Form No 10-306 (Rev 10-74)

already on HR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

Washington

	FOR	NPS	USE	ONLY
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RECEIVED FEB 1 3 1980

approved f/16/Se DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**

NAME

HISTORIC Arlington House AND/OR COMMON The Robert E. Lee Memorial LOCATION STREET & NUMBER Arlington National Cemetery NOT FOR PUBLICATION CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 10th Arlington VICINITY OF COUNTY CODE STATE CODE Virginia 51 Arlington 013 CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP PRESENT USE STATUS X PUBLIC DISTRICT X_MUSEUM OCCUPIED __AGRICULTURE BUILDING(S) __PRIVATE UNOCCUPIED X PARK COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE XWORK IN PROGRESS BOTH _EDUCATIONAL __PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE __ENTERTAINMENT __RELIGIOUS __OBJECT _IN PROCESS XYES RESTRICTED __GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC __BEING CONSIDERED __YES UNRESTRICTED INDUSTRIAL _TRANSPORTATION _NO MILITARY __OTHER A AGENCY REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable) National Capital Region, National Park Service STREET & NUMBER 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W. CITY TOWN STATE Washington D.C. 20242 - VICINITY OF LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Arlington County Courthouse STREET & NUMBER CITY TOWN STATE Arlington Virginia **REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** TITLE Historic American Buildings Survey DATE XFEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL 1940 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress CITY, TOWN STATE D.C.



7 DESCRIPTION

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Arlington House is a Greek revival structure composed of a large two-story central section flanked by two one-story wings. The long axis of the house runs north-south; the front facade faces Washington, D.C., to the east across the Potomac River. The house was built by George Washington Parke Custis, foster son of George Washington, on an 1100-acre tract inherited from his father, John Parke Custis.

Construction began in 1803 on the one-story north wing which, with a matching south wing constructed in 1804, would frame the two-story central section completed about 1817-18. It is believed that George Hadfield, second architect of the Capitol and designer of the Washington City Hall, was architect of Arlington House.

The house is constructed of locally made brick with the exterior stuccoed and scribed to simulate ashlar stonework. Originally the rear (west) facade of the central section was not stuccoed; it was so treated by the Army in the late 19th century. Sometime before the 1860s the stucco was marbelized, as shown in 1864 Civil War photographs. It was again marbelized during the 1967 and 1974 repainting of the house.

The most prominent feature of the house is the large (16' by 52') portico across the central section, formed by eight large stuccoed and marbelized brick Doric columns supporting a massive pediment. Adding to the impression of grandeur are the recessed arched windows on the front and sides of the flanking wings.

Centered under the portico is a large double door opening on a central hall which bisects the house and is terminated at the rear with another pair of large double doors. The central hall is flanked by two large rooms. That on the north is divided by three open arches separating the family parlor in the front from the dining room at the rear. The room on the south, the "White Parlor," was not completed until 1855 under the direction of the Lees. Among its outstanding features are two matching mantelpieces carved with an oak leaf design and purchased for the room by Lee.

The room adjacent to the White Parlor in the south wing was used as a formal dining room and later as a painting studio for George Washington Parke Custis. Following his death it was used as a workroom and painting studio by Mrs. Lee, who called it her morning room. Immediately south of this room at the end of the wing is a smaller room used as an office by G.W.P. Custis and R.E. Lee. The large double connecting doors are surmounted by a fanlight. A door on its west wall gives access to the west-facing conservatory and through it to the grounds. Lacking a fireplace, the office was heated by a stove. The conservatory, located along the west elevation of the south wing at ground level, is about four feet

(continued)

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1

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lower than the level of the adjacent rooms. It has "glazed walls" consisting of four large arched windows on the west facade and windows and a glazed door on the south.

Along the west side of the central portion and the north wing is a series of halls, service areas, and a pantry. From this area the main stairs and a rear stair ascend to the second floor. At the juncture of these halls and the main central hall, adjacent to the foot of the main stairs, are three frescoes in the area above the arches around the intersecting walls. These hunting and other animal scenes are attributed to G.W.P. Custis.

In the north wing along the west side is the pantry and a stairway to the basement. In the northeast corner of the wing is a schoolroom, which may have been Mrs. Lee's room as a child. Next to it on the east facade is the bedroom of her parents. Between this bedroom and the family parlor is a guest room. The Custis bedroom and the guest room are accessible by an inner hall running from the schoolroom to the family parlor.

Directly below the Custis bedroom and accessible by the pantry stairs is a large winter kitchen with a large central fireplace. The fireplace divides the kitchen into two areas, with the rear portion being used as a laundry. Adjacent to the kitchen and directly under the pantry is a large open corridor providing access to the outside through two doors and to a wine cellar adjacent to the kitchen.

The main staircase is typical of those of classic revival houses in that its location was de-emphasized by placing it slightly off the central hall. The second floor to which it ascends also has a central hall opening to rooms on either side. The Lee bedroom is immediately adjacent to the stairs on the south side; a small dressing room adjoins it over the stairs in the southwest corner. The southeastern room on the floor is a bedroom used by the Lee boys. The Lee daughters occupied the two bedrooms on the north side of the hall, containing marble mantelpieces of a plain design. The younger girls used a small connecting room at the rear for dressing and play.

Many of the present Arlington House furnishings are original to or historically associated with the property during its occupancy by the Custis and Lee families. Significant items include furniture, paintings, ceramics, glassware, silver, books, and textiles in use in the house prior to 1861. Such objects, individually identified in the Arlington House museum catalog, are considered integral to the property for purposes of the National Register. The acquisition of original furnishings is an ongoing project and will continue as pieces become available.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

Two outbuildings contemporary with the construction of the main house lie perpendicular to the long axis of the house on the west near the ends of the wings. The north building housed the summer kitchen and contained slave quarters; it is now adapted as a sales facility. The south building, a storeroom, smoke room, and slave quarters, has been historically refurnished. Both buildings are brick on 40' by 20' stone foundations and are stuccoed in rough texture. The nonconnecting rooms in each structure are reached by three evenly spaced doors facing a central court or drive. Windows at the rear of each room except the smoke room provide natural light. Pilasters and arches decorate the gable ends of the two buildings.

Two other structures on the property postdate 1861 and thus do not contribute to its legislatively defined significance as a memorial to Robert E. Lee. Some 200 feet from the north end of the mansion is a two-story brick building built by the Army in the 1880s as a potting house for Arlington National Cemetery. It measures 22' by 32' and is topped by a hipped roof with ornamented ridge line and small gabled vents on each side. Brick pilasters are at the corners and divide the two bays on the short sides and the three bays on the long sides; they support a brick modillion cornice. Segmental arches cap the windows and doors. The building currently serves as a small park museum. Just north of the north outbuilding described above is a 19' by 21' rest room building constructed by the Army in 1925. Its stuccoed brick exterior and gabled roof with white trim articulating the pediment mimic the historic outbuildings.

