) and local benefactors to secure land for the George Washington Memorial Parkway. In the next two years, it acquired a defunct portion of the Old Dominion Railroad at Great Falls for a park over 30 years before the national Rails-to-Trails organization was established in 1986 (American Automobile Association 1954). By 1955, the only two park authorities operating under the Virginia Park Authority Act, as amended, were FCPA and the Buggs Island Park Authority, which oversaw land around an impounded lake between Mecklenburg and Halifax counties in a vastly different cultural landscape in Southside Virginia (Virginia General Assembly 1955:ix). Under the Virginia Park Authorities Act in 1959, Fairfax County joined Arlington County and the City of Falls Church to create the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) to protect “woods, meadows, lakes and streams from the threat of suburban sprawl” (NVPDC 2016) and incorporated their stretch of the Washington & Old Dominion Railroad into the regional plan.

In 1957, one year before the Dulles Airport site was selected, longtime 4-H member, Granger, Floris farmer, and extension agent, Joseph Beard, proposed converting the Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) and Fairground (029-5179-0013) into a centerpiece youth center for FFA, 4-H, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other similar groups, which already held educational and recreational events at the site. FCPA was approached about purchasing and managing the site (Pryor 1979:116). The Fairfax County Agricultural Rural and Economic Development Committee and the Board of Supervisors urged the county school board to let the property go at no cost due to the age of the buildings (FCPA Minutes 30 Dec 1959). The cost for ongoing maintenance of the property influenced FCPA’s final decision more than altruistic gestures towards the local extension agent and 4-H (Pryor 1979:118-119). The FFPF and Youth Center was created on 4.39 acres, for the price of legal conveyance fees only and was finalized in September of 1960 (Figure 7), at which time a front-gabled, 4-H-green barn (029-5179-0013) was built to commemorate the first official fair held on the site in 1948. The school board used the two brick schoolhouses and shop (029-5179-0005; 029-0204 and 029-5179-0004; 029-0274) for storage until the end of that year (FCPA Minutes 3 Feb 1960; FCPA Minutes 28 Sept 1960). To help manage the park, the FFPF Supervisory Board was created in 1960 and consisted of independent local citizens associated with “the agricultural, homemaking, and youth organizations such as the Agricultural Extension Advisory Board, the Fairfax County Granges, and the Future Homemakers of America”, all traditional working class groups who predated the post-World War II boom (Pryor 1979:118-119).

Improvements to the park began in earnest in the 1960s. Neighboring properties were appraised in early 1961 for the planned expansion. These included 0.6-acre, 0.95-acre, and 5.66-acre areas north of the old Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) (FCPA Minutes 22 Mar 1961) (Figure 8). By the middle of that year, nine acres adjacent to the property were purchased, and the FCPA authorized \$3,000 for structural improvements (FCPA Minutes 1 Jun 1961; FCPA Minutes 26 July 1961). The busy year of 1961 culminated with the controversial decision to allow and then reverse the decision to install a telephone pole at the corner of the 1911 Floris School building (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) (FCPA Minutes 25 Oct 1961; FCPA Minutes 14 Nov 1961). FCPA worked cooperatively with former white farmers, but in 1962, it used eminent domain to condemn one acre of the Edward

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Lee House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) land and added it to the segregated park in January of 1963 for a settlement of \$800 for the acre and \$450 for damages (FCPA Minutes Executive Session 24 Jan 1963; Fairfax County Plat Map 1962) (Figure 9). In 1962, Mr. Holdaway, the African American janitor, was told to vacate the 1911 four-room building (or the “quarters”), which had served as his home for over two decades (FCPA Minutes 29 Nov 1961). A decision to claim land that had belonged to a black family for almost 100 years and the removal of a custodian were apparently less vexing issues than attaching a telephone pole to the school as indicated in the tone of the minutes. Less than a year later, however, the U.S. Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, followed in 1965 by the Voting Rights Act. These two laws were the crowning achievements of the African American Civil Rights movement and finally ended Jim Crow segregation throughout the country. Fairfax County’s African American population was now required to be granted equal access to all of the county’s public facilities.

As the park took shape and middle-to-upper class workers with disposable income and free time edged out the farmers, the early 1960s saw an increased importance in equestrian events on the property and a decrease in interest in the traditional agricultural endeavors that Joseph Beard had been promoting. This started a decades-long tension between advocates of the model farm, which aimed to celebrate the agricultural community who historically were far removed from riding horses for sport, and those who wanted to expand riding facilities and the fairgrounds, which served the interests of the new suburban leisure class, even though the latter was rooted in 4-H (Figures 10-11). Equestrian revenue helped pay for much of the upkeep and served as the catalyst for new construction; thus the needs of the riding class was prioritized (Pryor 1979:115-116). The old Vocational High School building had been vandalized, formerly condemned, and was demolished to allow for a new park entrance. It had been the only building on the property with functional sanitary facilities, prompting FCPA to budget \$10,000 for sanitary facilities and a shelter and \$5,000 to remodel the associated vocational shop (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) (FCPA Minutes 2 Jan 1964; FCPA Minutes 7 Apr 1964). A formal Lower Riding Ring was under construction by July, and the Fairfax County 4-H had contributed funds and labor for setting up the fair, including constructing the riding ring and painting and repairing the roof of the Floris Vocational School Shop (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) (FCPA Minutes 20 July 1964; 4 Aug 1964; 1 Sept 1964). The 4-H fair (029-5179-0013) was so popular late that summer that the park had to use the eastern neighbor’s pasture, which had belonged to the Ellmores, for parking, and the FCPA decided to look into purchasing that acreage (FCPA Minutes 1 Sept 1964) (Figure 12). In December, the FCPA allocated funds for the construction of a heating plant in the 1911 four-room school building (FCPA Minutes 21 Dec 1964).

FCPA made another series of improvements and significant acquisitions in 1965, the year that the magazine *Agricultural History* reported on open-air museums and consequently spurred a national movement (Pryor 1979) (Figure 13). In January, the FCPA budgeted for \$26,000 for roads and parking, \$3,000 for landscaping, and \$2,000 for bleachers to be implemented in 1966 (FCPA Minutes 19 Jan 1965). Some work to the 1911 school’s chimney flue, having to do with the heating system, was authorized in March (FCPA Minutes 2 Mar 1965). In collecting bids for constructing and delivering new sanitary facilities, needed before August 1 in time for the 4-H fair, pre-fab construction was considered as a desirable alternative to the over-budget bids received. Reflecting an increasing lack of concern for the Old Floris and a focus on 4-H facilities, which catered to citizens living in brand new houses, the old Kidwell barn on the property was considered a safety hazard by the 4-H Club, and the FCPA decided to demolish it, giving access to Mr. Kidwell’s farm for overflow parking and room to construct a new barn (FCPA Minutes 8 Jun 1965). Significantly, 33.54 acres of the Kidwell Farmland (029-5179-0002; 029-0268) was added to the park at \$1,500 per acre in mid-1965 (DB 2683:439; FCPA Minutes 8 Jul 1965). The Kidwell family had owned the property since 1934, and their farm represented the type of family operation, which was seen as an example of a model farm by supporters of the model farm project at PFP (Pryor 1979:118-



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119). However, since so much of the park’s revenue derived from equestrian events, only one-third of the park’s money and land were reserved for the model farm, and the FCPA engaged in an outdated method of selective preservation, associated with the 1930s preservation movement, whereby buildings were restored or removed depending on convenience and creative reinterpretation (Pryor 1979:118-119). As part of the purchase agreement, the FCPA constructed a fence along the southwest and rear boundaries with Floyd Kidwell in early 1966 (FCPA Minutes 1 Mar 1966) (Figure 14). An additional 40 acres was acquired from Kidwell in 1967 with the assistance of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Building arrangements changed with the addition of another horse barn and an indoor equestrian area, which were ready for use for the 1967 4-H fair in August (FCPA Minutes 6 Jun 1967; FCPA Minutes 18 July 1967); these have since been razed.

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With the exit of the last farm families, equestrian activities surpassed all other park events. In 1970, FCPA acquired 3.57 acres of Kidwell Farm (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), including a barn and the house (DB 3289:127; Pryor 1979:118-119). Two years later, the FCPA acquired 33.536 acres from Floyd H. Kidwell and worked to obtain 3.5684 more acres., which were valued at \$35,411 or over \$10,000 per acre, a price indicative of exponential development in Fairfax County and dwindling land supply (FCPA Minutes 5 Dec 1972) (Figures 15-17). With suburban equestrian groups, like the Difficult Run Pony Club, willing to pay higher fees than 4-H and other traditional Floriss groups, the calendar became dominated by unvaried horse events and farm equipment was neglected. Conflict arose in park administration because it was administered by both the FCPA and the Advisory Committee, and while they had the same mission, they were not meeting the needs of what was left of the historic ideals surrounding the Floriss 4-H, the Grange, the old fairgrounds, and original park plans (FCPA Minutes 5 Dec 1972; FCPA Master Plan). The following year saw further complaints when farm plowing conflicted with horse groups using the park. To solve the issue, the equestrians, who had deeper pockets and now more lobby power in the suburban era, appealed to the FCPA to acquire more land (FCPA Minutes 24 Oct 1973).

In November of 1973, a blacksmith, Mr. Moffitt, notified the FCPA that he would sell his shop to them for \$2,000 and its contents for \$4,000. The Supervisory Board voted to acquire the contents and budgeted for supplies necessary to preserve them for \$5,000, discussing whether they should use and display the items at Colvin Run Mill, considering how equestrian-oriented FFPF had become (FCPA Minutes 20 Nov 1973). Just as the model farm idea began to diminish, the following year, the FCPA acquired additional acreage and with the recently added Kidwell house and barn, began to turn some attention to the open-air model farm concept (Pryor 1979:118-119). To further establish this portion of the park, the Moffett Blacksmith Shop (029-0275; 029-5179-0003) was relocated and reconstructed on the park property, and housed some of Moffett’s blacksmithing equipment (Pryor 1979:117-119). A picnic area and trading post near the Vocational High School Shop (now the Country Store) (029-5179-0004; 029-0274) were also added. Pursuant to the reconstruction, the FCPA attached a memorial plaque on the building for Hatcher H. Ankers, who had given much of his time to working for FFPF (FCPA Minutes 21 Jan 1975).

The late 1970s included more variety in equestrian events and facilities on the 4-H fairgrounds. Investments included the purchase of equestrian jumps and Mr. Burdine’s farm equipment (FCPA Minutes 5 Mar 1974; FCPA Minutes 3 Dec 1974). The Difficult Run Pony Club started holding bi-annual horse trials at the park in 1975. Two outdoor riding rings, referred to as the Equestrian Course and the Upper Riding Ring, were built the following year. In 1976, there were 55 equestrian events held on the property, bringing multitudes of visitors. With the increased attention to the park, a resident farmer and volunteer programs were founded to help tend the

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gardens and livestock in 1976 (Pryor 1979:118-119). Additional property was acquired in 1977, and construction was begun on a large indoor show ring designed and constructed by Hughes Group Architects and Jack Bays, Inc. Jumps were replaced and pathways were cleared (FCPA Minutes 2 Oct 1979) (Figure 18).

In 1979, Elizabeth Brown Pryor wrote that FPPF was different from the other approximately 100 open-air farms that opened by then in that “rather than show the slow and hand-operated life of a pre-mechanization farmer, Frying Pan Farm shows the farm in a dynamic transition,” one that had not given up on the past, but was considering modern equipment. In this way, it intentionally reflected the county and acknowledged its imperfections as something other than a perfectly preserved cultural landscape. “Far from being a zoo or a site of isolated craft or mechanical demonstrations, the farm is operated daily as if agriculture were its only aim. Crops are grown not merely for show but to feed the animal stock and manure is used to fertilize garden and grain fields. The visitor who stops by the farm does not see a prearranged interpretive display, but chances on the farmer performing that day’s necessary work: milking, haying, repairing fences, or plowing” (Pryor 1979:122). While much of this was true, the equestrian groups did not lose their hold on use of much of the land.

