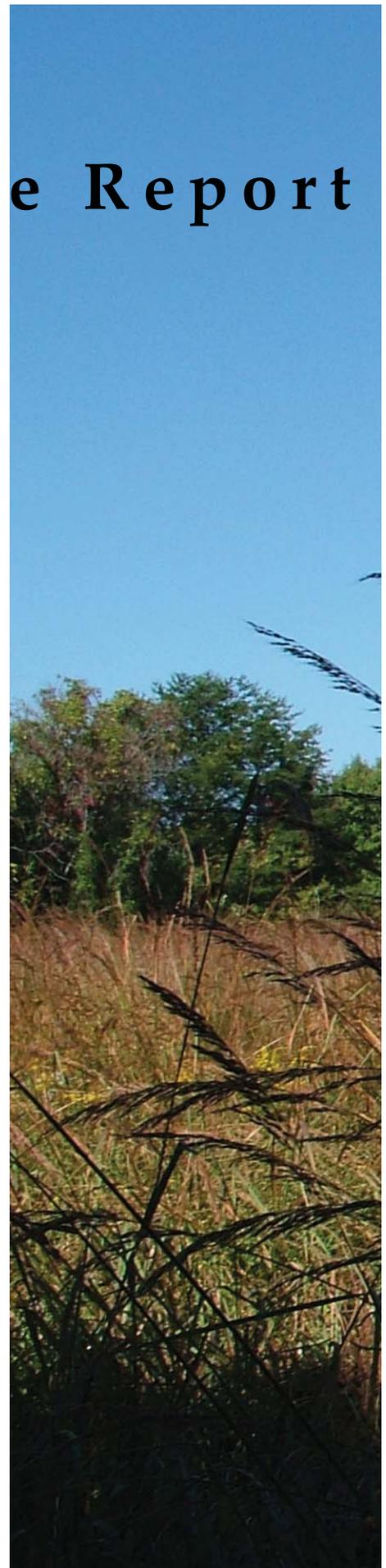


# Cultural Landscape Report

*Prepared for:*  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia

*Prepared by:*  
John Milner Associates, Inc.  
Charlottesville, Virginia

July 2008



# Salona Historic Site

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July 2008 - 100% DRAFT

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# Chapter One

## Introduction

### Project Summary

Salona is located at 1235 Dolley Madison Boulevard in McLean, Fairfax County, Virginia, about 8 miles outside of Washington, D.C. The property is currently owned by Daniel and Karen DuVal. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in July 1973, the Salona property contains buildings, structures, archaeological resources, and landscape features that are of interpretive and educational value to the public. It is one of the last sizeable open spaces in McLean and as such has attracted the attention of real estate developers for private commercial and residential use. The entire site contains 52.4 acres, at the center of which is the property's residential core comprising 7.8 acres, protected in perpetuity by a 1971 easement to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The DuVal family occupies this residential core and retains an additional 3 acres within the property for their personal use. A new conservation easement has been placed on the remaining 41.6 acres, which includes 10 acres for active recreational use and 31.6 acres for natural and cultural resource preservation and passive recreational uses. This conservation easement, purchased by the Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Park Authority (Park Authority), is intended to offset high density development in the area. JMA (John Milner Associates, Inc.) has prepared this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) to support the Park Authority's efforts regarding treatment, protection, and future planning for Salona's historic landscape.

This CLR will contribute to the Park Authority's Conceptual Development Plan and General Management Planning Process by providing documentation of significant historic landscape resources, characteristics, and qualities of the property. Furthermore, the CLR will provide an overview history of the site, identify existing landscape features and their physical condition, compare existing and historic landscape conditions to determine significance and integrity, and offer treatment guidelines and recommendations for managing the landscape.

This report is divided into six chapters:

- Chapter One—Introduction—summarizes the purpose and scope of the project, describes the project methodology, and presents an overview of findings.
- Chapter Two—Site History—outlines the physical development of Salona over time based on directed research and review of available documentation. Where site-specific documentation was lacking, the site history provides relevant contextual information.

The site physical history is supported by historic maps, photographs, and illustrations depicting the evolution of the site.

- Chapter Three—Existing Conditions—provides a narrative summary of existing landscape conditions, with accompanying photographs, maps, and diagrams.
- Chapter Four—Landscape Analysis and Evaluation—compares historic and existing landscape conditions and assesses their National Register-level integrity and significance.
- Chapter Five—Treatment Plan—proposes long-term management strategies to further the goal of protecting Salona’s historic character and its cultural and natural resources.
- Chapter Six —Schematic Design —offers an illustrative schematic approach for recreational facilities on the Salona site, new site access, and interpretive improvements recommended in Chapter Five.