During the lifetime of G.W.P. Custis, a large portion of Arlington was maintained as a gentleman's country estate. Most of its acreage comprised "The Park," a virgin woodland of ancient oaks and groves of walnut, chestnut, and elm trees extending from the Georgetown and Alexandria Road along the river to the western edge of the estate. Most of this land is now within Arlington National Cemetery and the George Washington Memorial Parkway. During the Lees' residency, the carriage drive to the mansion came up along the south and eastern edge of the flower garden south of the house and across the front of the house. This approach from behind and beside the garden is now maintained by Arlington National Cemetery and used as a footpath.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_ COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
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_ 1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
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_ 1700-1799	ART .	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800 1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
_ 1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	_ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIEV)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1803-61

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George Hadfield

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The principal significance of Arlington House, as defined by congressional legislation, lies in its association with Robert E. Lee--hence its legislated designation "Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial." It is also significant for its prior association with George Washington Parke Custis, step-grandson and adopted son of George Washington, and as an outstanding example of early Greek revival architecture.

G.W.P. Custis inherited the 1100-acre estate from his father, the only surviving son of Martha Washington. Like John Parke Custis, G.W.P. Custis was raised at Mount Vernon, and he dedicated much of his life to perpetuating the memory of George Washington. From circumstantial evidence, it appears that he commissioned George Hadfield, second architect of the U.S. Capitol, to design Arlington House. According to architectural historian Ralph Hammett, this was only the third representation of the Greek revival style in the United States.

Robert E. Lee, who was related to Custis's wife, was a frequent visitor to Arlington from childhood until his marriage to Custis's only daughter, Mary, when he was 25 years old. For the **next 30** years the Lees considered Arlington their home. His U.S. Army career would take him and his family to all parts of the country, but they returned to Arlington whenever his Corps of Engineers duties permitted. Lee was usually able to spend at least some of the winter months at Arlington and passed 25 Christmas holidays there. Mary Lee frequently remained home with her parents in his absences, and six of the seven Lee children were born at Arlington.

In the Lee bedroom on April 19, 1861, Lee made his fateful decision to resign his U.S. Army commission rather than take up arms against his native state following Virginia's secession from the Union. On April 22 he left Arlington forever. His wife and children also departed in early May upon learning that Federal troops were about to occupy the area.

During the war years many of the family possessions left behind were lost or stolen while the military occupation of Arlington resulted in considerable damage to its woodland, described by a prewar English visitor as "some of the finest woods I have yet seen in America." Roads were cut to accommodate the flow of supplies and soldiers and several military works were constructed on the estate to help protect Arlington Heights.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ralph Hammett. <u>Architecture in the United States</u>: <u>A Survey of American Styles</u> <u>Since 1776</u>. New York: Wiley, 1976.

Murray H. Nelligan. <u>Custis-Lee Mansion</u>, <u>The Robert E. Lee Memorial</u>. National Park Service Historical Handbook No. 6. Washington: National Park Service, 1962.

ITM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 27.91 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIP	PTION			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The National Register boundary encompasses all land adjacent to Arlington House under National Park Service jurisdiction. This land borders the Fort Myer Military Reservation on the west and is elsewhere surrounded by Arlington National Cemetery. See accompanying maps.

STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
FORM PREPA	RED BY			
NAME / TITLE				
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	Washington Memoria		DAT	E
	Region, National Pa		1/15	
STREET & NUMBER			TEL	EPHONE
urkey Run Park) 557-3635
CITY OR TOWN			STA	TE
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED 2/13/80

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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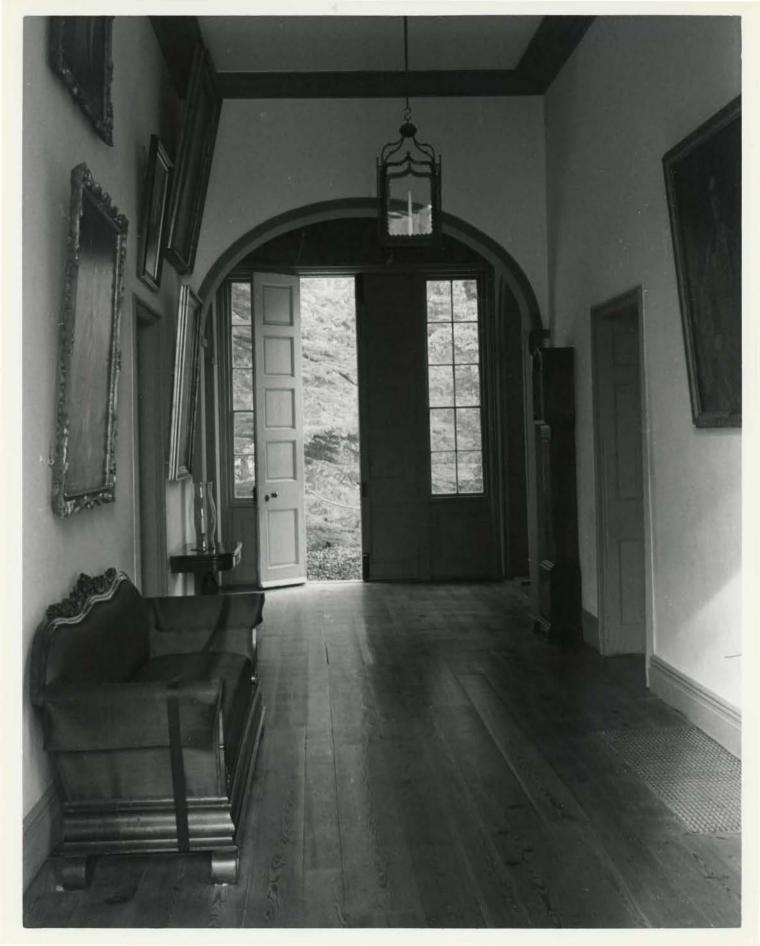
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CONTINUATION SHEET 3

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

In 1863 Congress levied a tax on all confiscated properties, including Arlington, requiring that owners personally appear to make payment. A relative attempted to pay the Arlington taxes for Mrs. Lee, who was ill and behind Confederate lines, but payment was rejected. Arlington was put up for sale for non-payment of taxes in January 1864 and was purchased by the U.S. Government. In May 1864 Secretary of War Edwin Stanton ordered that a national cemetery be established at Arlington, and the first burials took place that month. The house became headquarters for Arlington National Cemetery, continuing in that use until the late 1920s.