In 1982, the 1911 Floris School (029-5179-0005; 029-0204) Community Center was renovated. The Fairfax County Extension Homemakers group donated appliances with plans to offer cooking and canning classes to the local 4-H groups (Fogg 1982), much like the activities that had occurred there in the 1910s, when the first canning groups prepared supplies for World War I. In 1984, the last trustee of the Frying Pan Meeting House (029-5179-0012; 029-0015) deeded that property to the FCPA almost 200 years after its founding. From 1986 to 1987, the Kidwell dairy barn was reconstructed. The Murphy Farm smokehouse and corncrib were relocated to the park in 1987, and 2.05 acres was added to the park. The park added five more acres that same year and 2.8 acres in 1989.

In the 1990s, the previously vacated Frying Pan Meeting House was listed on the NRHP and received a historical marker funded by a local DAR chapter. Within the decade, the First Korean United Methodist Church moved into the sanctuary next to the Edward Lee House, and the Floris United Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263) congregation moved to another location. FCPA added 1.74 acres to the park in 1994 and reconstructed a ca. 1950s egg annex next to the Kidwell Farm garage (029-5179-0002; 029-0268). A privy was moved onto park property and situated near the Kidwell Farmhouse in 1997. That same year, FCPA demolished and reconstructed the dairy processing building in its 1920s iteration within the Kidwell Farm complex, while also salvaging an “antique” equipment shed on the site. Further additions to the park included the construction of peacock pens and bee hives. Just before the end of the decade, the FCPA added two parcels of land, 5 acres and 8.43 acres, and dismantled Middleton Barn, formerly part of the Middleton Farm on West Ox Road, for a future addition to the park (JMA 2008).

In the 21<sup>st</sup>-century, FCPA added more small segments to the park’s acreage and again focused on the built environment. This included five acres, containing the Ellmore Farm (029-5179-0001; 029-0270), which they bought from the Chantilly Bible Church. The church had converted the Ellmore barn into a sanctuary in 1988, and the park began to use it for meeting space in 2001. The Ellmore House was updated for the newly formed Resident Curator Program. A chicken coop was reconstructed based on 1930s designs and located near the Kidwell Farmhouse (029-5179-0002; 029-0268) that same year as well as another chicken house and pig furrowing pen. The next year the FCPA reconstructed the Middleton Barn from a family outside of the historic district within the park boundaries. In 2003, they built a corncrib in the style of an 1800s example that had been

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donated by the Murphy family but was in too poor a condition to repair at the park. A Natural Resource Inventory and Forest Stand Delineation Study were conducted in 2003. In 2004, the FCPA relocated the C.P. Jones Cider Press to the park. The Press was formerly in operation in Fairfax Station from 1928 to 1954 (JMA 2008). Wilson, Sarver & Gray prepared a Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the Frying Pan Meeting House in 2004. A HSR of Bowman's Store was also completed that year.

In 2012, the year of the 64<sup>th</sup> consecutive official 4-H fair, FCPA and the Virginia Cooperative Extension added two new front-gabled barns that mimic the 1979 and 1960 fair complex buildings in color, all 4-H green, and roof pitch to accommodate the fair and equestrian events as they have only grown in popularity (Figure 18). According to its website, today the fair is the "culminating event for the 20 4-H clubs in Fairfax County that involve youth in activities including livestock, dog training, gardening, woodworking and GPS (global positioning systems) and GIS (geographical information systems)". The purpose of Frying Pan Farm Park today is to:

1. Educate the public about how the park's natural resources, geology and human activities influenced the transformation of the natural landscape into an agricultural landscape.
2. Inform the public on the changes, over time, in livestock and crop management, equipment use, development and other farming practices.
3. Educate the public about how farm life and roles of individuals in the running of a family farm is a cumulative effort.
4. Demonstrate the interdependent connection that exists between the community and the farm such as equestrian activities, 4-H clubs activities, educational group opportunities and scout functions (FCPA 2002:2)

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**SECTION 11: Form Prepared By**

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Date: January 2017

**SECTION 12: Additional Documentation**

**Photographs**

SUBJECT: Ca. 1896 Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) and Floris Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263)  
VIEW: Looking SE  
Photographer: Anna Maas  
Date of Photograph: September 2016  
NEG. NO.: VA\_Fairfax\_FlorisHistoricDistrictAmend1.jpg  
PHOTO: 1 of 4

SUBJECT: ca. 1909 Cockerille-McFarland House (029-5179-0007; 029-0420)  
VIEW: Looking NE  
Photographer: Anna Maas  
Date of Photograph: December 2016  
NEG. NO.: VA\_Fairfax\_FlorisHistoricDistrictAmend2.jpg  
PHOTO: 2 of 4

SUBJECT: 1965 Riding Ring, Two 2012 Buildings, and 1979 Activity Center on 1948 4-H Fairgrounds (029-5179-0013)  
VIEW: Looking NE  
Photographer: Anna Maas  
Date of Photograph: December 2016  
NEG. NO.: VA\_Fairfax\_FlorisHistoricDistrictAmend4.jpg  
PHOTO: 3 of 4

SUBJECT: Frying Pan Farm Park, Showing Ellmore Farm Fields (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) in Foreground and Kidwell Farm Buildings (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), Floris Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), and the 4-H Fairgrounds in Background (029-5179-0013) in Frying Pan Farm Park, Looking West  
VIEW: Looking West  
Photographer: Anna Maas  
Date of Photograph: December 2016  
NEG. NO.: VA\_Fairfax\_FlorisHistoricDistrictAmend5.jpg  
PHOTO: 4 of 4

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- Figure 6. 1954 Black & White Imager
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- Figure 8. Fairfax County Plat Map, 1961
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# Floris Historic District, Fairfax County, Virginia

Virginia Department of Historic Resources No. 029-5179

- District Boundary
- Contributing
- Non-contributing
- Previously Listed

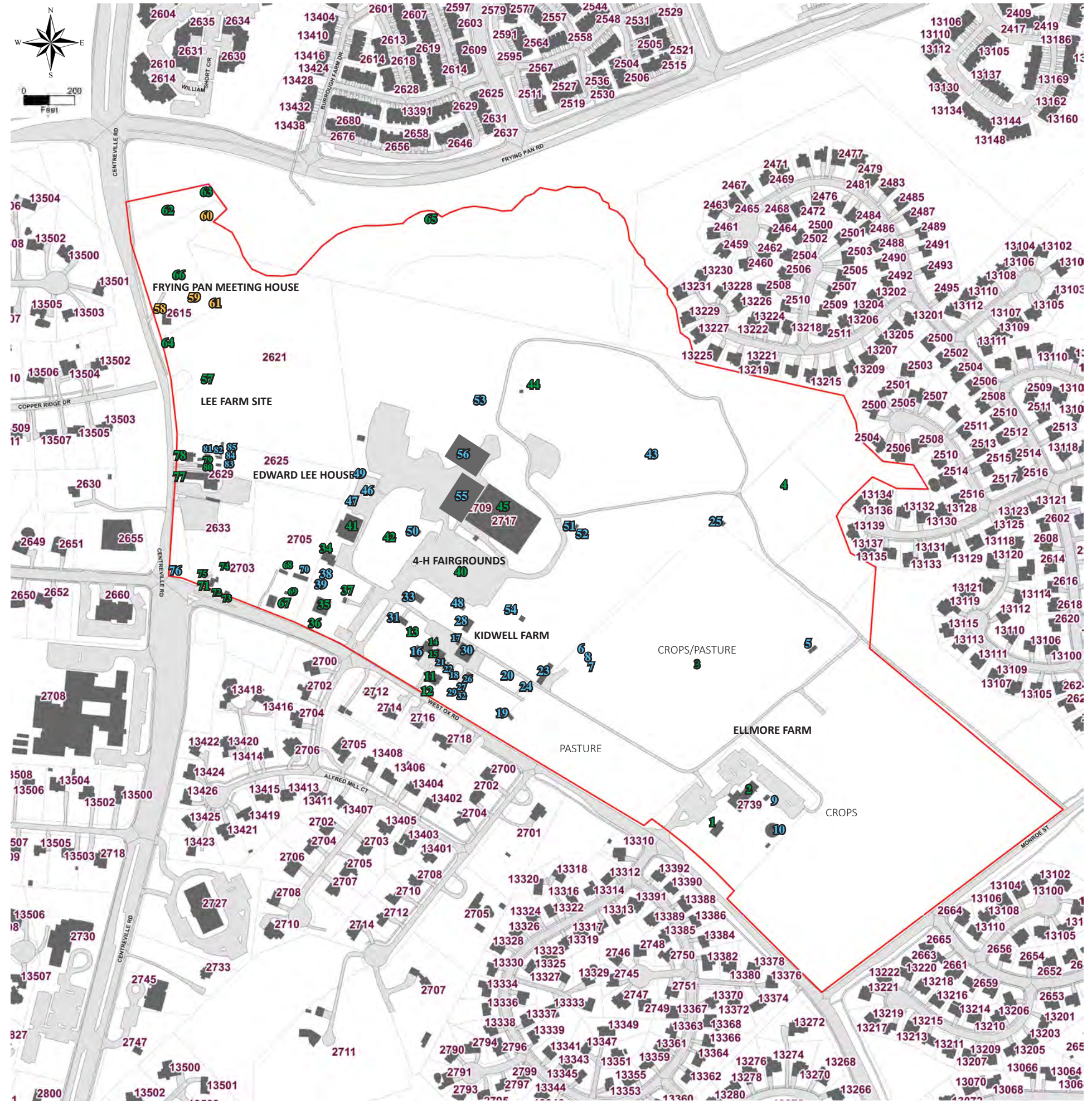
## Frying Pan Farm Park

1. Ellmore Farmhouse ca. 1896
2. Ellmore Barn ca. 1900
3. Pasture and Crop Fields pre-1937
4. Farm Pond ca. 1935
5. Run-in Shed 1998
6. Pig Farrowing Pen 2001
7. Pig Nursery 2002
8. Pig Run-in 2003
9. Bathrooms 2008
10. Picnic Pavilion 2008
11. Kidwell Farmhouse ca. 1900
12. Stone Retaining Wall ca. 1900
13. Stone Retaining Wall ca. 1900
14. Shed ca.1900
15. Workshop/Office pre-1937
16. Kidwell Barn reconstructed 1975
17. Corn Crib reconstructed 1987, 2003
18. Smokehouse moved to the park in 1987
19. Run-in shed ca.1993
20. Run-in shed 1996
21. Privy moved to park in 1997
22. Dairy ca. 1920 reconstructed 1997
23. Machine shed from historic plans 1997
24. Turkey/duck/peacock pens 1998
25. Bee Hives 1999
26. Chicken House ca. 2001
27. Chicken House reconstructed ca. 2001
28. Middleton Barn moved to park 2002
29. Shed 2003
30. Machine Shed 2006
31. Cider Press Barn ca.1928 / 2006
32. Rabbit Hutch 2008
33. Moffett Blacksmith Shop 1912 / 1975
34. Floris Vocation High School Shop 1920
35. Floris School 1911
36. Stone Retaining Wall ca. 1900
37. Bathrooms 1965
38. Shed ca. 2000
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41. 4-H Commemorative Barn 1960
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43. Equestrian Course post-1974
44. Upper Riding Ring 1976