## Location and Description of Property

*(see figure 1-1 location and vicinity map)*

Salona is located at 1235 Dolley Madison Boulevard, a four-lane highway within the area of Fairfax County called McLean. The property slopes generally from north to south and within its boundary has a gently rolling topography created by the actions of two perennial creeks. Its major features include the main house, which rests atop the highest point within this landscape, and outbuildings, including a springhouse, a small barn with a stone foundation, a large frame barn, a kitchen or office, a brick privy or wash house, a small frame barn, and the ruins of a substantial stone cattle barn. Salona is bounded on the east by residential and commercial lots fronting onto Buchanan Street and on the west by residential lots fronting onto Kurtz Road.

Salona is a relatively large parcel of undeveloped land sited within a mixed-use suburban context. What is now the Salona property is on the western edge of the enormous tract originally granted to Thomas Lee in 1719 (see Chapter Two – Site History). He and his descendents subdivided the tract during the next 100 years, reducing its original size considerably. The original Smoot farm portion of the Lee grant was about three times the size of Salona today, but its edges were gradually carved away during the Smoot tenure, sold off for commercial and residential development.

As noted previously, Salona is currently owned by the DuVal family; however with the exception of its residential core and another smaller parcel, is administered by the Park Authority through a conservation easement. The property is located within the Dranesville District, a sub-unit of Fairfax County, in the R-2 (residential) zoning district of the County, and is half a block east of the McLean Revitalization District.

## Project Scope

The scope of work for this CLR, as identified by the Park Authority at the initiation of the project, includes the following elements:

- Research the historic background of the landscape to determine how it has changed over time and document its probable appearance during the designated period of significance.
- Document existing landscape features, including spatial organization, vegetation, water, roadbeds, archaeological features, views, buildings, and structures.
- Analyze and evaluate the relative impact that the improvements needed to accommodate an expanded public program will have on the cultural landscape features and make recommendations based on the analysis.
- Provide treatment recommendations to enable Park Authority staff to better manage the cultural landscape.

## Project Methodology

### Project Initiation and Project Meeting #1

In August 2006, CLR project team members met at Park Authority offices for an initial project meeting and subsequent site visit. Meeting attendees included:

Park Authority:	Sherry Frear, Michael Rierson, and Bob Wharton
JMA:	Laura Knott

During the meeting, Park Authority staff emphasized that the CLR will function as the cultural resource component of the General Management Plan. Complementary to the CLR will be a site-specific Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP), to be prepared by the Park Authority. JMA agreed to meet with researchers working on the NRMP to learn of any resources that warrant identification and/or protection in the treatment plan.

At the meeting, JMA received historic aerial photographs in printed and digital form. JMA also requested copies of the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century photographs seen in the book by Ellen Anderson, but Park Authority has been unable to find the originals. While no historic archaeological research has been performed at the site, Park Authority archaeologist Bob Wharton agreed to provide any available prehistoric archaeological information to JMA. Sherry Frear agreed to provide copies of the National Register and Virginia Landmarks Register nominations. JMA was directed to the Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room for information on the location of a possible slave cemetery on the site and to Park Authority staff for Pimmit Run Trail information. The Park Authority confirmed their right by easement to access the property, except for the immediate environs of the house; JMA is to contact Park Authority staff prior to entering the site.

Regarding the treatment plan, Park Authority confirmed that the landscape berm indicated in the Salona Conceptual Development Plan must be part of the treatment as it is required by the easement agreement. Park Authority also requested that ADA regulations be observed, and that Low Impact Development strategies be recommended for site treatment including open-cell blocks, rain gardens, and underground stormwater storage.

The team reviewed the draft schedule and discussed postponing site work until after leaf fall in early November 2006 due to undergrowth in the south half of the property. Park Authority suggested that the 75% review may be a formal presentation to a larger group and agreed that illustrative boards would be provided for this presentation as an additional service.

### **Historic Research Methodology**

Much of the historic narrative was based on Ellen Anderson's book *Salona, Fairfax County, Virginia*. Other source documents included the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register nominations. Additional research was carried out at the Library of Virginia, the Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, and the Alderman and Small Special Collections libraries at the University of Virginia. There, the Lee family papers and correspondence were researched for both contextual and site-specific information. Numerous online sources were searched, and secondary literature consulted to provide contextual matter, photographs, and maps pertinent to the project.

### **Base Mapping Methodology**

An AutoCAD electronic base map was provided by the Park Authority's Division of Planning and Zoning to the project team to serve as the basis for mapping 2006 existing conditions at Salona for this CLR. The base map was revised by JMA according to information gathered during field investigations. JMA also developed historic period maps by aligning historic aerials and maps with the base survey of the property.

