

VLR-11/5/68 NHL-11/13/66

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Alexandria (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON
Alexandria

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Alexandria

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
As described in attached Ordinance No. 1338

CITY OR TOWN:
Alexandria

STATE: Virginia CODE: 510 COUNTY: (in cit.) CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Public buildings</u>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Multiple public and private

STREET AND NUMBER:
City of Alexandria

CITY OR TOWN: Alexandria STATE: Virginia CODE: 510

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Alexandria Clerk of Courts

STREET AND NUMBER:
130 N. Fairfax

CITY OR TOWN: Alexandria STATE: Virginia CODE: 510

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: see Ordinance No. 1338

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Alexandria (in cit.)
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

Virginia	
COUNTY	
Alexandria (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1958
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C. Code: 08

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #100
1968
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: ~~760~~ 45

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		
			Moved <input type="checkbox"/>			Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The general layout of the historic district of Alexandria consists of uniform rectangular blocks in a grid pattern. The streets are lined with townhouses, the more important of which are generally free-standing while the majority are either semi-detached or non-detached. Most of the structures are brick or frame. The architecture found in the district includes the full-range of the late-eighteenth and nineteenth century styles, but the district is more noted for its outstanding buildings of the Federal period.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

a. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Alexandria was a thriving port until 1861, dealing primarily in the export of tobacco and grain. Tobacco was the currency with which John Alexander in 1669 purchased the site of the future town. It was also tobacco that brought Scotch merchants to the site in 1732, where they soon erected riverfront warehouses. The rapid growth of the area spurred Virginia's General Assembly to authorize the laying out of a town in 1748. Its original trustees named the town "Alexandria" in honor of John Alexander. The survey of the town was made by the Fairfax County Surveyor and his 17-year old assistant, George Washington. The formal incorporation of the town, plus its designation as a Port of Entry, occurred in 1779. Soon, grain from western counties became a more valuable export than tobacco. Only the Civil War ended its usefulness as a port.

Surviving structures that reflect Alexandria's early life number about 200 and lie largely within an area of about 25 squares of the modern city, bounded roughly by the Potomac River, Franklin Street, North Washington Street and Queen Street. These structures include both warehouses and handsome dwellings. Of the latter, the Ramsay House is the city's oldest. Gadsby's Tavern (actually two buildings dating, respectively, from 1752 and 1792) was a famed center of hospitality, food and political activity. Chequire House and Gilpin House exemplify rich 18th-century dwellings atop the owner's mercantile establishments. Along a cobblestone and tree shaded block of Prince Street are the colorful homes of early ship masters. Of the five surviving early warehouses, those of John Fitzgerald are still in use. Title to Alexandria's historic buildings rests in various private owners and public bodies.

b. BOUNDARIES: Please see attached Ordinance No. 1338

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aboriginal | Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric | Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- | | Other (Specify) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic | Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | losophy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Architecture</u> | |
| Agriculture | Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>History</u> | |
| Art | Landscape | | Sculpture | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | |
| Commerce | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human- | | _____ | |
| Communications | Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> | itarian | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | |
| Conservation | Military | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | |
| | Music | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Alexandria was formally authorized as a town by an act of the Virginia Assembly in 1748. The town was laid off into uniform rectangular blocks with George Washington acting as one of the original surveyors. From the mid-eighteenth century until the Civil War, the town grew considerably as it served as the principal seaport and commercial center of northern Virginia.

The "Old and Historic District of Alexandria" as defined in Ordinance 1338 of the City Council of Alexandria, is an area embracing nearly 100 blocks in the heart of the original town. Within this district is to be found probably the largest concentration of late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth century urban architecture in the state. While a large number of the buildings are significant examples of Colonial and Federal architecture, many have important historical associations as well. Some of the more notable architecturally and historically important buildings in the area include: The Ramsey House, the city's earliest structure; Christ Church (erected 1773), a well preserved Colonial church where the Washingtons and Lees often worshipped; the Carlyle House (built 1752), a notable mid-Georgian mansion where General Braddock was entertained; the Lloyd House (erected 1798), a fine Federal structure; Gadsby's Tavern (1792), City Tavern (1798), two architecturally notable buildings which were the scene of much early political activity; the Robert E. Lee House (1795), a large Federal house where Lee spent much of his boyhood; the Lord Fairfax House (1816), one of the nation's outstanding Federal mansions; and the Alexandria Lyceum (1834), the city's finest Greek Revival building.

Although Alexandria is famous primarily for its Federal architecture, it should be noted that the city contains a number of fine Victorian structures as well. There are also many nineteenth century townhouses which are not significant as individual examples of architecture but are important in that they serve to maintain the scale of the city and visually link the more important buildings.

While the historic district of Alexandria does contain many individual buildings of national significance, the district as a whole is extremely important as it is one of the very few urban areas in the state where enough of the old buildings have survived so that one can grasp a sense of an early town environment.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, Deering, Stephen P. Dorsey, and Ralph Cole Hall, Alexandria Houses, New York: Bonanza Books, 1946.

Moore, Gay Montague, Seaport in Virginia, Richmond, Virginia: Garret and Massie, Inc., 1949.