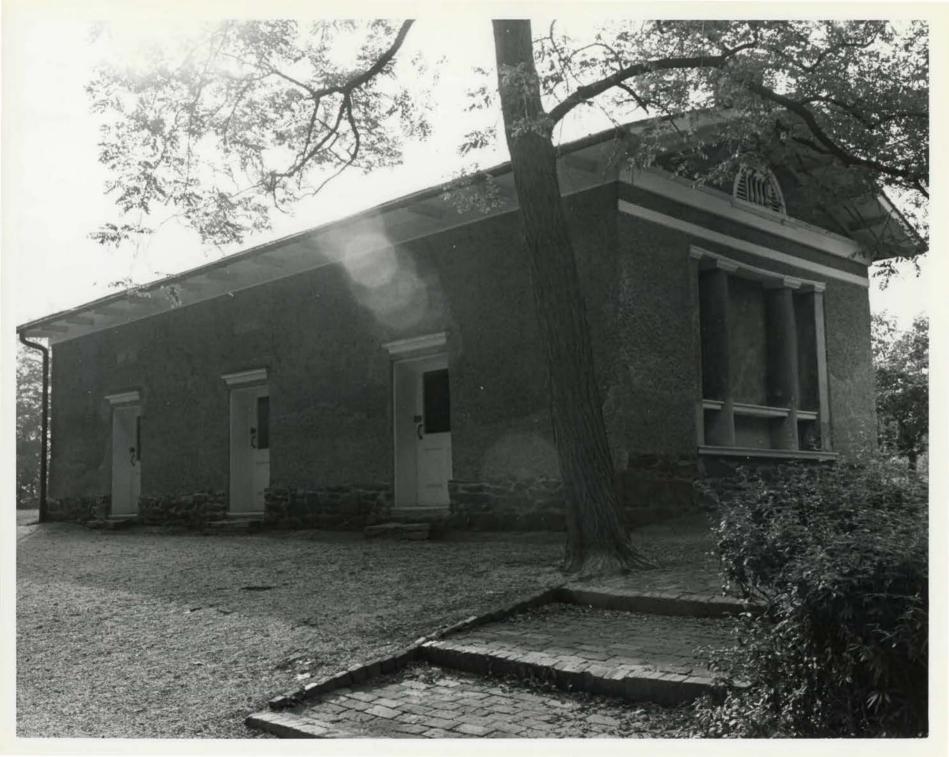
Until 1924 no official action had been taken to restore the house as a memorial to Robert E. Lee. Steps had been taken previously, however, to protect the integrity of the grounds immediately surrounding the house. The burial of distinguished generals on the front lawn had been halted and burials around Mrs. Lee's flower garden had long since ceased. In 1928, following its authorization by Congress as a memorial to Lee, the house began to be restored by the War Department. In 1933 the house and immediate grounds were transferred to the National Park Service. By that time some structural changes made since 1861 had been reversed and many rooms had been partially furnished. Since then, further structural changes based on historical research have been made, and many of the original furnishings have been identified and acquired.



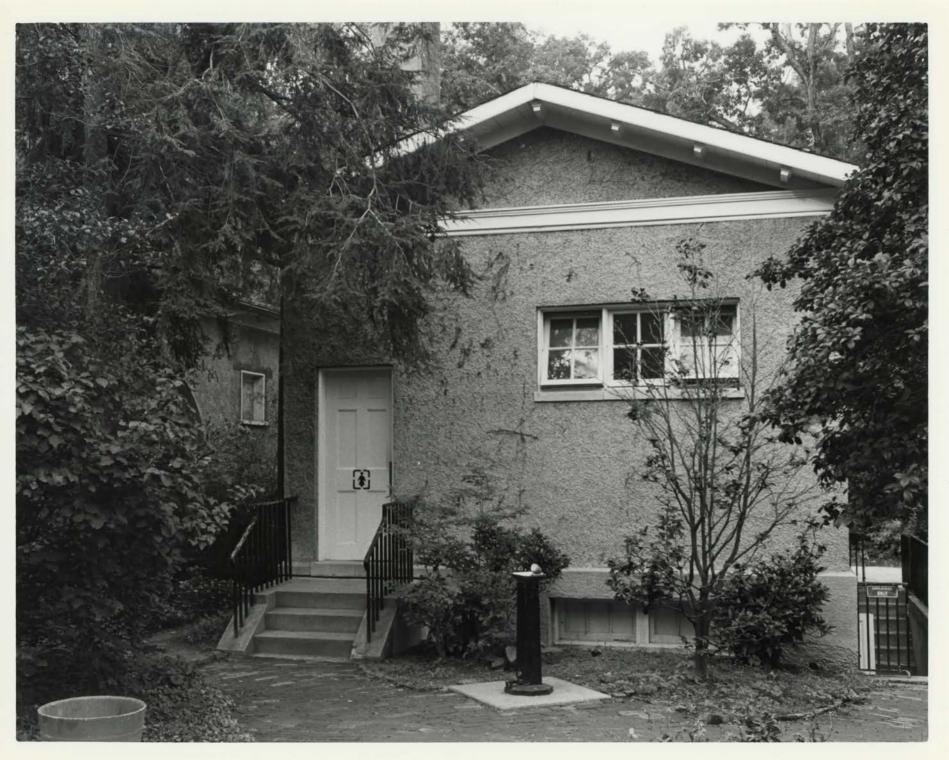
Arlington House-center hall (rear) NPS FEB 1 3 1980 10/79 , of 6



Arlington House--north servants quarters (from south) NPS 10/79 20f6



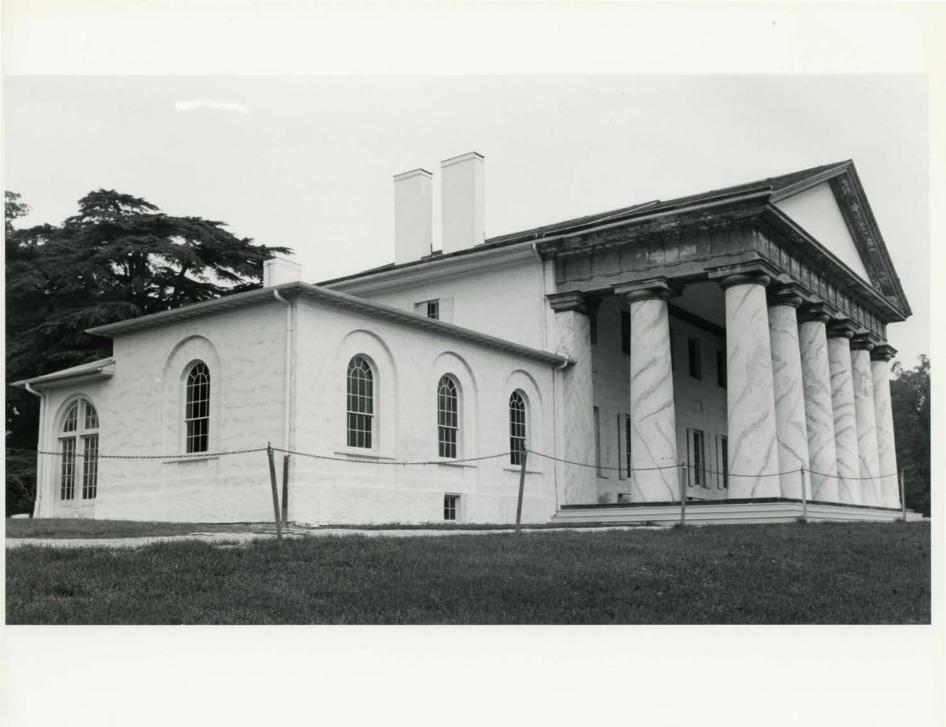
Arlington House--South Servants' Quarters (from northwest) NPS 10/79 344