### **Existing Conditions Methodology**

Laura Knott and Adriane Fowler commenced fieldwork in October 2006, meeting with Charles Smith, a senior technical naturalist from the Park Authority's Natural Resource Management and Protection section, at the Salona site to observe and record possible wetland features, and to identify and record vegetative and faunal species in the northern half of the property. Using a paper base map, the team noted the locations of individual trees, larger mixed groupings of trees and shrubs, and colonies of grasses and herbaceous species. Team members also photographed individual plants and colonies to record overall landscape character.

Mr. Smith followed up with a summary report of his observations and recommendations for treatment, referring to the wetlands delineation done by Williamsburg Environmental Group, Inc., in separate contract with Park Authority in early November 2006. This delineation had been

expedited from its previous schedule as requested by JMA in order to provide background for the CLR treatment recommendations.

Adriane Fowler, Jacky Taylor, and Park Authority historic preservation intern, Stephanie Towns, conducted in-depth fieldwork to document existing conditions at Salona on November 28 and 29, 2006. The team gathered information through digital photography, collection of GPS point data, field notes, and field revisions to the base map drawing.

The team then prepared written and graphic documentation of existing conditions through review and compilation of base maps, notes from field investigations, and photographs taken in the field. Recent aerial photography, USGS quad mapping, and the Fairfax County soil survey supplemented this information. An introductory section in Chapter Three - Existing Conditions describes the environmental and cultural context and setting of Salona and is followed by detailed documentation of the property in accordance with the guidelines provided in National Register Bulletin 18: *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*. Based on the guidance offered in the bulletin, documentation of existing landscape features and qualities was organized into a series of landscape characteristics as follows:

- spatial organization
- natural systems and features
- views and vistas
- land uses
- topography
- buildings and structures
- circulation
- vegetation
- small-scale features
- utilities
- archaeological resources

Inventories of the features documented by landscape characteristic were also prepared. These inventories served as the basis for a condition assessment and for the identification of contributing and non-contributing resources included in Chapter Four- Landscape Analysis and Evaluation. The conditions of existing landscape features noted in this report are based on the condition categories defined in the National Park Service's *Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide*. Photographs of representative landscape features for each landscape characteristic were included in Chapter Three - Existing Conditions referenced in the text, and photographic station points indicated in the captions.

The 50% draft of the CLR, consisting of Chapter Two-Site History, and Chapter Three- Existing Conditions, along with illustrative figures, were submitted to Park Authority for their review.

## **Project Meeting #2**

In January 2007, CLR project team members met via conference call to discuss the 50% draft review comments. In attendance at the meeting were:

Park Authority: Sherry Frear, Michael Rierson, and Liz Crowell  
JMA: Laura Knott, Adriane Fowler, and Jacky Taylor

The discussion focused on clarification of comments regarding Chapters Two and Three, previously submitted to JMA via e-mail from Ms. Crowell and Ms. Frear. Park Authority clarified the sizes of parcels under easement and the functions of those easements. Questions arose regarding the conditions assessment and why so many features were labeled “NA” or “undetermined.” JMA explained that “NA” is used to label archaeological features such as ruins or potential archaeological sites, large-scale natural topography; and features affecting, but not actually within the project site.

JMA reported that the fieldwork, performed with the assistance of a GPS system, was successful where the tree cover and undergrowth were less dense. A tape measure and compass had been used in areas inaccessible to satellite connection. JMA also reported that thick bramble undergrowth prevented access to portions of the site where rock walls had been observed by previous visitors. Liz Crowell agreed to have Park Authority archaeologist Bob Wharton look at JMA’s maps to suggest in more detail where these features might be found. Michael Rierson also offered to locate walls he observed in 2001 on the 1954 aerial.

JMA requested further direction for the treatment plan given the Park Authority review of Chapter Three - Existing Conditions. Park Authority requested that JMA review what had been proposed in the Conceptual Plan and make recommendations for change in light of current information. A revised schedule for work was requested by Park Authority.

## **Evaluation of Significance Methodology**

Salona is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as the Virginia Landmarks Register. The information provided in these documents and in Ellen Anderson’s book, *Salona*, served as the basis for the CLR significance evaluation. In addition to synthesizing available information, the CLR team investigated additional historic contexts and sources to augment these previous evaluations.

## **Site Analysis Methodology**

To better understand the relationship between the existing landscape of Salona and the character of the landscape during the identified periods of significance, JMA prepared a comparative analysis of historic and existing landscape conditions. The three primary goals of the comparative analysis were to:

- understand which features survive from the period of significance
- establish the basis for an integrity assessment
- provide an understanding of the similarities and differences between historic and existing conditions that would contribute to the development of a well-grounded treatment plan for the cultural landscape

While there were very few historic photographs of the site available, CLR team compared aerial photographs from 1937, 1954, and 2002 in order to determine the level of change that had occurred on the site on a large scale since the end of the period of significance. The team also analyzed two photographs of the farm taken from the same vantage point, dating to around 1890 and 1900, to determine the presence of some landscape features from that period.