45. Activity Center 1979
46. Diesel Tank Shelter 1990
47. Shed ca. 1994
48. Kiosk ca.1997
49. Shed 1998
50. Storage Box ca. 1998
51. Shed ca. 2000
52. Shed ca. 2000
53. Cell Tower ca. 2000
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55. Barn 2012
56. Barn 2012
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58. Frying Pan Meetinghouse ca. 1785
59. European-/African-American Cemetery 1884-1938
60. Manmade Baptismal Pond ca. 1797
61. Pile of Stones Marker ca. 1797
62. Spring lined with dry-laid local fieldstone in an oval shape ca. 1785
63. Large Rock Marker ca. 1797
64. Three Boundary Markers ca. 1847
65. Quarry at Frying Pan Branch
66. Privy 1960

## Properties Adjacent to Frying Pan Farm Park

67. Ellmore Tenant House ca. 1901
68. Stable ca. 1905
69. Pump House ca. 1950
70. Stable ca. 1975
71. Cokerille-McFarland House ca. 1909
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81. Large Shed ca. 1975
82. Small Shed ca. 1975
83. Stable ca. 1975
84. Stable ca. 1975
85. Stable with additions ca. 1975



Prepared by Thunderbird Archeology, a division of Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. January 30, 2017

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1. Ca. 1896 Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) and Florin Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), Looking SE (Maas September 2016)

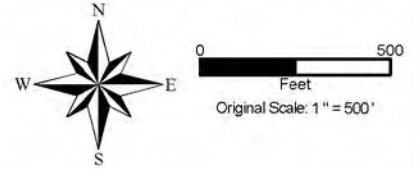
2. Ca. 1909 Cockerille-McFarland House (029-5179-0007; 029-0420), Looking NE (Maas September 2016)

3. 1965 Riding Ring, Two 2012 Buildings, and 1979 Activity Center on 1948 4-H Fairgrounds (029-5179-0013) in Frying Pan Farm Park, Looking NE (Maas December 2016)

4. Frying Pan Farm Park, Showing Ellmore Farm Fields (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) in Foreground and Kidwell Farm Buildings (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), Florin Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), and the 4-H Fairgrounds in Background (029-5179-0013) in Frying Pan Farm Park, Looking West (Maas December 2016)

Florin Historic District (029-5179)  
Fairfax County, Virginia

Photograph Key  
February 2012 Natural Color Imagery





Ca. 1896 Edward Lee House (029-5179-0010; 029-0264) and Floris Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), Looking SE (Maas September 2016)



Ca. 1909 Cockerille-McFarland House (029-5179-0007; 029-0420), Looking NE (Maas September 2016)



1965 Riding Ring, Two 2012 Buildings, and 1979 Activity Center on 1948 4-H Fairgrounds (029-5179-0013) in Frying Pan Farm Park, Looking NE (Maas December 2016)



Frying Pan Farm Park, Showing Ellmore Farm Fields (029-5179-0001; 029-0270) in Foreground and Kidwell Farm Buildings (029-5179-0002; 029-0268), Floris Methodist Church (029-5179-0009; 029-0263), and the 4-H Fairgrounds in Background (029-5179-0013) in Frying Pan Farm Park, Looking West (Maas December 2016)

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Name of Property








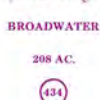
Fairfax County, Virginia

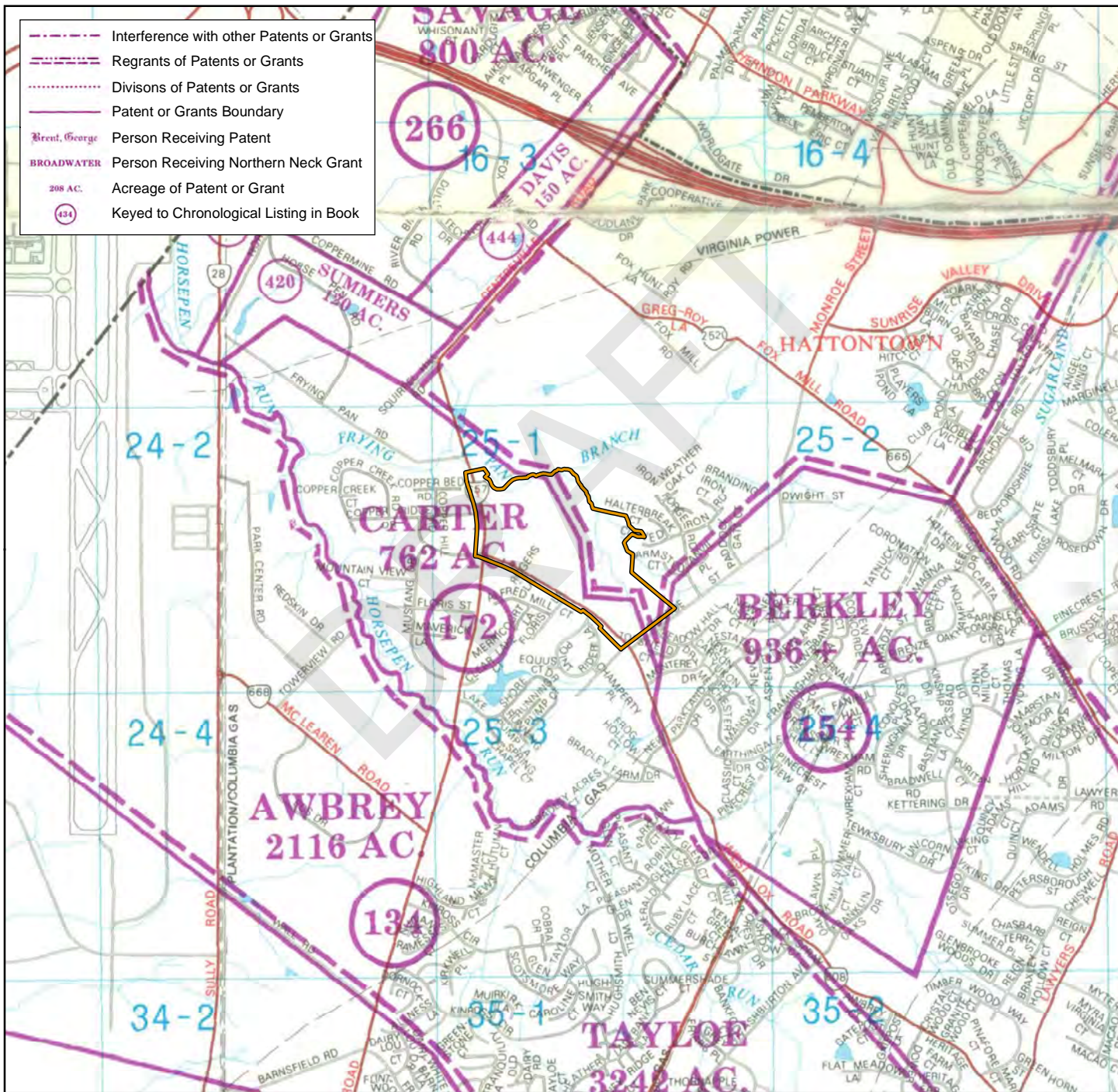
County and State


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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

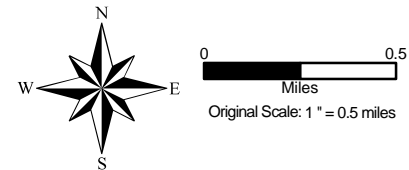
Section number            Additional Documentation            Page           

-  Interference with other Patents or Grants
-  Re-grants of Patents or Grants
-  Divisions of Patents or Grants
-  Patent or Grants Boundary
-  Person Receiving Patent
-  Person Receiving Northern Neck Grant
-  Acreage of Patent or Grant
-  Keyed to Chronological Listing in Book



 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 1:**  
**Patents and Northern Neck Grants**  
**Of Fairfax County, Virginia**



Map Source: "Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia" January 1, 1990. Prepared by the Fairfax County Office of Communications, Large Area Mapping. To be used with the Book: *Beginning at a White Oak...* Patents and Northern Neck Grants of Fairfax County, Virginia. Beth Mitchell, 1977