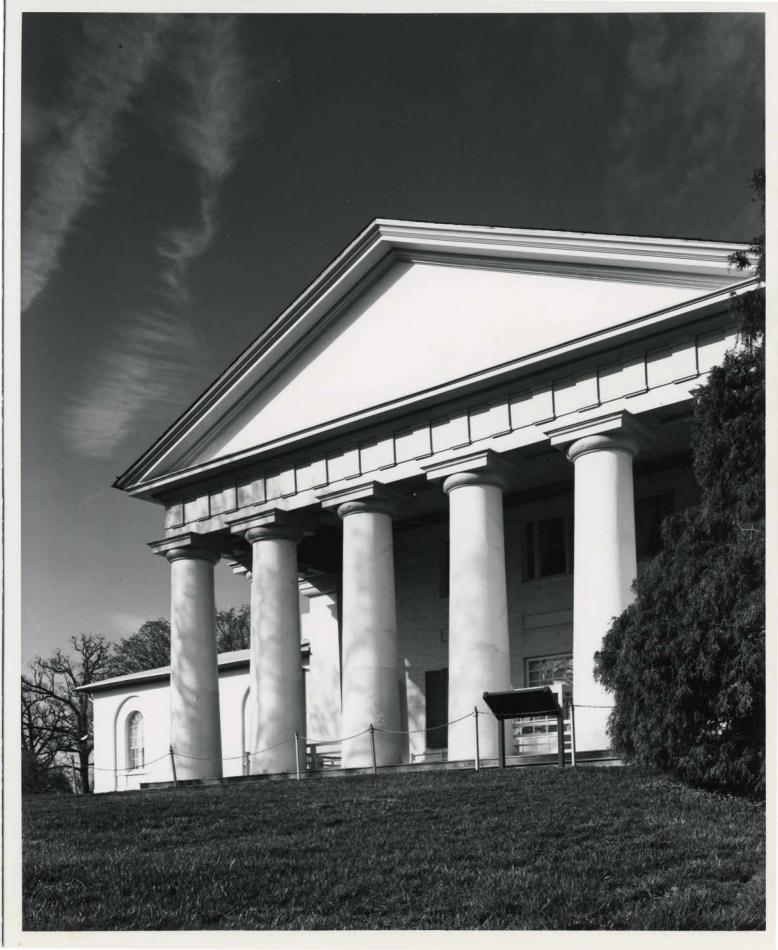
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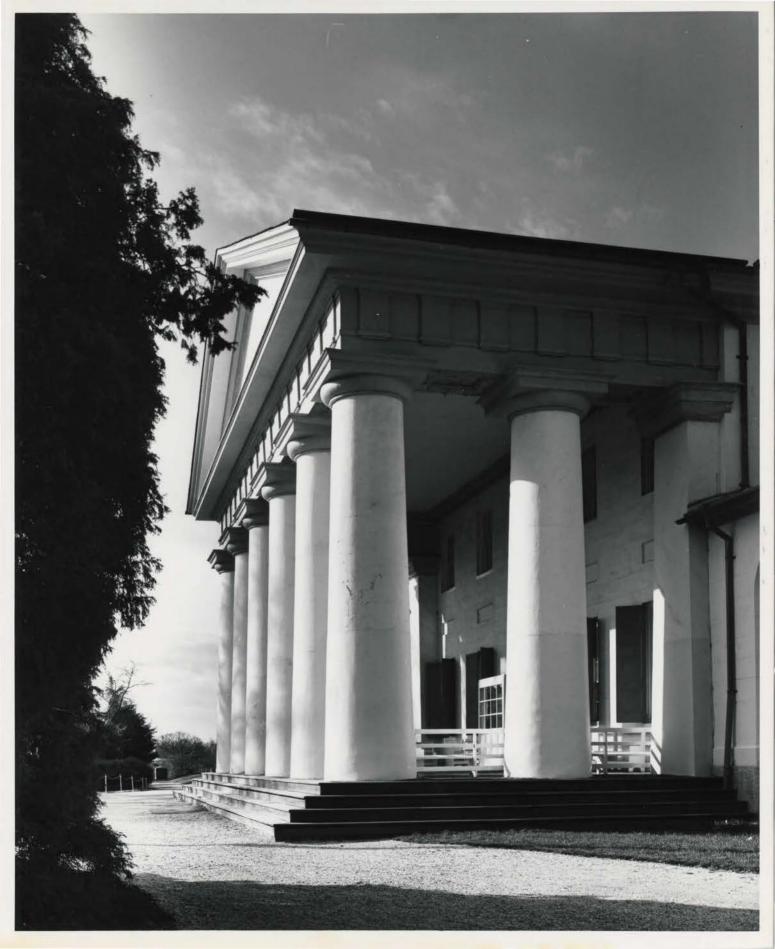