Through this comparative analysis, contributing features were identified. Contributing features were deemed to be those surviving from the period of significance as identified in the significance evaluation. Non-contributing features, that is, those that originated after the period of significance, were also identified. The team listed missing features that are known or thought to have existed during the period of significance but that are no longer evident except in the archaeological record. Features for which not enough is known to make a determination were also listed separately.

### **Assessment of Integrity Methodology**

The property's overall integrity was assessed in accordance with the seven aspects—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association—described in National Register Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*.

### **Treatment Plan Methodology**

JMA began preparation of the Treatment Plan by introducing *The Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Preservation* and their application to the issues at Salona. In addition to identification of a preferred treatment approach for the property, there was discussion of a variety of issues that would set the stage for the treatment plan: site and recreational programming, implications of adopting the *Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Preservation*, interpretive goals and methods, appropriate treatment recommendations for individual features, maintenance, and the role of on-going and future investigation in site development and interpretation. The CLR team considered carefully the needs, goals, and objectives voiced by the Park Authority in Meeting #2 in developing a treatment plan that was also consistent with professionally recognized preservation approaches, federal guidelines, and Park Authority Policy. The initial draft of the Treatment Plan was presented and submitted for review to the Park Authority and discussed in a conference call Meeting #3 on December 16, 2007. The review and discussion encompassed the recommended overall treatment approach to

the property, as well as a series of resource specific recommendations for treatment, management, and interpretation.

## Schematic Design Methodology

The presentation prepared by JMA for Meeting #3 also included various alternatives for schematic designs to accomplish implementation of the treatment recommendations and the site program under consideration by the Park Authority. The group discussed at length various alternatives for parking and site access, recreational fields, play area, picnic area and trails, which are the most complicated and difficult site programmatic elements to be addressed within the historically significant and topographically challenging property. Refinement of the ideas presented in the schematic design alternatives continued after the meeting, and included dialogue between JMA and Park Authority landscape architect Sarah Ridgely Moulton through a series of emails, preliminary concept design proposals, and reviews. A preferred alternative schematic design concept was selected in early December 2007 and a draft of Chapter Six - Schematic Design of the report was submitted for review on December 16, 2007. Chapter Six of the CLR includes a basis for design narrative, a description of the alternatives explored but not pursued in detail, and a schematic design drawing that is the result of these collaborative efforts.

## Summary of Findings

In accordance with the National Register of Historic Places, Salona possesses state-level significance within the areas of social history, agriculture, architecture, landscape architecture, and historical archaeology under Criteria A, B, C, and D. The property derives its primary significance from the early Federal-period architecture of the brick main house and its setting, which includes a collection of early to mid-19<sup>th</sup>-century brick, frame, and stone outbuildings set in an agricultural landscape. Salona is also significant for its association with the prominent Lee family, for its potential to yield important information about the establishment of country homes by wealthy Virginians during the early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and for its use by the Smoot family within the context of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century local agricultural practices. It may also possess significance for its association with a nearby encampment of Union troops during the Civil War, and the occupation of the main house by its commanders.

Salona was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. It is believed to have been construction ca. 1812 and was deemed significant at the state level as a property that embodied distinctive characteristics of early 19<sup>th</sup>-century architecture. Recent research has built on earlier documentation and understandings of the site and takes into consideration new ideas in preservation planning that have occurred since the 1973 nomination, i.e., that the significance of buildings *and* their settings must be researched and that the contribution of outbuildings or other landscape features such as circulation and field patterns should be addressed in detail.

Based on the significance and integrity of Salona, the Park Authority goals and objectives for the property, and the fact that historic landscapes are rarely static environments, this CLR recommends **rehabilitation** as the overarching treatment approach to management of the

property. Rehabilitation will protect the resource by advocating stabilization and preservation of contributing resources, while also allowing for new uses such as expanded visitor access and interpretation based on the Secretary of the Interior's definition of rehabilitation as "the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions, while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values."

Rehabilitation is both the selected preservation alternative as well as the best choice from the four alternatives identified by the Secretary of the Interior. Preservation is not an appropriate treatment alternative for Salona given that visitor access is an important future component of the property. Although restoration and reconstruction have also been considered, the lack of sufficient documentary sources and data precludes the recommendation of these alternatives as potential treatment approaches for the project area landscape.