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Floris Historic District

Name of Property

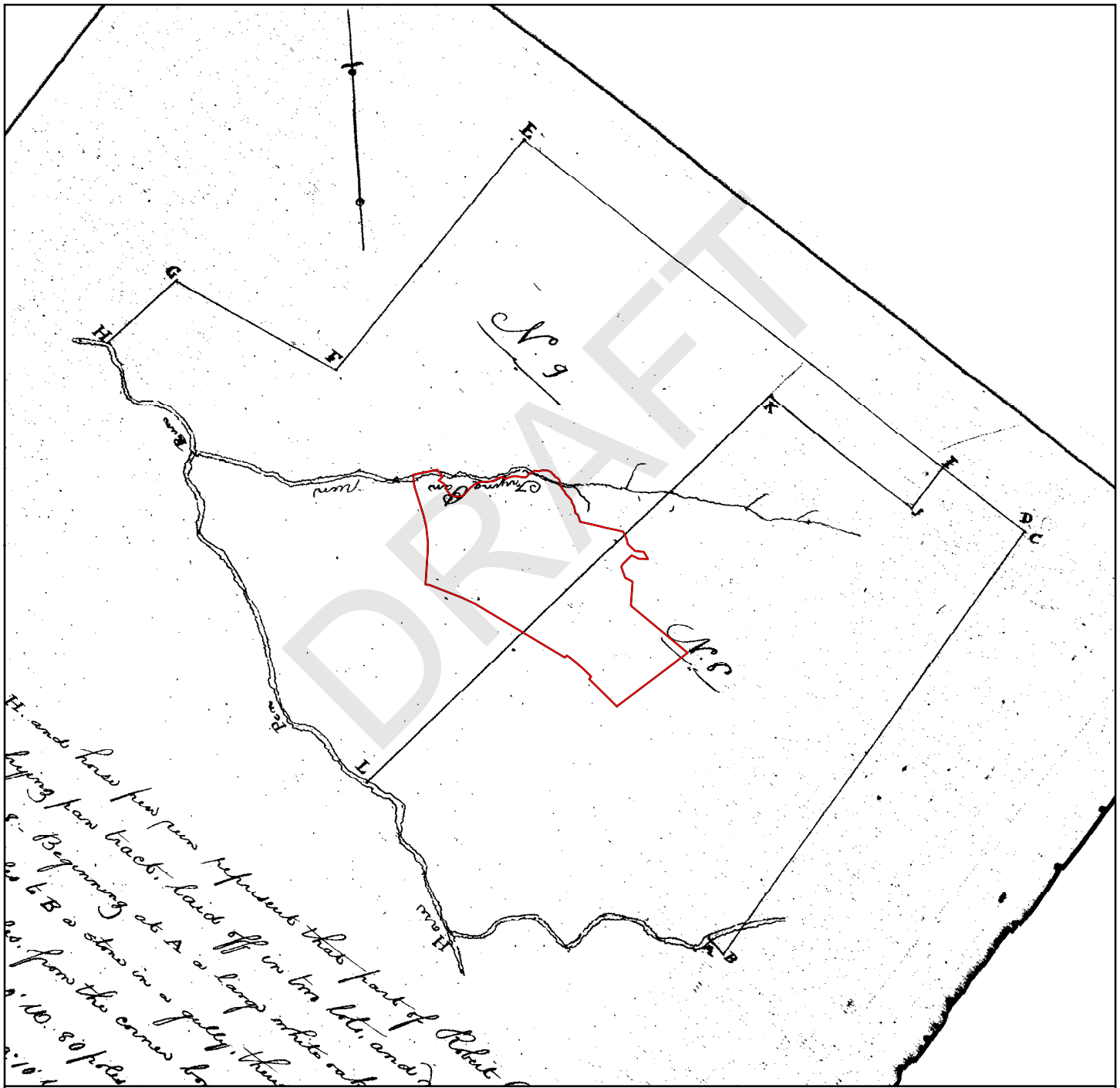
Fairfax County, Virginia

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_




 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

Figure 2:  
1822 Plat Map



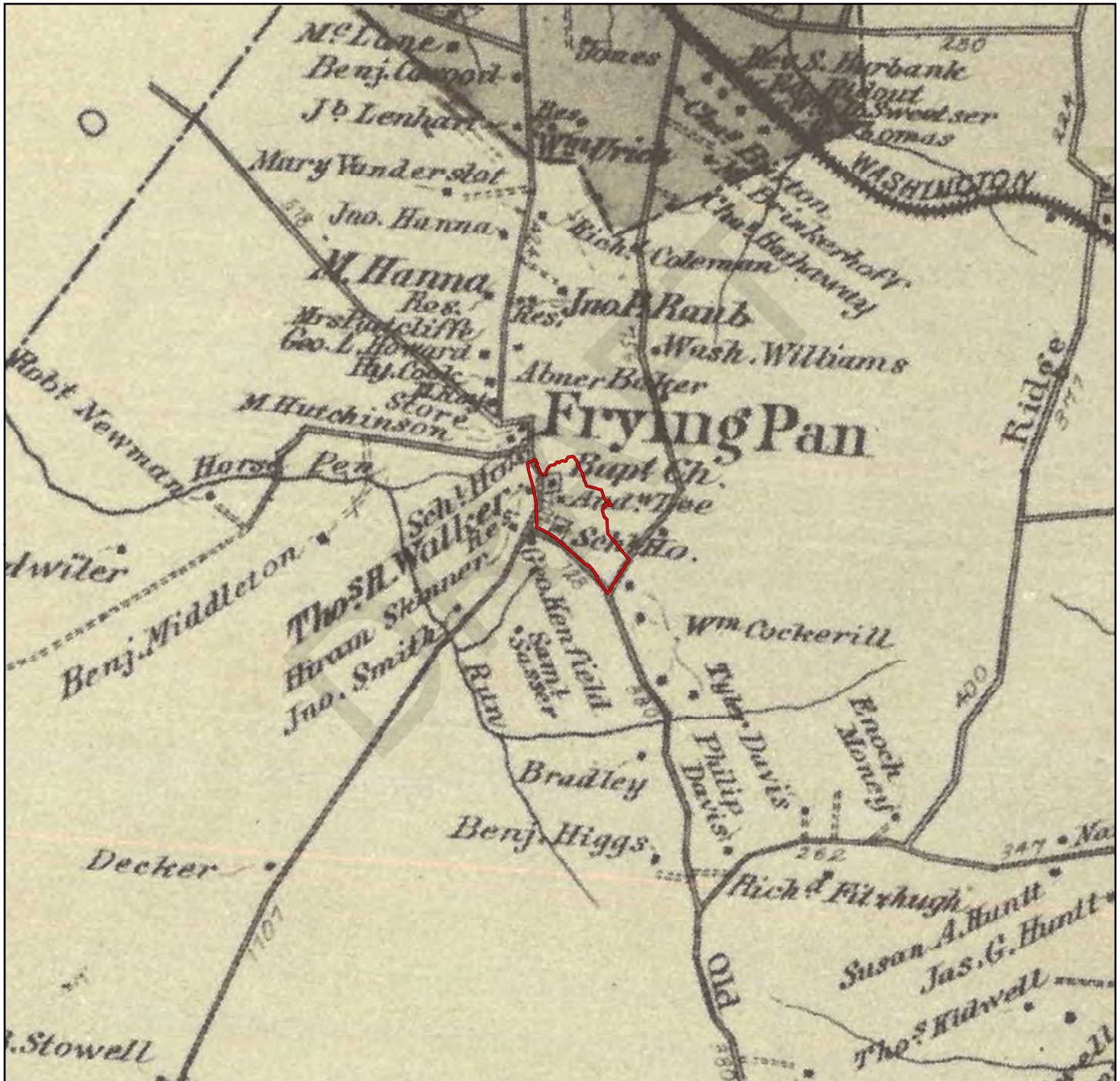



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

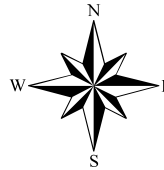

Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number          Additional Documentation          Page         



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 3:**  
**1879 Hopkins Map**  
**Dranesville District No. 6,**  
**Fairfax County, VA**

Original Scale: 1" = 0.5 miles

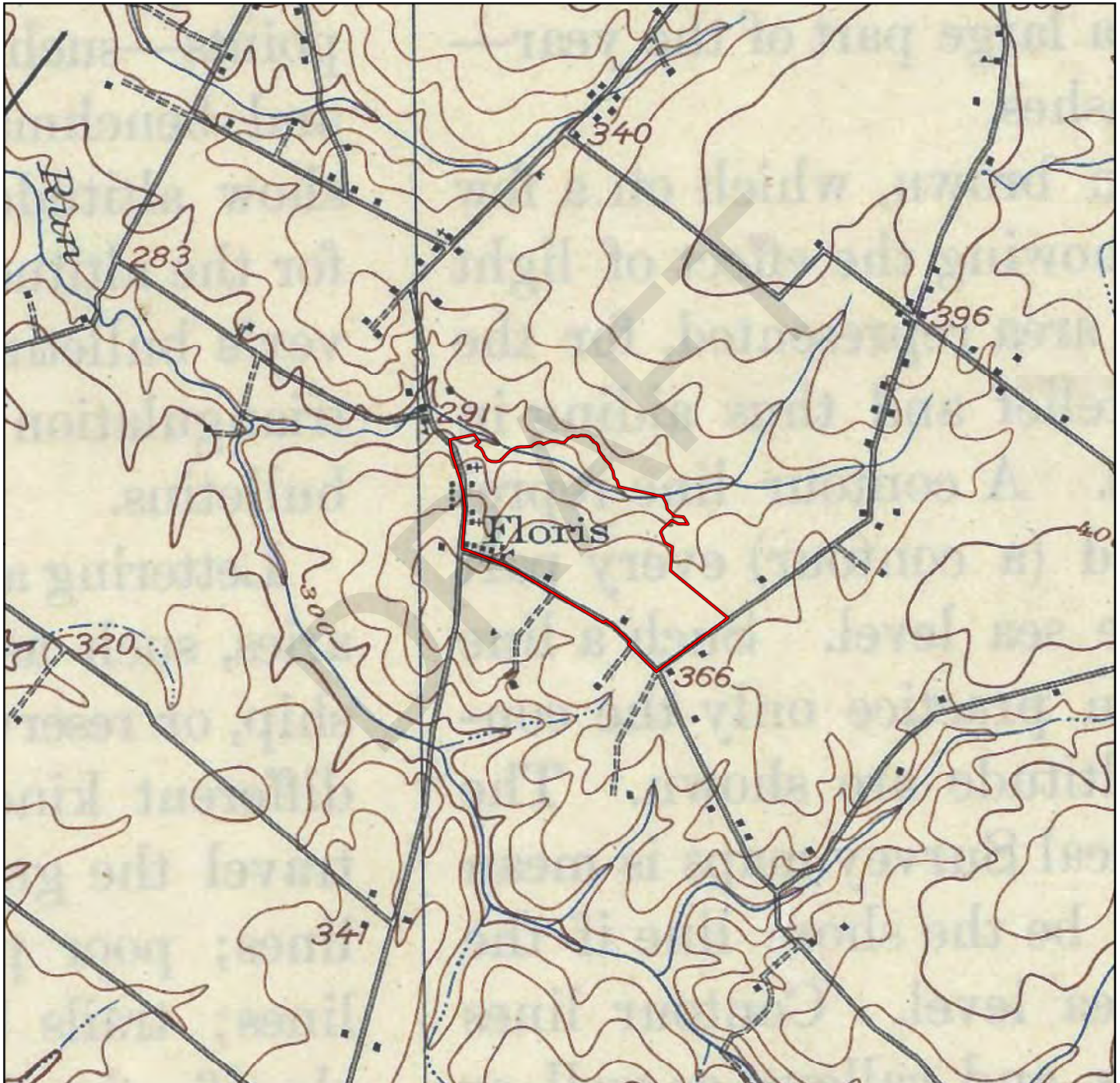
Map Source: "Dranesville District No. 6, Fairfax Co".  
From G.M.Hopkins' Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around  
Washington, D.C., 1878". Library of Congress,  
Geography and Mapping Department.


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

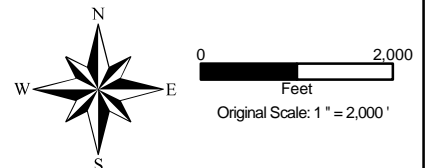
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 4:**  
USGS Quad Map  
Fairfax, VA 1912



Latitude: 38°56'15" N  
Longitude: 77°24'42" W


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

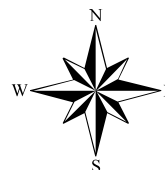
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 5:**  
**Spring 1937 Black and White Imagery**



0 500  
Feet  
Original Scale: 1" = 500'


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

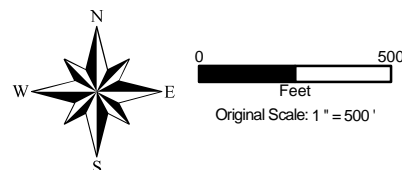
Florin Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Florin Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 6:**  
**1954 Black & White Imagery**

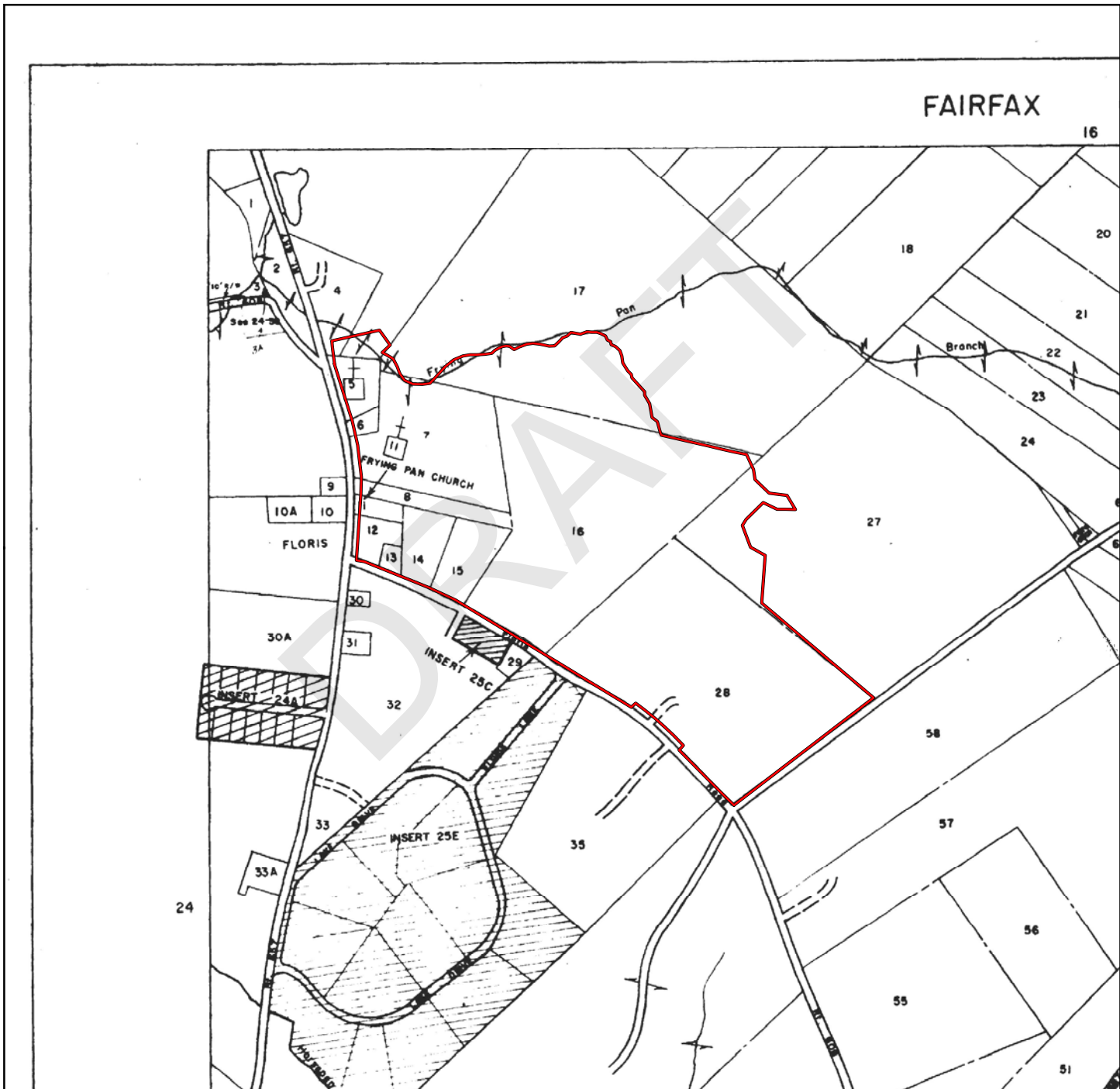



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

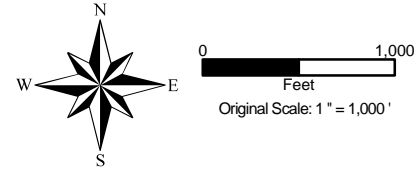
Florin Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Florin Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 7:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1960**