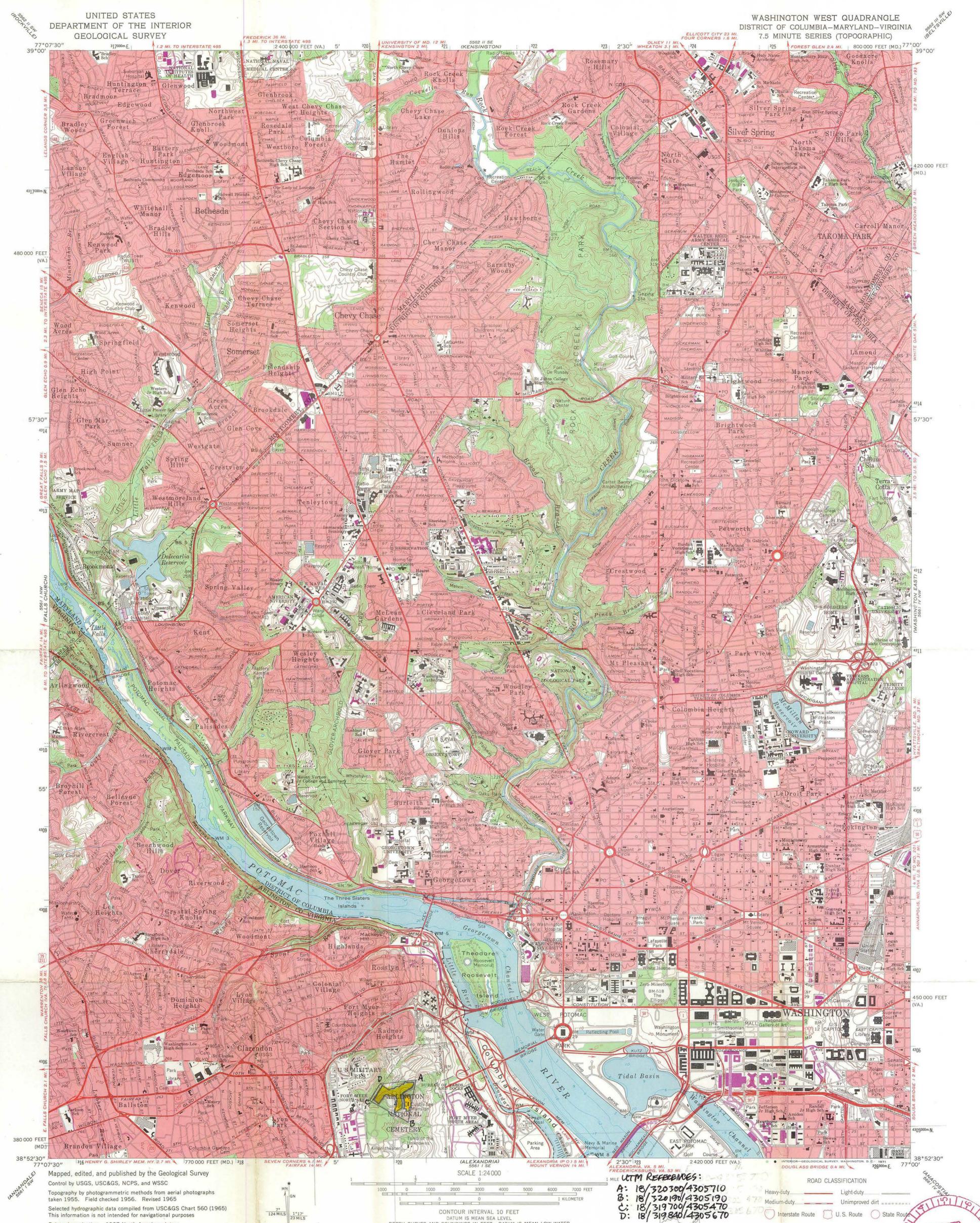
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Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Chart 560 (1965) This information is not intended for navigational purposes Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grids based on Maryland coordinate system, and Virginia coordinate system, north zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue

7° 124 MILS 1°17' 23 MILS

UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.8 FEET MARYLAND THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS QUADRANGLE LOCATION FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242 AND VIRGINIA DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903 ARLINGTON HOUSE, THE ROBBERT E. LEE A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MEMORIAL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: BOUNDARY INCREASE and ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Arlington House Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: VIRGINIA, Arlington

DATE RECEIVED: 01/30/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 02/24/14 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 03/11/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 03/17/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBERS: 14000067; 66000040

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT PERIOD WAIVED: N REDUCED: N

ACCEPT RETURN

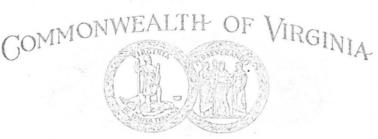
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

odditional internation in 14000067

RECOM. / CRITERIA Accept Addition	al Documentation and Boundary Ancrease
REVIEWER Patrick Andrus	
Phone	Date 3 17 2014

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 National Park Service.



MEMBERS

STANLEY W. ABBOTT EDWARD P. ALEXANDER MRS. BENJAMIN P. ALSOP RANDOLPH W. CHURCH FREDERICK HERMAN JOHN M. JENNINGS FREDERICK D. NICHOLS WILLIAM R. SEWARD MARVIN M. SUTHERLAND

VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

ROOM 1105 NINTH STREET STATE OFFICE BUILDING RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219 TELEPHONE: 770-3143

July 28, 1969

OFFICERS

EDWARD P. ALEXANDER, CHAIRMAN COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA 23185

JOHN M. JENNINGS, VICE CHAIRMAN VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23221

JAMES W. MOODY, JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Office of Archeology and Historic
Preservation
National Park Service
801-19th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

I am writing to inquire about the present status of the Bronze Plaque sites, whether or not they are automatically on the National Register of Historic Places, and if so, what type of report has been prepared on each of them. A list of "Sites Declared Eligible for the Registry of National Historic Landmarks" appears in a booklet entitled National Parks and Landmarks published in 1966. The list for Virginia includes: Adam Thoroughgood House, Virginia Beach; Bacon's Castle, Surry County; Barracks, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington; Cape Henry Lighthouse, Virginia Beach; Christ Church, Lancaster County; Alt - Confederate Capitol, Richmond; Cyrus McCormick Farm and Workshop, Rockbridge County; Five Forks Battlefield, Dinwiddie County; Fort Monroe, Hampton; Gadsby's Tavorn, Alexandria; Gari Melchers' Home, Belmont, Stafford County; Greenway Court, Clarke County; Gunston Hall, Fairfax County; John Marshall House, Richmond: Lee Chapel, Lexington; Marlbourne, Edmund Ruffin Plantation, Hanover County; Monticello, Albemarle County; Montpelier, James Madison Home, Orange County; Mount Airy, Richmond County; Mount Vernon, Fairfax County; Oak Hill, James Monroe Home, Loudoun County; Patrick Henry Home, Scotchtown, Hanover County; Rising Sun Tavern, Fredericksburg; Rotunda, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; St. John's Episcopal Church, Richmond; St. Luke's Church, Isle of Wight County; Sherwood Forest, John Tyler Home, Charles City County; Stratford Hall, Westmoreland County; Westover, Charles City County; White House of the Confederacy, Richmond; Williamsburg (Historic District); Woodrow Wilson Birthplace, Staunton; Wren Building, Williamsburg. I believe that since this list was published Monroe's Law Office in Fredericksburg has been

Dr. William J. Murtagh

given a Bronze Plaque, also. We would like to have a copy of these reports for our files.

-2-

Secondly, we do not understand the Register status of historic places administered by the National Park Service, such as the Custis-Lee Mansion in Arlington and the George Washington Birthplace formerly known as Wakefield and now called Pope's Creek Plantation, I believe. We had assumed that these were also automatically listed on the National Register, but have not seen this stated anywhere. Your help in clearing up the confusion will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Kay Read

(Mrs.) Katherine T. Read Research Historian

KTR: jt

. .

8/5/69

10

AUG 6 1969

H30-HR

Mrs. Eatherine T. Read Research Mistorian Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Hoom 1106, Ninth Street State Office Building Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mrs. Read:

Thank you for your letter of July 28 concerning the relationship between National Historic Landmarks (Bronze Plaque sites) and the National Register.