While the overarching treatment alternative proposed for the project area is rehabilitation, there are certain aspects or areas of the landscape that are particularly sensitive to disturbance by human use and changes. These areas include known and potential archaeological resources, and natural systems. As with the historic resources that contribute to the integrity of the landscape and survive from the period of significance, protection of archaeological and natural resources during rehabilitation of the property require special consideration. The specific treatment approach for each of the property's landscape characteristics is outlined below.

### *Vegetation*

Very little is known about the vegetation that may have existed on the property during the period of significance. Much of the extant vegetation, with the possible exception of the larger shade trees and some of the boxwood, likely post-dates the period of significance. Vegetation that is known to impede historic patterns of spatial organization should be considered for judicious and careful removal. Invasive alien plants with the likelihood of disrupting native vegetation should also be removed. Unless there is a compelling reason to remove landscape features, however, vegetation not in conflict with interpretive values and historic patterns should remain until more is known about the property during the period of significance.

While little is known about species of vegetation present within the Salona property during the period of significance, the three fields in the north third of the property have developed, possibly by design, into the largest contiguous patch of meadow remaining in this part of Fairfax County.<sup>1</sup> These fields and the hedgerows that border them contain at least 100 native and non-native plant species, including trees, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. The eastern hedgerow contains a drainage channel that conveys water from the fields, as well as outfall from under Dolley Madison Boulevard. Two wetlands have been delineated along this channel. The western hedgerow

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<sup>1</sup> Charles Smith, email message to Laura Knott, Adriane Fowler, and Sherry Frear, November 29, 2006.

contains a less active drainage channel that runs alongside the trace of the original entrance drive. Both hedgerows provide important edge and roosting habitat for wildlife. These three fields and their adjacent hedgerows should be carefully considered for protection and management.

### *Natural Systems*

The Salona property includes at least one flowing spring to the south of the main house, over which the still-extant stone springhouse was built. Others are evident on the ground surface as low, wet areas that drain into one of the two perennial streams on the property. These springs may be part of what attracted the Lee and Smoot families to this property. Protection and interpretation of these springs and the stone springhouse are important components of the plan for natural and cultural resource management. Treatment of natural systems such as these springs is directly related to water and air quality, soil erosion control, wildlife habitat and movement, interpretation of the historic landscape, and land use. Special consideration should therefore be paid to protecting the springs and associated water quality.

### *Circulation*

Traces of the circulation systems present in historic aerial and ground-level photographs of the Salona landscape, including the main driveway from what is now Dolley Madison Boulevard and a farm lane perpendicular to the driveway, survive in the landscape today. While there is little evidence of the location of paths or walks that connected elements of the house and its environs, it is possible that these could be discovered through archaeological research. One of the challenges at Salona will be to reveal missing circulation features with minimal impact to surviving surface and subsurface resources.

### *Buildings and Structures*

The surviving residential core of buildings associated with Salona is an unusual, relatively intact example of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century second home in Fairfax County. In the future, should Fairfax County acquire use of the 7.8 acres currently occupied by the DuVal family, these historic buildings and structures would have the potential to aid in the interpretation of the history of the property.

### *Management Zones*

Three management zones have been identified to structure the way in which site improvements are implemented at Salona: the **Meadow/Hedgerow/Fields**, the **Domestic Core** and the **Agricultural Complex**. The 7.8 acres occupied by the DuVal family and the 3.0 acres in the southwest corner reserved for their use are not managed by Park Authority at the present time but are discussed in the treatment plan as Zone B, the Domestic Core.

The **Meadow/Hedgerow/Fields** management zone is comprised of the three linear fields that make up the northern third of the property, and the hedgerows and drainage channels that divide them. While the fields are no longer planted with agricultural crops, this area retains a high level of historic integrity due to its spatial configuration and the presence of the historic drainage channels and road trace. It is highly sensitive to change due to its historic integrity and also to its current environmental qualities as meadow, hedgerow and wetland. The primary goals in the Northern Fields zone are, in this order, to preserve the existing contributing historic features and the more recent environmental features, interpret both, and render them accessible to the public. New features should be added in the least intrusive manner possible. Landscape treatment within this zone should emphasize rehabilitation, while protecting both historic and recent landscape features.

The **Agricultural Complex** management zone comprises the area to the immediate south and east of the DuVal family's residential plot, within which can be found the remains of the agricultural features that once supported the Smoot farm. Included in this area are the stone foundation ruins of a bank barn, part of a larger complex of several farm buildings, fencing, and other landscape features. The Domestic Core also contains some of the features of the former Smoot farm. While public access is prohibited in this zone, interpretation of its historic features is included in the Treatment Plan. Although archaeological research is needed to discover the locations of most of these features outside the Domestic Core, this area is set aside for its potential as a future publicly-accessible interpretive area. Landscape treatment within this area should emphasize rehabilitation, but until more is known about this area, additions should be limited to a minimally-invasive woodland trail with a possible future connection on its eastern edge to the Pimmit Run Trail system. The successional woodland in this zone appears to have functioned as pasture and was once bisected by a farm road that connected the property to other farms and roads to the south. The road trace and evidence of any other uses have not yet been located in the field, but should be investigated further. Rehabilitation of the existing woodland to diminish the presence of invasive alien species and enhance the buffering qualities of the woodland cover is another focus of landscape treatment within this zone. Further investigation may reveal the location of the farm road, which could then be interpreted and/or used as an extension of Pimmit Run Trail into the site.