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Floris Historic District

Name of Property

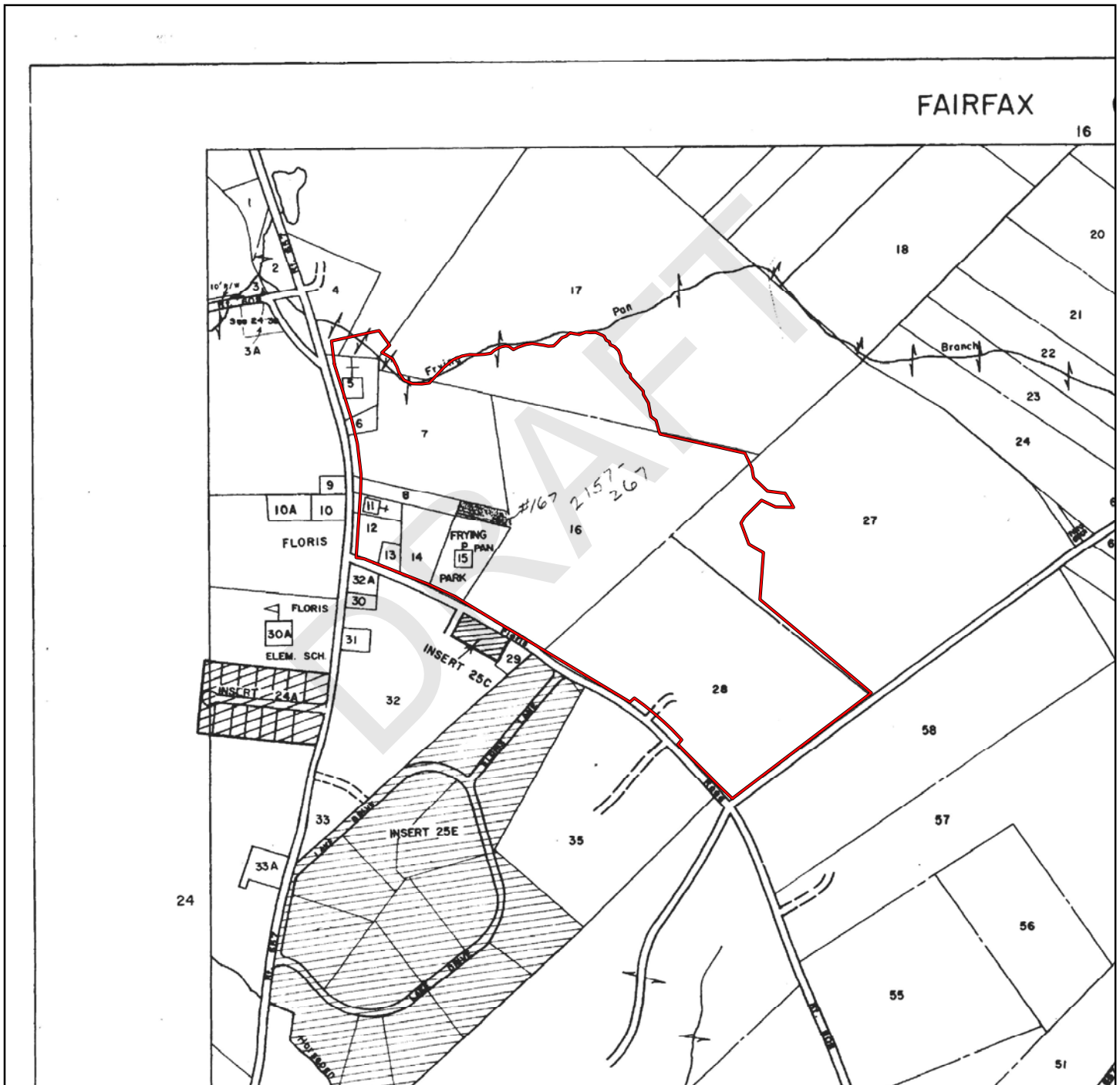
Fairfax County, Virginia


County and State

N/A

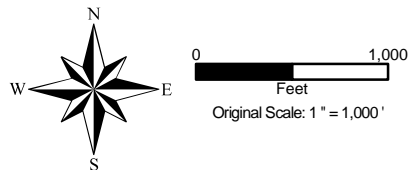
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (29-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 8:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1961**

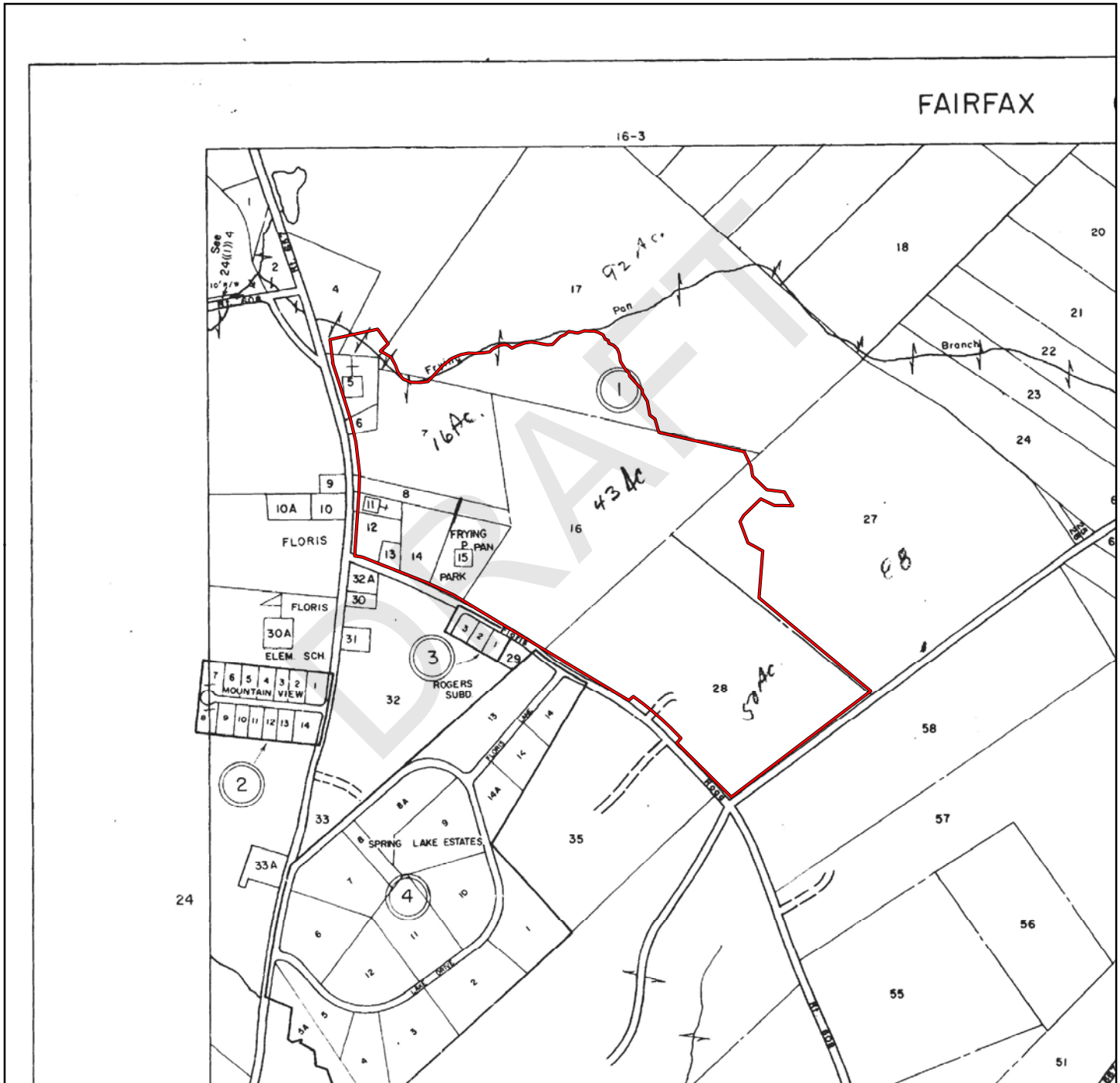



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

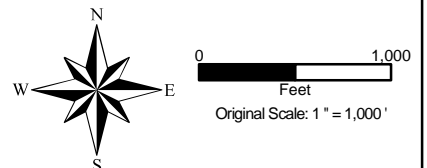
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 9:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1962**