Our enclosed "Means by Which" sheet should help in clearing up the confusion. Historical units of the National Park Service, such as <u>Arlington House and Wakefield</u>, are entered into the National Register simultaneously, as they are added by act of Congress to the Park System.

The second section of this sheet explains the system employed with National Historic Landmarks. These are entered into the Register whom they are declared eligible as Landwarks by the Secretary of the Interior. All of the properties you mentioned, including the Monroe Law Office in Fredericksburg, were included in the first official listing of the National Register. This was the listing published as Part II of the Federal Register of February 25, 1969. A copy of this is also enclosed.

If and when time permits, our staff may be able to propare standard National Register forms for the Landmark properties. At present, the Landmark files are quite voluminous and cantain documents, studies and correspondence in addition to reports. Unfortunately, we do not have a sufficiently large staff at this time to cull and condense information pertinent to your needs from these files. If you, or semeone from the Virginia Mistoric Landmarks Commission, would care to come to this office, we would be happy to make these files available to you.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

We are sorry not to be able to provide you with reports on the Mational Historic Landmarks, but we hope that the problem with their relation to the Hational Register has been cleared up.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Murtagh (Sgd.)

William J. Murtagh Keeper of the Mational Register

Suclosure

cc:

Br. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman, Virginia Historic Landwarks Commission, Room 1106, State Ninth Street Office Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Regional Director, Southeast Region

Т

HR

SAChambers: bh 5 Aug 69

THE SOCIETY OF THE LEES OF VIRGINIA

Descendants of Richard Lee, the Emigrant

Maurice duPont Lee, Hon. President Wilmington, Delaware

Armistead M. Lee, *President* 2367 N. Kenmore Street Arlington, Virginia 22207

John A. Washington, Vice President 6801 Delaware Street Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015



Mrs. Eleanor Lee Templeman, Secretary 3001 N. Pollard Street Arlington, Virginia 22207 Phone JAckson 41114 528-1112

R.Adm. Robert R. Craighill, *Treasurer* 6018 Chesterbrook Road McLean, Virginia 22101

Other Members of the Board: Anna Katharina von Schwerdtner, Outerbridge Horsey, Henry B. Goldsborough, Jr. Chairman, Educational Fund Committee, Richard H. Lee, 3542 Newark St., N. W. Washington, D. C. 20016

March 4, 1974

Mr. Russell E. Kickenson Dep. Dir., Nat. Park Service U. S. Dept. of Interior Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dickenson:

I have just been reading, the "FEDERAL REGISTER of National Register of Historic Places, issue of Feb. 19th, 1974. I was shocked to find that in the Arlington County listing, it erroneously lists our most important landmark as:-

ARLINGTON HOUSE, (Custis-Lee Mansion).

We are trying so hard to get the correct name before the public, with the Lee name in its proper context, as provided by Act of Congress June 30, 1972, H. R. 10595. Please see that a correction is made to:

ARLINGTON HOUSE, THE ROBERT E. LEE MENORIAL

Please also advise me of the status of the application of listing BELMONT in Loudoun County, the mansion erected in 1799 by Ludwell Lee of a patent of 1728 to Thomas Lee of Stratford. Here Lafayette was entertained.

Also, of the site of Leesylvania mansion, birthplace of Light Horse Harry Lee, Charles Lee (Atty. General), and Richard Bland Lee (whose home, SULLY is on the register), and the graves of their parents. (Prince William County, at Freestone Point).

Cordially,

Eleanor See Templinan

	MAR 8 1974
UNITED STATES I	DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIC	WASHINGTON
PR	DATE
TO: Dr. Mur	tagh
FROM: RUSS DI	CKENSON
FYI	ACTIONXX
Please prepare	reply for my signature.
Thanks.	
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Greenberg 3/21 Murtagh 3/22 Wartenser Sp5 Dickerson 3-27

H34-PR

MAR 27 1974

Mrs. Eleanor Lee Templeman 3001 North Pollard Street Arlington, Virginia 22207

Dear Mrs. Templeman:

Thank you for your letter concerning the listing of <u>Arlington</u>. <u>House</u>, the Robert E. Lee <u>Memorial</u>, in the "Federal Register." A corrected entry will appear in the April 2 "Federal Register."

Belmont and Leesylvania Mansion have not been nominated to the National Register. If you wish these properties considered for inclusion in the National Register we suggest you make your interest known to the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer, Dr. Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The State Historic Preservation Officer is responsible for identifying and nominating eligible properties in Virginia.

Your interest in the National Register is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Aller Connally

Associato

Director

cc: Dr. Junius R. Fishburne, Jr. Executive Director Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission 221 Governor Street Richmond, Virginia 23219] w/c inc. FNP:N Rowland:lmw 3/15/74 Rewritten:FNP:R Greenberg:gcn 3/21/74 Retyped:amw 3/23/74 bcc: Regional Director, Mid-Atlantic Region] Director's Reading File DI P] PH] PH] PR-Publications]



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34-PR

Mrs. Eleanor Lee Templeman 3001 N. Pollard Street Arlington, Virginia 22207

while-

Dear Mrs. Templeman:

Thank you for your letter concerning the listing of Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial, in the "Federal Register." A corrected entry will appear in the April 2 "Federal Register."

We have checked our files and could find no record that Belmont (Loudoun County) had been submitted for nomination to the National Register. We also had no nomination for Leesylvania Mansion, birthplace of Light Horse Harry Lee, Charles Lee, and Richard Bland Lee, and the graves of their parents.

If you wish these properties considered for inclusion in the National Register you should contact the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer, Dr. Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Executive Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 221 Governor Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. All Virginia nominations must be submitted through the State.

Sincerely yours,

Director The innorming Inas a bit line que, Int that is no as ason for us to supply in kind. Remite - I are shawed lenow what is in national Register Interest lenown to interest lenown to Stat SHPO is reparible for edente fywig & neurin atwig eligible Let's Clean Up America For Our 200th Birthday Va ERC 19





NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FEB 4 1980

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32(565)

Memorandum

To: Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

From: Federal Representative, National Park Service

Subject: Documentation Approval

Enclosed is the documentation for "Arlington House," National Capital Region of the National Park Service, submitted in confirmation of its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

(Sgd.) Harry W. Pfanz

F. Ross Holland, Jr.

Enclosure



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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FE6 4

1980

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H32(565)

Memorandum

To: Acting Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

From: Federal Representative, National Park Service

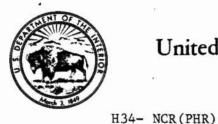
Subject: Documentation Approval

Enclosed is the documentation for "Arlington House," National Capital Region of the National Park Service, submitted in confirmation of its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

F. Ross Holland, Jr.

Enclosure





NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION 1100 OHIO DRIVE, S. W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242 RECEIVED 1980 JAN 17 FEB 1 3 1980 NATIONAL REGISTER

Memorandum

To: Assistant Director, Cultural Resources

From: Regional Director, National Capital Region

Subject: National Register documentation, Arlington House

Enclosed are a National Register form, maps, and photographs documenting the listing of Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, in the National Register of Historic Places.