## **Recommendations for Further Study**

It remains to be determined who actually built the main house and outbuildings at Salona, whether it was Maffitt or a member of the Lee family, and whether an architect was in fact employed to design the building. Analysis and further investigation into properties owned by the Lee family might produce evidence to suggest who constructed the main house and during what time period. Francis Lightfoot Lee, brother of Harriotte (Henriette) Lee, appears to have had a friendship with William Maffitt. More information regarding their relationship might shed light on the time of Maffitt's tenure at Salona and determine he was actually involved in designing or building the house. Francis Lightfoot Lee's house, Belmont has many similarities to Salona in form and decorative detailing.

Very little, if any, archaeological research has been done at Salona, but should minimally be carried out at and around the bank barn ruins. Research may also reveal other building foundations, fencing, orchards, arbors, roads, paths, and other landscape features.

Finally, the 1973 National Register nomination for Salona is limited in its supporting documentation and in its evaluation of significance. It is highly recommended that this nomination be modified to include additional information available from this report, and in the future, information gathered from archaeological investigations.



# Chapter Two

## Site History

### Introduction

The property known as Salona was built on land in the Northern Neck of Virginia that was acquired by the Lee family from original 17<sup>th</sup>-century grants. The ways in which it was used and developed contributes to the narrative of early Virginia history. It was owned by one of the most prominent families of early Virginia, yet it was not their most important property. The story of the Lee family and their property ownership illustrates a common theme of early Virginia history: that land ownership in the Northern Neck was complicated and competitive. Typical of similar large landowners of the early 18th and 19th centuries, the Lees possessed vast swaths of land, much of which was farmed, providing a substantial income. Other land tracts were retained for future development purposes.

The property on which Salona was built was called Langley. References to Langley Farm exist in deeds, and the name Langley appears on early maps of the area. It is not known exactly how many acres were included under this name, although evidence of a Northern Neck grant to Thomas Lee (1690-1750) indicates “2862 acres above the falls of the Patowmack River, two miles above the first or lower falls.”<sup>1</sup> Thomas Lee was the fourth surviving son of Richard and Laetitia Lee. Richard, the eldest son, was away in England, working in a mercantile partnership with his mother’s cousin, Thomas Corbin. Thomas Lee was appointed surveyor to the Northern Neck representing Edmund Jennings, another uncle, who resided in England. Thomas Lee’s activities as surveyor provided him the opportunity to evaluate the lands available for development in the Northern Neck. As mentioned above, he chose to accumulate land in the vicinity of the falls of the Potomac. These lands were fertile and as such, suitable for agriculture, but also strategically located as potential commercial hubs connected to vital transportation routes.

Although little is known about how the land called Langley was used prior to the construction of Salona, an examination of the Lee family’s activities, their family home, and the developments that occurred in the Northern Neck between the early 18th and early 19th centuries provide a context within which to understand Salona. Throughout the Lee family tenure it is clear that the Langley tract was an important piece of property that the family wished to retain. As a result of financial hardships suffered through damaging speculation ventures, the land was mortgaged,

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<sup>1</sup> Northern Neck Grant Book 5:240, quoted in Ellen Anderson, *Salona*, Fairfax County, Virginia (Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1979), 71.

albeit to other family members. It was only around 1845 that the tract of land on which Salona was built was finally sold out of the Lee family to Jacob G. Smoot, after it had been divided into various parcels.<sup>2</sup> The property remained in the Smoot family until 1955.

Currently, the Salona property comprises 52.2 acres. The house and grounds known as Salona comprise 7.8 acres and are occupied by the DuVal family. In 1971 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors purchased an easement consisting of 7.7 acres to protect the property in perpetuity. An additional 41.5 acres have been placed under an open-space and conservation easement pursuant to an agreement with the Fairfax County Park Authority. Ten acres of this tract may be placed into active recreational use, such as soccer fields; the balance is to be used for passive recreational uses, such as trails. A further 3.0 acres at the rear of the property and owned by the Duval family may be developed by the family. As one of the last remaining sizeable open spaces in McLean, these easements are intended to protect the property from the high density development occurring in the surrounding area.