United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation Sheet

Floris Historic District

Name of Property

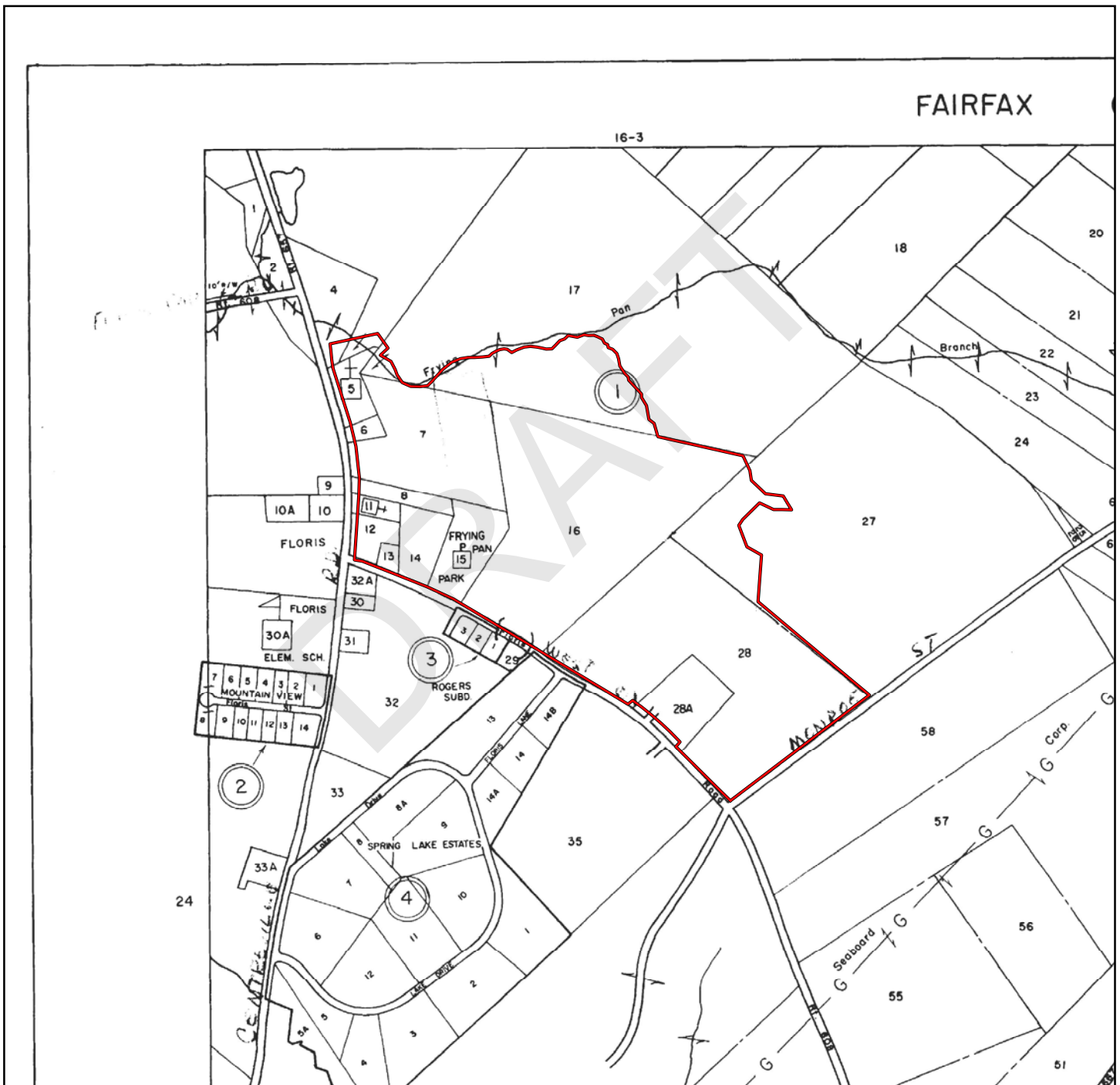
Fairfax County, Virginia


County and State

N/A

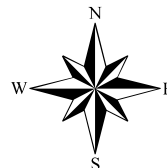
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 10:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1963**



0 1,000  
Feet  
Original Scale: 1" = 1,000'




United States Department of the Interior  
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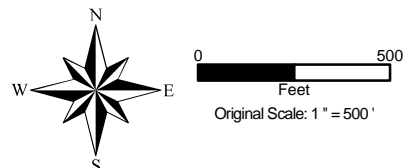
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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 Approximate Location of Floris Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 11:**  
**Spring 1963 Black & White Imagery**

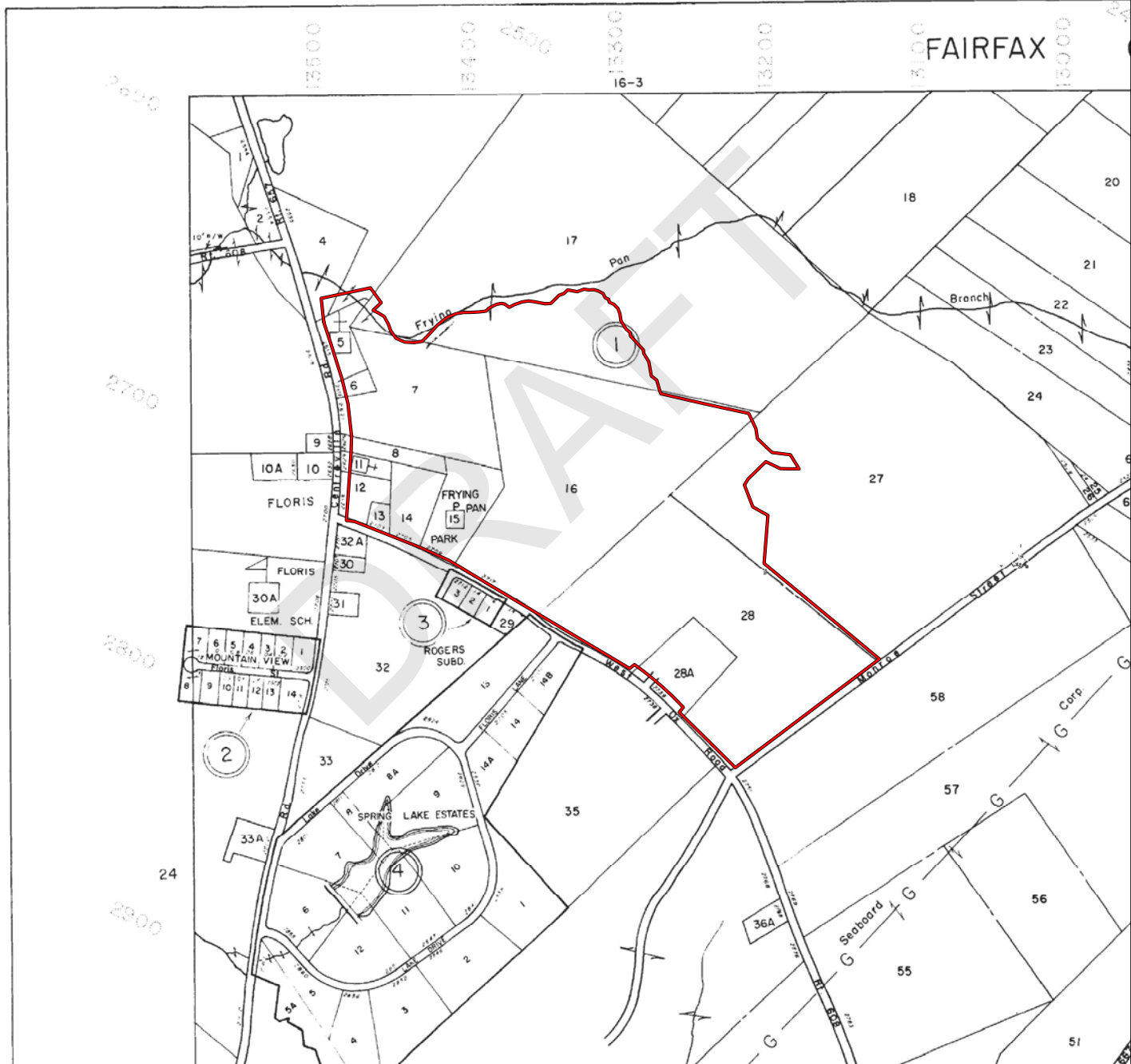


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Floris Historic District
Name of Property
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 12:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1964**

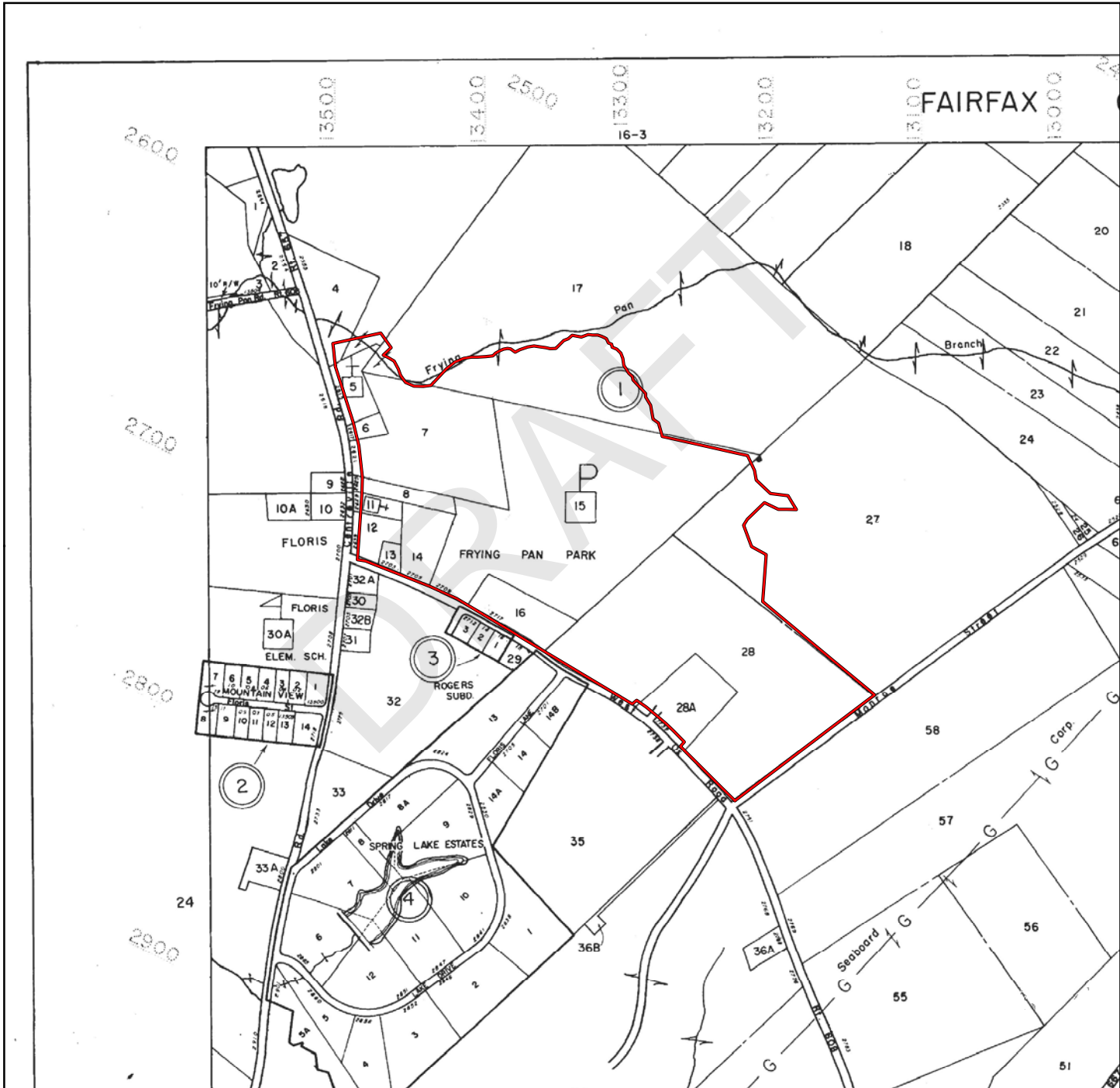



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

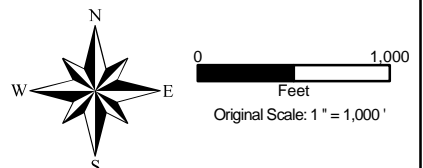
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page           



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 13:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1965**