Since this property is already listed in the Register, we have sent an informational copy of this documentation to the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer but have not requested his signed concurrence. The enclosed copy of our letter to him should be forwarded to the Register office with the documentation.

Please call Paul Goeldner or Barry Mackintosh of this office (426-6660) if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Kobert Horton

Kirin

Enclosures





NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION 1100 OHIO DRIVE, S. W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242



>

Mr. Tucker Hill Executive Director, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission 221 Governor Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Hill:

H34-NCR (PHR)

Enclosed are copies of the form, maps, and photographs that we are submitting to the National Register on Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial.

This submission constitutes documentation of an existing Register property rather than a nomination and thus does not require your recommendation or signed concurrence. The enclosures are provided for your information and files.

Sincerely yours,

Dep & Regional Director, National Capital Region

Enclosures



Advisorv Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street NW. Washington D.C. 20005

MAR 7 1980

Mr. Robert Stanton Deputy Regional Director National Park Service National Capital Region 1100 Ohio Drive SW. Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. Stanton:

On February 6, 1980, the Council received your determination that the continued investigation of the historic building fabric would not adversely affect the Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial, Arlington County, Virginia, a property included in the National Register of Historic Places. In accordance with Section 800.6(a) of the Council's regulations (36 CFR Part 800), the Executive Director does not object to your determination.

As provided in Section 800.9 of the Council's regulations, a copy of your determination of no adverse effect, along with supporting documentation and this concurrence, should be included in any assessment or statement prepared for this undertaking in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and should be kept in your records as evidence of your compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment," and the Council's regulations (36 CFR Part 800).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely, remnanious.

Jordan E. Tannenbaum Chief, Eastern Division of Project Review

HCRS-NP

ciol & Herilles's See SAXE Arlington to NA.

Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

October 14, 1980

Mr. Robert Stanton Deputy Regional Director National Capital Region National Park Service 1100 Ohio Drive SW. Washington, DC 20242

Dear Mr. Stanton:

On September 17, 1980, the Council received your determination that exterior repainting of the Arlington House, Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, would not adversely affect that property which is included in the National Register of Historic Places. In accordance with Section 800.6(a) of the Council's regulations (36 CFR Part 800), the Executive Director does not object to your determination.

ARIANATON HOUSE THE ROBERT E. LEE MEMORIA, ARIANATON CO.

As provided in Section 800.9 of the Council's regulations, a copy of your determination of no adverse effect, along with supporting documentation and this concurrence, should be included in any assessment or statement prepared for this undertaking in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and should be kept in your records as evidence of your compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment," and the Council's regulations (36 CFR Part 800).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Inder E. Jonnenhaum

Jordan E. Tannenbaum Chief, Eastern Division of Project Review

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Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street NW. Washington D.C. 20005

OCT 3 1 1978

Mr. Manus J. Fish Regional Director National Capital Region National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior 1100 Ohio Drive S.W. Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. Fish:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation would appreciate a status report on the proposed Seabee Memorial, an undertaking of the National Park Service that may have an effect on Arlington House, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia, Q property included in the National Register of Historic Places. Our last correspondence on this matter was dated November 13, 1973 (copy enclosed).

We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Myra F. Harrison Assistant Director Office of Review and Compliance

Enclosure

NOTICE

Original letter is filed with the first property referred in the text.

SEE FIRST PROPERTY FILE

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Conectinis $\overline{}$ L. h.d. ML flould have been listed under v-Omissions: in 2/19/74 Fed Reg. -Balto. City, Md. -Oldtown Friends Meeting House, 1201 E. Fayette 3/30/73 St. Luke's Church, 217 M. Carey Street 3/30/73 St. Paul's Rectory, 24 W. Savatoga Street3/20/73 L St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, 233 M. 3/30/73 Echarlos Street Darlington County, E arlington articipton House, The pobert E. Lee menniel, achington rational curretury LOUISIANA orleans Parish New Crieens, Pitot House (Ducayet House), 1440 mon Stut Rapides Parish Pineville vicinity, the old LSU site, Noffinille at 2500 Shenepart Highway in Kisatchel National Forest (8-14.73) 10 ush Merce Co. Steilacoom, Davidson House (Phillip Keach House) 1802 Commenced Al. (7-27-73)

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Custis-Lee Mansion

THE ROBERT E. LEE MEMORIAL

Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia

Custis-Lee Mansion THE ROBERT E. LEE MEMORIAL

In this mansion, in April 1861, Robert E. Lee wrote his resignation from the United States Army in order to join the cause of Virginia and the South

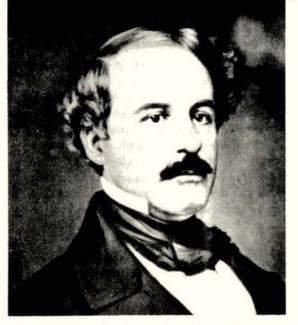
HE CUSTIS-LEE MANSION is distinctive through its long associations with the families of Custis, Washington, and Lee. By act of Congress in 1955, it was made a permanent memorial to Robert E. Lee.

This home of George Washington Parke Custis, the foster son of the First President, was for years the treasury of both the Washington heirlooms and the Washington tradition. Here Robert E. Lee, a young lieutenant in the U. S. Army, and Mary Custis, the great-granddaughter of Martha Washington, were married and reared a family. Here, also, Col. Robert E. Lee, torn between devotion to his country and to his native State, made his fateful decision, the substance of which he had written to his son a few months before: "It is the principle I contend for . . . But I can anticipate no greater calamity for the country than a dissolution of the Union . . . Still, a Union that can only be maintained by swords and bayonets . . . has no charm for me. I shall mourn for my country and for the welfare and progress of mankind. If the Union is dissolved . . . I shall return to my native State . . . and save in defence will draw

my sword on none." Today Arlington House, as it was formerly known, furnished with appointments of its early period, preserves for posterity the atmosphere of gracious living, typical of a romantic age of American history.

Early History

George Washington Parke Custis, builder of Arlington House, was the grandson of Martha Washington and the foster son of George Washington. When Martha Dandridge Custis became the wife of Col. George Washington she was a widow with two children, Martha Parke Custis and John Parke Custis. Martha Parke Custis died in her teens without having been married, but John Parke Custis married Eleanor Calvert of Maryland in 1774, and upon his death at the close of the Revolutionary War left four children. The death of John Parke Custis was a shock, not only to his mother. Mrs. Washington, but to General Washington as well, as he is reported to have remarked to the grieving mother at the deathbed, "I adopt the two youngest children as my own." Their names



Portrait of Robert E. Lee, about 1850 (G. Louvrie)

were Eleanor Parke Custis (Nellie) and George Washington Parke Custis. They were reared at Mount Vernon and are often referred to as the "Children of Mount Vernon."