The following narrative is intended to provide an understanding of the physical development of the property, but also to place it within the wider context of all the properties owned by the Lee family and therefore provide an insight into its contribution to the development of Fairfax County. The chapter is divided into six distinct periods which were established based on the dates of known events and physical developments thought to have significantly altered the character, land use, or patterns of the landscape on which Salona was built. Available primary and secondary source graphic materials relating to the site and its history, including maps, photographs, and illustrations, have been included in this chapter to support the text.

The chronologically-arranged depiction of the property is an important tool for the comparative analysis that will be conveyed in Chapter Four-Landscape Analysis and Evaluation. The narrative facilitates a comparison of the site between historic periods and existing conditions, and allows for the identification of character-defining features for significant historic periods.

- Prehistory and Early Settlement (to 1717)
- Lee Family Ownership (1717-1811)
- Dividing the Langley Tract, Maffitt Ownership, and Madison's Visit (1811-1861)
- Civil War (1861-1865)
- Smoot and Reconstruction (1865-1952)
- Twentieth-Century Development and The DuVals (1952-2002)

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<sup>2</sup> In 1845, Chapman Lee sold 506 acres (more or less) to James McVean and Samuel M. Whann known as the Salona tract. He also sold 208 acres to Sherman. The 506 acre tract was then sold to the Smoot family. Fairfax County Deeds J3:262 quoted in Anderson, *Salona*, 74.

## Prehistory and Early Settlement (to 1717)

No specific information regarding the Salona property's prehistory exists, though prehistoric occupation of Native Americans in Fairfax County dates to the end of the last Ice Age (ca. 11,000 BC). Known as the Paleoindians, these people manufactured tools out of high quality stone, such as chert, making the fluted projectile point artifact most commonly associated with the period. The Paleoindians lived in small groups of families and probably moved through the Mid-Atlantic region in pursuit of herds of large, now extinct game mammals. With the mile-high glacier only 500 miles to the north, the climate was colder and wetter than it is now.

Glacial melting between 8700 BC and 6000 BC led the Paleoindians to move north where they adapted to the changing climate and environment by becoming less nomadic and more settled and learned to rely on gathering food rather than hunting. The melting glacier formed the Chesapeake Bay, with its rich harvests of fish and shellfish. Gradually settlements became larger and more permanent, people developed better methods of food storage such as the use of underground storage pits. Migratory birds and fish, seasonal nuts, and berries were the source of much of their sustenance. At this time, soapstone cooking pots and later clay pottery were used, and the bow and arrow replaced the throwing stick (or *atlatl*) around 500 AD. By 800 AD, local populations were planting their own crops including corn, beans, squash, and sunflower seeds. They cut brush, girdled trees to kill them, and burned areas in preparation for farming.

When John Smith ventured up the Potomac River in 1608, the Doeg (later called the Dogue) Indians occupied the southeastern part of Fairfax County. Captain John Smith identified Tauxenet on Mason Neck, a Dogue Village, on his 1608 map. As European pressure and disease reduced Indian populations, the Dogue were forced into the northern part of the county until they were eventually driven out altogether around 1675, leaving the way for European colonial settlement.<sup>3</sup> In this area known as the Northern Neck, families with connections to the British monarchy were given rights to own land. They then distributed it further, creating large fortunes from land speculation and in the process facilitating development of the area.

## Lee Family Ownership (1717 – 1812)

To fully understand the importance of the land tract known as Langley, it is helpful to place it in the context of Lee family land ownership in the Northern Neck and the development of Virginia. In the early days of Virginia, ambitious landowners developed property on the banks overlooking the Potomac, creating a sense of majesty and purpose with their magnificent plantation homes set high on a prominence, overlooking the Potomac River and announcing their presence to vessels sailing up river. Control of routes to the Potomac was vital to these large landowners and they competed to find new and better ways to transport goods and produce from their farms to warehouses and ships docked on the banks of the river. The Lee family was one of these "First Families of Virginia," as they are known, who cleared and settled the land to grow crops, and developed routes to the markets that this produce would fuel.

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<sup>3</sup> "Early History of Northern Fairfax County," document received from FCPA, November 2006.