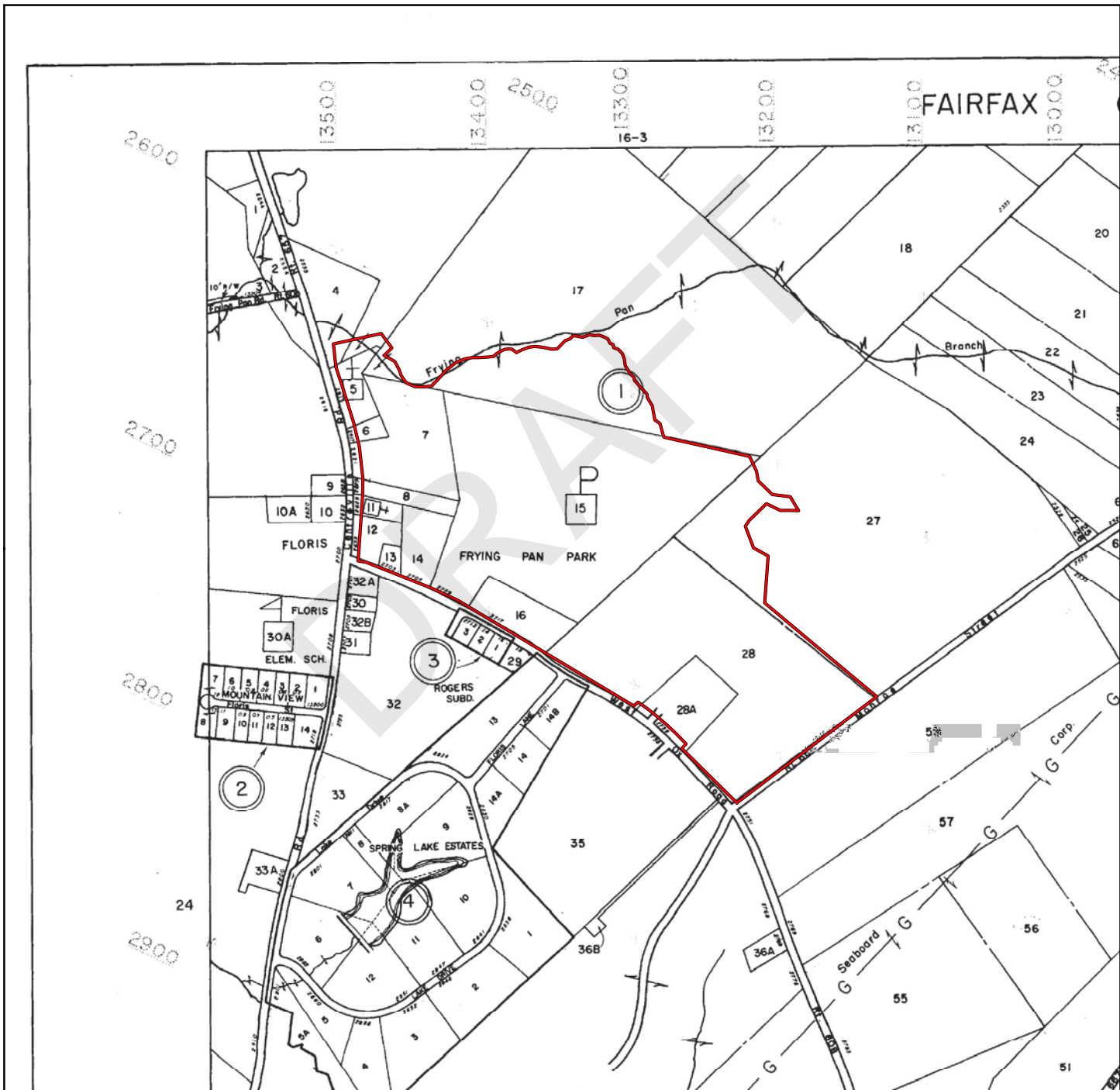



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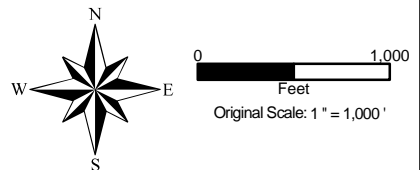
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
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N/A
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 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 14:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1966**

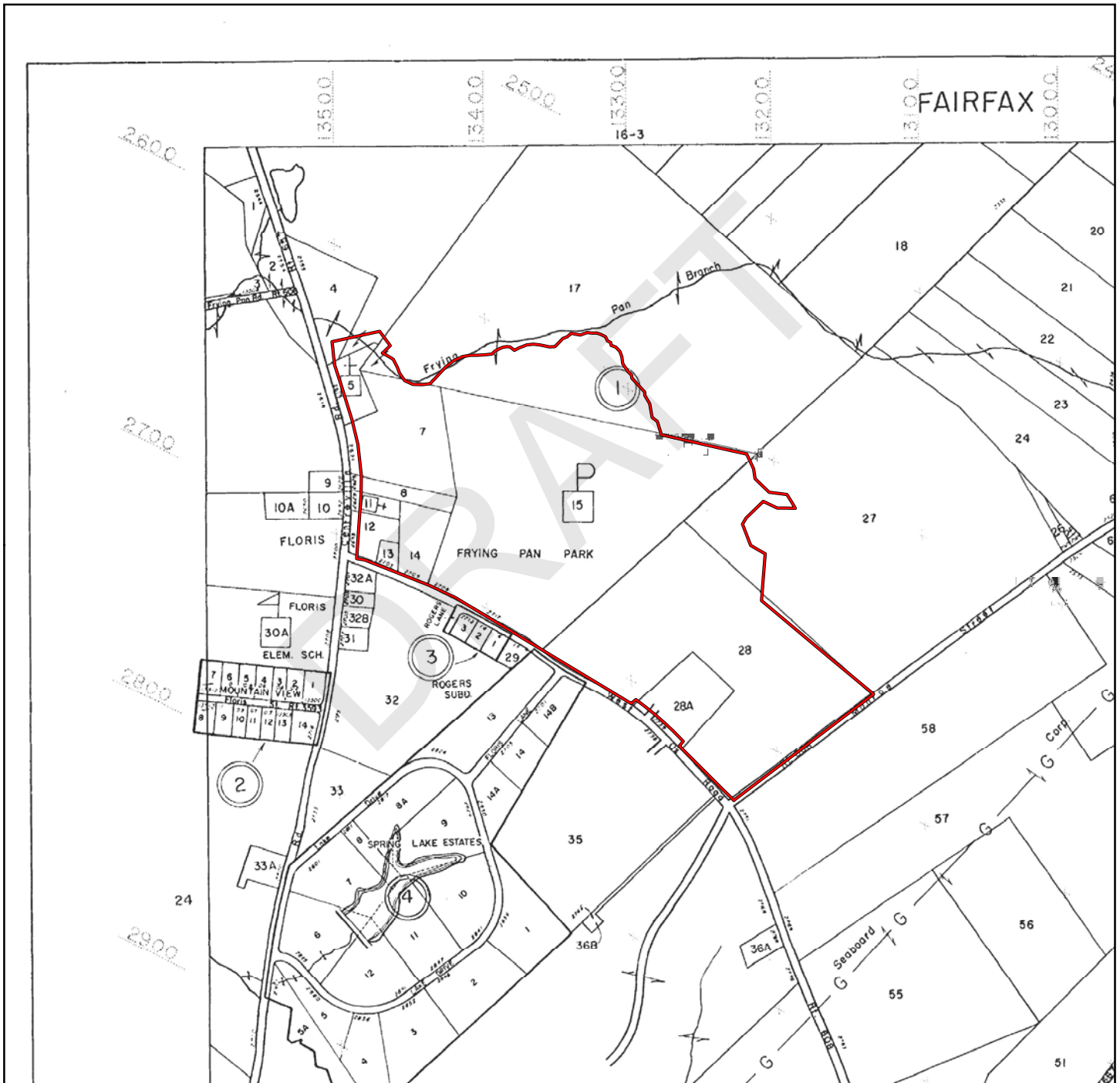



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
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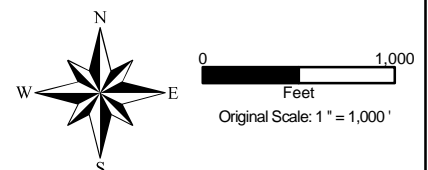
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 15:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1970**

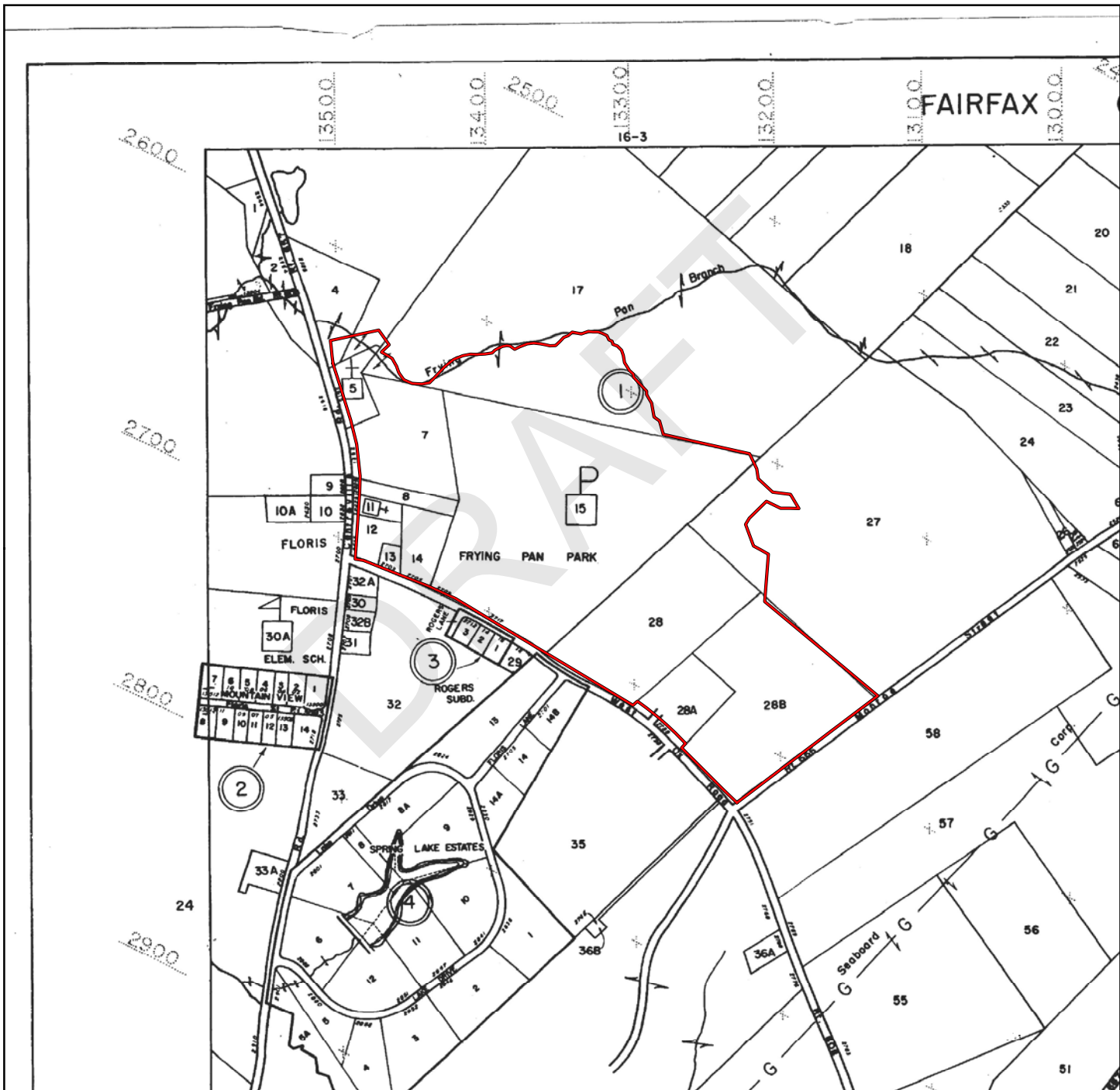



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

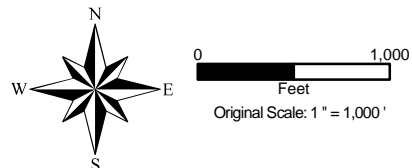
Floris Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Floris Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 16:**  
**Fairfax County Plat Map, 1971**




United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Florin Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Florin Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 17:**  
**Spring 1972 Black & White Imagery**