In 1802, the year his grandmother, Mrs. Washington, died, George Washington Parke Custis began building Arlington House on the estate of nearly 1,100 acres which his father had purchased from the Alexander family in 1778. He named the estate "Arlington" and the home "Arlington House" in honor of the ancestral homestead of the Custis family on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The house was to receive the legacy of his grandmother-furniture and pictures, plate and china from Mount Vernon, and more precious still, personal effects of Washington. Two years later, at the age of 23, he was married to Mary Lee Fitzhugh of Alexandria and "Chatham."

Plans for the building were drawn by George Hadfield, a young English architect. The north wing was built first and the south wing was completed in 1804. The foundation stone and timber came from the estate. The bricks with which the house was built were burned from native clay. The portico and large center section were not finished until 1817.

Arlington

The extent of the front of the mansion, with its two wings, is 140 feet. The wings are identical, except that in the north wing the space corresponding to the state dining room in the south wing was divided into small rooms for the temporary accommodation of Mr. and Mrs. Custis while the house was being built and was never changed. The central portion is divided by a wide central hall. A large formal drawing room with two fine marble fireplaces lies south of this hall. To the north of it can be seen the family dining room and family parlor separated by a north and south partition broken by three graceful arches. The second story is also divided by a central hall on either side of which there are two bedrooms and accompanying dressing rooms. A small room used as a linen closet is at the end of this hall. The third floor was used only for storage purposes and remained an unfinished attic. The grand portico facing the Potomac,

One of the most pleasant incidents in the history of Arlington House was the visit in 1824 of General Lafavette, whose reverence for the memory of Washington matched that of his host. It is related that on entering he commented on the iron lantern in the hall, which he remembered at Mount Vernon. The view from the portico he pronounced unrivaled, entreating Mrs. Custis never to sacrifice any of the fine trees. The next year General Lafavette again visited at Arlington House.

On June 30, 1831, Mary Ann Randolph

Custis, only child of the Arlington Custis family, became the wife of Lt. Robert E. Lee, a young West Point graduate. The wedding ceremony took place in the family parlor of the mansion. The wedding party

The dining room as viewed from the parlor



with its eight massive Doric columns, is 60 feet wide and 25 feet deep. At the rear two buildings used as servant's quarters, smokehouse, workroom, and summer kitchen form a courtvard.

General Lafayette Visits Arlington

Lt. Robert E. Lee's Marriage

remained at Arlington in festivity and merriment for several days, when the groom's fellow officers, their leaves ending, were forced to depart. Some of the bridesmaids lingered until the end of the week.

Mrs. Lee Inherits Arlington

Much of Mrs. Lee's married life was spent at the home of her girlhood, sometimes with her husband, sometimes awaiting his return from the Mexican War or other distant tours of duty. Six of the seven Lee children were born here. By the will of George Washington Parke Custis, who died in 1857, the estate of Arlington was bequeathed to his daughter for her lifetime, and afterward to his eldest grandson and namesake, George Washington Custis Lee.

Never a thrifty farmer and an easygoing master, requiring little of his slaves, Mr. Custis' death found the Arlington plantation sadly run down. Robert E. Lee as executor felt that his presence at Arlington was necessary if he was to give proper attention to the estate. He, therefore, obtained extended leave and settled down to the life of a farmer. More than 2 years elapsed before he rejoined his regiment. During this

The drawing room



The city of Washington from the Custis-Lee Mansion

period, the traditions of Arlington House were maintained. Situated on the maintraveled road from the South, Arlington was a favorite stopping place for relatives and friends. Its hospitable doors were always open to such guests.

The Lees Leave Arlington

Following the news of the secession of Virginia, news which he had hoped never to hear, Colonel Lee, on April 20, 1861, resigned his commission in the U.S. Army, Monday morning, April 22, at the request of the Governor of Virginia, he departed for Richmond. Mrs. Lee remained at Arlington engaged in the work of dismantling her home and sending family possessions to a place of safety. Soon after she left Washington, Federal troops occupied the lands between Washington and Alexandria. The remaining family possessions were later taken from Arlington to the old Patent Office in Washington, but not before many things, including some of the Mount Vernon heirlooms, had been carried away.

The United States Acquires Arlington

Situated on the line of fortifications guarding Washington, the Arlington estate soon became an armed camp. Headquarters of the general commanding the forts in the vicinity were established in the mansion. Confiscated by the Government when Mrs. Lee was unable to appear personally to pay taxes as required, about 200 acres of the estate were set aside for a national cemetery in June 1864. Upon the death of Mrs. Lee in 1873-General Lee having died in 1870-Custis Lee took steps to recover the Arlington property willed to him by his grandfather, George Washington Parke Custis. His case was carried to the U.S. Supreme Court, where a decision favorable to him was obtained. He then consented to give the United States a clear title to the property for \$150,000, and in 1883 Congress appropriated the necessary funds.

Arlington House Restored

For years after the war, the mansion stood an empty shell-an office for the superin-

tendent of the cemetery and a place for his tools. By act of Congress, approved March 4, 1925, the Secretary of War was empowered to undertake the restoration of Arlington House to the condition in which it existed prior to the War Between the States. He was to procure for it, when possible, furniture known to have been in the mansion, replicas of that furniture, or other pieces of a style suitable to the first half of the 19th century. Some of the historical originals have been returned, and for those that could not be obtained similar period pieces and a few copies have been substituted. In 1933 Arlington House was transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior

About Your Visit

You may visit the Custis-Lee Mansion, which is located in Arlington National Cemetery, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. October through March, and from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. April through September. There is a small admission charge, which is waived for children 18 years of age and under.

Bus service is available via Arlington Memorial Bridge to the mansion. Automobiles may drive through the cemetery to parking facilities near the mansion.

A 48-page historical handbook may be purchased at the mansion or from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., for 25 cents.

Administration

The CUSTIS-LEE MANSION is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Created in 1849, the Department of the Interior—America's Department of Natural Resources—is concerned with the management, conservation, and development of the Nation's water, wildlife, mineral, forest, and park and recreational resources. It also has major responsibilities for Indian and Territorial affairs.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department works to assure that nonrenewable resources are developed and used wisely, that park and recreational resources are conserved for the future, and that renewable resources make their full contribution to the progress, prosperity, and security of the United States—now and in the future.

Address all communications concerning the memorial to the Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service, Washington 25, D.C.

Mission 66

MISSION 66, a program to be completed by 1966, is designed to assure the maximum protection of the scenic, scientific, wilderness, and historic resources of the National Park System in ways that will make them available for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The National Park System, of which this area is a unit, is dedicated to conserving the scenic, scientific, and historic heritage of the United States for the benefit and inspiration of its people.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



REVISED 1962