Templeman, Eleanor Lee and Nan Netherton, Northern Virginia Heritage, published by authors, 1966.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38°	49'	03"	77°	03'	15"			
NE	38°	49'	03"	77°	02'	20"			
SE	38°	47'	26"	77°	02'	20"			
SW	38°	47'	26"	77°	03'	15"			

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Edward P. Alexander CHAIRMAN

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: March 28, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 760

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Dr. Edward P. Alexander

Title Chairman, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date March 28, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert Allen Cavalley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date April 2, 1969

ATTEST:
William J. Mulloy
Keeper of The National Register

Date April 2, 1969

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

Virginia	
COUNTY	
Alexandria (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Alexandria
AND/OR HISTORIC: Alexandria

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
As described in attached Ordinance No. 1338

CITY OR TOWN:
Alexandria

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	510	(in cit.)	510

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
U.S.G.S. 7 1/2', quadrangle Alexandria, Va. - D. C. - Md.

SCALE: 1:27,000

DATE: 1965

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Alexandria (in cit.)	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Alexandria
AND/OR HISTORIC: Alexandria

2. LOCATION

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As described in attached Ordinance No. 1338

CITY OR TOWN:
Alexandria

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	510	(in cit.)	510

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

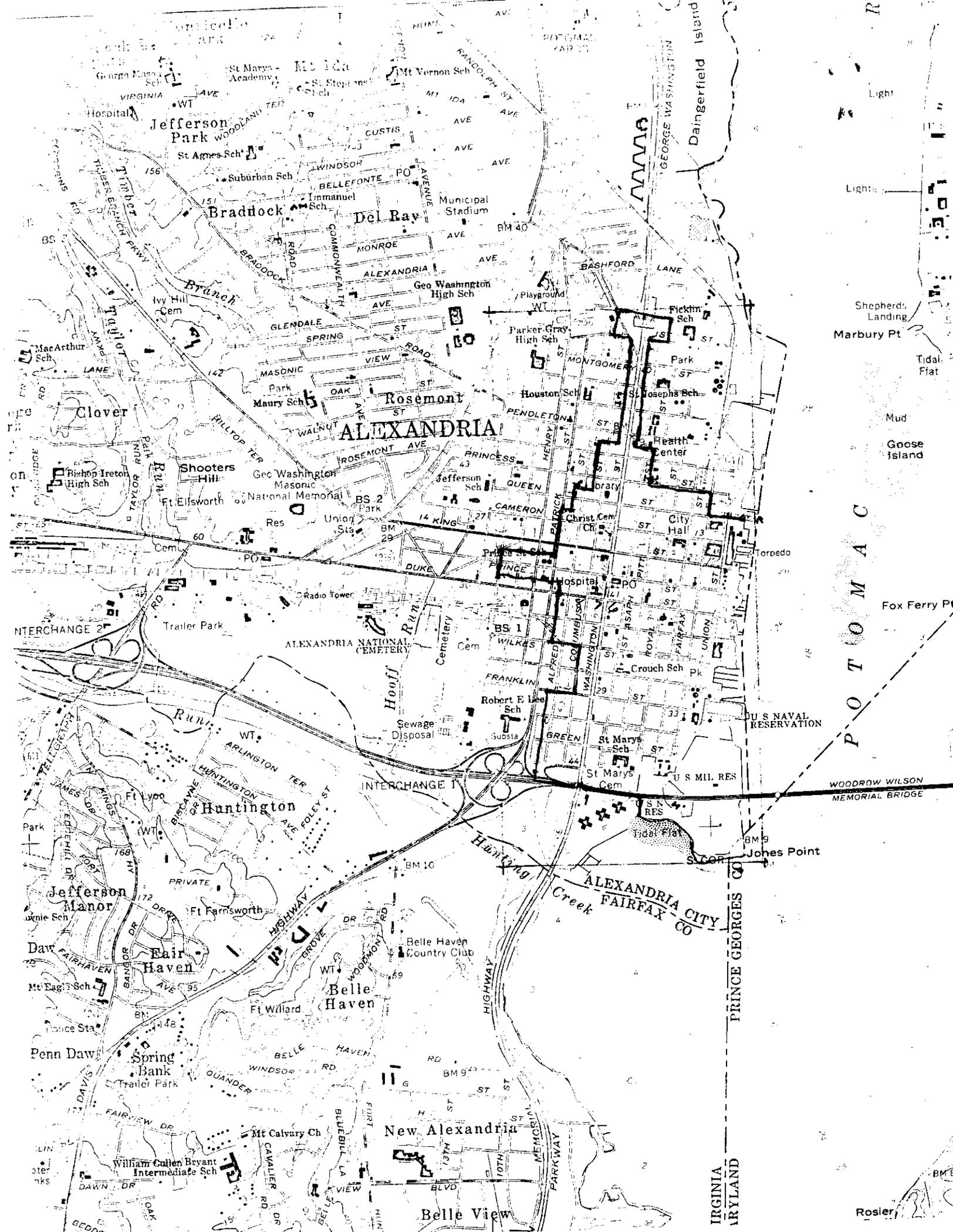
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Richmond, Virginia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Alexandria. Prince Street (200 block) looking west.



Jefferson Park
St Agnes Sch

Braddock
Suburban Sch

Del Ray
Immanuel Sch

Rosemont
ALEXANDRIA

Shooters Hill
Ft Ellsworth

National Memorial
Union Sta

Jefferson Sch
Cameron

City Hall
Hospital

ALEXANDRIA NATIONAL CEMETERY
Cemetery

Huntington
Ft Farnsworth

Jefferson Manor
Daw

Fair Haven
Spring Bank

Belle Haven
Ft Willard

New Alexandria
Belle View

POTOMAC

ALEXANDRIA CITY
FAIRFAX CO

IRGINIA
ARYLAND

Rosier