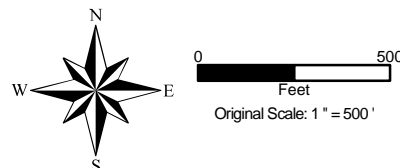


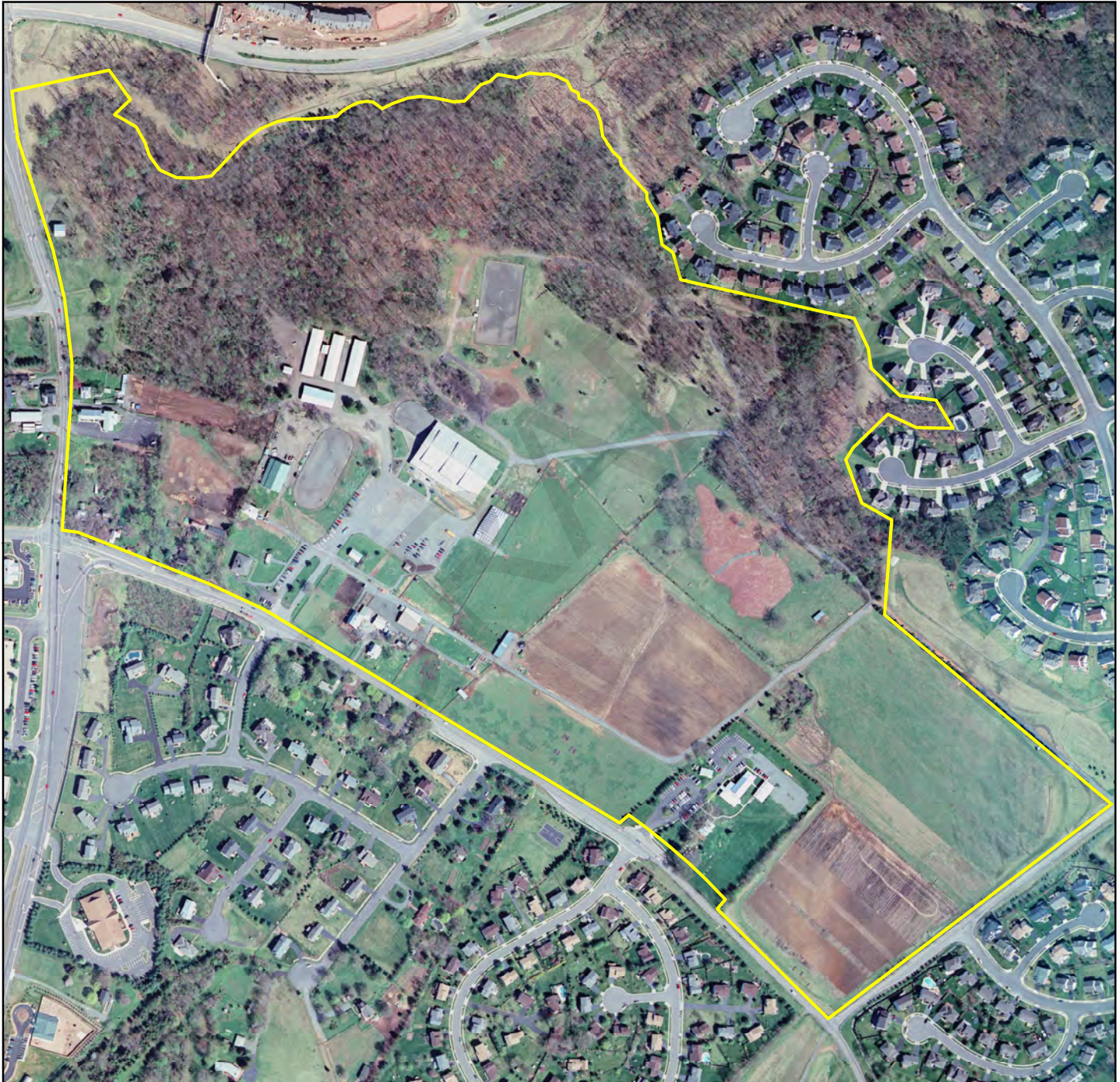
Photo Source: United States Geological Survey (USGS)  
Aerial Photo Single Frame


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

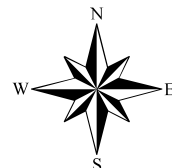
Florin Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of Florin Historic District (029-5179), Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 18:**  
**Spring 1998 Natural Color Imagery**



Original Scale: 1" = 500'

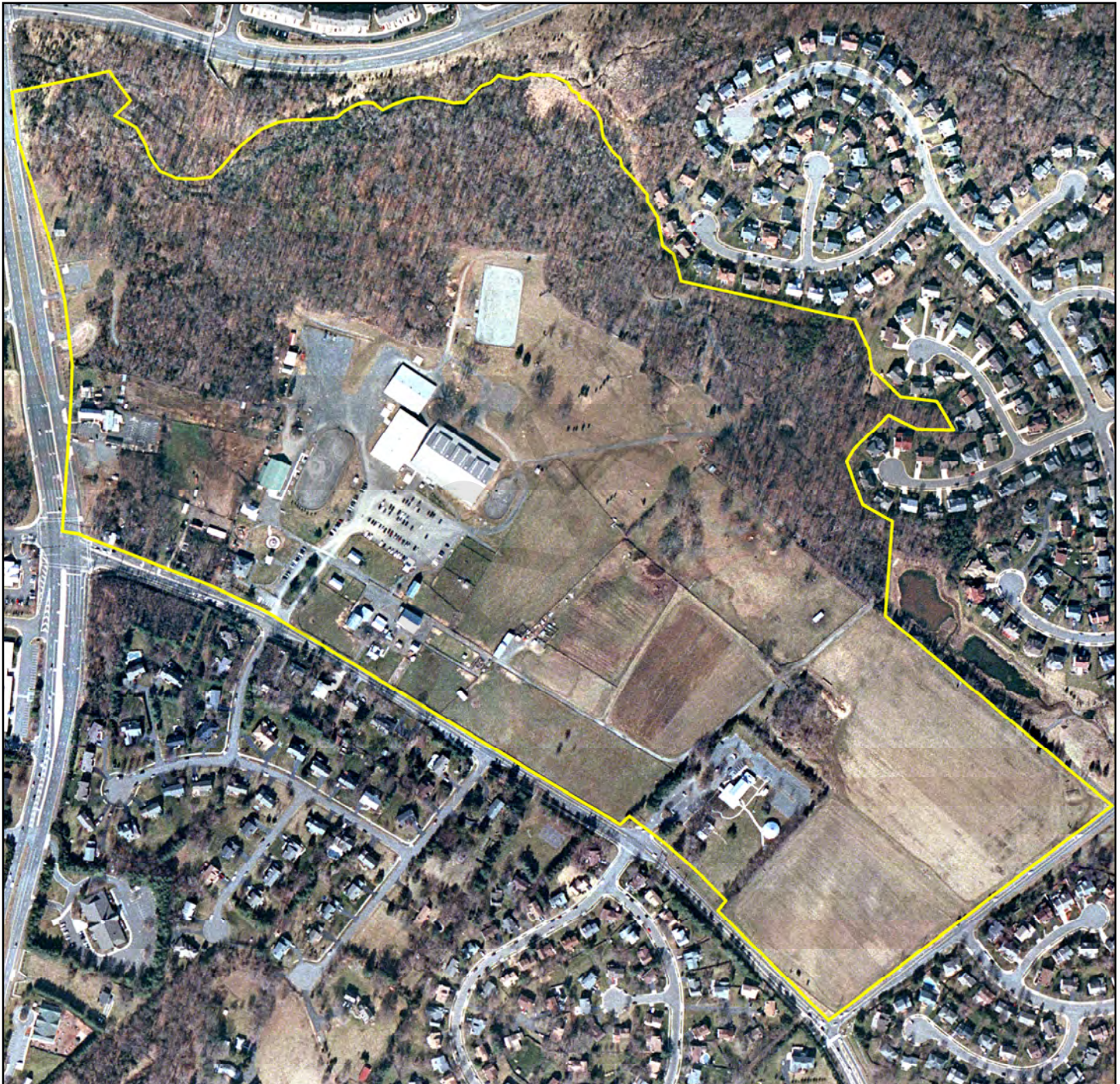



United States Department of the Interior  
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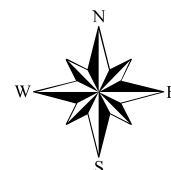
Florin Historic District
Name of Property
Fairfax County, Virginia
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation Page \_\_\_\_\_



 Approximate Location of  
Florin Historic District (029-5179),  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**Figure 19:**  
**February 2012 Natural Color Imagery**



0 500  
Feet  
Original Scale: 1" = 500'

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 3/24/2017      Date of Pending List:      Date of 16th Day:      Date of 45th Day: 5/8/2017      Date of Weekly List:

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      5/8/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall  Discipline Historian

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Date 5.8.17

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No      see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Floris Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Fairfax

DATE RECEIVED: 6/30/10      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/28/10  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/12/10      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/14/10  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000543

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    8.12.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



RECEIVED 2280

JUN 30 2010

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Doug Domenech  
*Secretary of Natural Resources*

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick  
*Director*

Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391  
TDD: (804) 367-2386  
[www.dhr.virginia.gov](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov)

June 29, 2010

Mr. Paul Loether  
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20005

**RE: Calverton Historic District, Fauquier County; Floris Historic District, Fairfax County;  
Portsmouth Community Library, City of Portsmouth**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed nominations, referenced above, are being submitted for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The nominations have been considered, and approved, by the State Review Board and the SHPO has recommended them for listing. Any letters of comment or objection have been copied at the end of the nomination material, along with any FPO notification letters.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-367-2323 at extension 103.

Sincerely,

Kelly Spradley-Kurowski, PhD  
Supervisory Historian

Enclosures

Administrative Services  
10 Courthouse Ave.  
Petersburg, VA 23803  
Tel: (804) 862-6416  
Fax: (804) 862-6196

Capital Region Office  
2801 Kensington Office  
Richmond, VA 23221  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391

Tidewater Region Office  
14415 Old Courthouse Way  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Newport News, VA 23608  
Tel: (757) 886-2807  
Fax: (757) 886-2808

Roanoke Region Office  
1030 Penmar Avenue, SE  
Roanoke, VA 24013  
Tel: (540) 857-7585  
Fax: (540) 857-7588

Northern Region  
Preservation Office  
P.O. Box 519  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
Tel: (540) 868-7029  
Fax: (540) 868-7033



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Historic Resources

2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221

Molly Joseph Ward  
Secretary of Natural Resources

Julie V. Langan  
Director

Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391  
www.dhr.virginia.gov

March 21, 2017

Mr. Paul Loether  
Chief, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmarks Programs  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 I ("Eye") Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20005

**Re: Floris Historic District 2017 Update, Fairfax County, Virginia**

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disc contains the true and correct copy of the additional documentation, referenced above, being submitted for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Floris Historic District originally was listed in the National Register on August 10, 2010.

The enclosed nomination update provides an updated count of contributing and non-contributing resources within the historic district, a full, updated inventory, justification for extending the end date of the period of significance from the 1960 to 1967, and additional context and historic data to support the expansion of the period of significance as well as inclusion of additional areas of significance for the district. An updated sketch map is provided, along with supporting documentation including photos of typical resources, a photo key, and historic maps and aerial views georeferenced with the historic district's boundaries. The original boundaries *have not been altered* as a result of this nomination update.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My direct phone line is 804-482-6439.

Sincerely,

Lena Sweeten McDonald  
National/State Register Historian

Enclosures

Western Region Office  
962 Kime Lane  
Salem, VA 24153  
Tel: (540) 387-5443  
Fax: (540) 387-5446

Northern Region Office  
5357 Main Street  
PO Box 519  
Stephens City, VA 22655  
Tel: (540) 868-7029  
Fax: (540) 868-7033

Eastern Region Office  
2801 Kensington Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221  
Tel: (804) 367-2323  
Fax: (804) 367-2391