At the young age of 21, Thomas Lee (1690-1750) (*see figure 2-1*) was appointed Agent for the Proprietary of the Northern Neck by Lady Catherine Fairfax, succeeding one of the most powerful men in Virginia, Robert Carter of Corotoman, known, because of his wide accumulation of lands, as Robert "King" Carter. During his years as surveyor of Northern Neck lands, Lee developed knowledge of the area that would prove profitable and set his family up to become one of the wealthiest in Virginia. In 1717, Lee began to acquire lands in the vicinity of the falls on the upper part of the Potomac. Beginning with a small grant of 285 acres, issued originally to his father, Richard Lee, by his uncle Edmund Jennings, Thomas Lee amassed a total of 3,700 acres at the Falls and on the upper side of Lee's Creek, which was the second branch that flowed from the Potomac above what was known as Sugar Island (*see figure 2-2*). Eventually, Lee accumulated 16,000 acres in Virginia and Maryland.<sup>4</sup>

Thomas Lee began his adult life by marrying Hannah Ludwell, also of a prominent Virginia family, and moving with her to the Lee homestead on Machodoc Creek in Westmoreland County, Virginia. After the house burned in 1729, and rather than rebuild, the couple and their two children relocated to a place originally known as the Clifts, located in Westmoreland County on high ground overlooking the Potomac. Here, Lee constructed a Georgian Great House, Mount Pleasant, later known as Stratford Hall, between 1730 and 1738. Stratford is located far to the south of Langley, on the mouth of the Potomac where the river widens to empty into the Chesapeake Bay. From this location, the Lees shipped vast quantities of tobacco grown on their surrounding lands in their own vessels, which they dispatched from the Stratford Landing.<sup>5</sup>

Stratford was typical of similar large plantations of the time. It was vast and varied and its produce included wheat, barley, oats, flax, and corn. Vegetables and "sallet greens" were grown in a kitchen garden, and orchards provided grapes, apples, pears, peaches, apricots, cherries, figs, and even pomegranates.<sup>6</sup> Much of the land that Thomas Lee first accumulated was fertile and highly suited to agricultural production. Road patterns depicted in an 1861 map of the area suggest a rural, agricultural landscape and it is likely that it had not changed significantly from the 1740s (*see figure 2-3*).

A large proportion of Thomas Lee's land lay between the Great and Little Falls, an area in which Lee hoped to exercise control over the development of commerce, close to the navigable waters of the Potomac. Conflicts with Robert Carter, who, at the time was the agent responsible for land purchases, prevented Lee from establishing a public tobacco warehouse at the Falls, until 1742, long after other warehouses had been established on the Quantico and Hunting Creeks.<sup>7</sup> Lee had recognized that the mouth of Pimmet's Run was a natural place for storage and distribution. With the convergence of the Sugar Lands Rolling Road and the Falls Rolling Road, an access route to

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<sup>4</sup> Fairfax Harrison, *Landmarks of Old Prince William*, Berryville, (VA: Chesapeake Book Company, 1964), 146-149; Robert E. Lee Memorial Association, "Stratford and the Lees of Virginia, A Brief History," online at <http://www.stratfordhall.org>, accessed September 12, 2006.

<sup>5</sup> "Stratford and the Lees of Virginia," online at <http://www.stratfordhall.org/plantation.html?HISTORY> accessed September 15, 2006.

<sup>6</sup> "On the Plantation," online at <http://www.stratfordhall.org/plantation.html?HISTORY> accessed September 15, 2006.

<sup>7</sup> Harrison, *Landmarks*, 148. Lee was surveying agent from 1711 to 1719, at which time Robert Carter took over as surveying agent.

the upper part of the area already existed. In 1737, a private ferry had been established at the site—although it is not certain who owned the enterprise—and was later converted to a public ferry and an ordinary on the Virginia shore in 1738.<sup>8</sup>

In 1748, Georgetown was formally established, removing commerce from the Little Falls site to a location further south on the Potomac and destroying Lee's chances of developing a commercial hub. As a land speculator and developer, Thomas Lee also established the Ohio Company of Virginia in 1749, just prior to his death. The company constructed trails and wagon roads along the Upper Potomac River Valley, linking the Potomac to the Monongahela River, a tributary of the Ohio River, in attempts to capitalize on the trend for settlers to move west of the Appalachian Mountains to the Ohio River Valley.<sup>9</sup> Thomas Lee died in 1750, leaving his eldest son Philip Ludwell Lee (1727-1775) the plantation house, all of his lands in Westmoreland and Northumberland Counties, all his land, including two islands, on the eastern shore of Maryland, 3,600 acres on the broad run of Potomac, more than 3,000 acres at or near the falls of the Potomac, and more than 100 slaves over the age of ten.

Philip Ludwell Lee continued his father's efforts to establish a commercial presence at the Little Falls site with his proposal for a town named Philee to be situated on 100 acres "adjoining the warehouse at the falls of Patowmack" in the county of Fairfax. Philee was founded in 1772.<sup>10</sup> Property owners became fearful in the area as problems with Britain advanced and war became imminent. The Potomac provided a ready avenue for the powerful British fleet into the mainland. Such a maneuver never happened, however, and Fairfax County avoided major battles during the Revolutionary War. While the population suffered from inconveniences caused by the war on a daily basis, there is little physical evidence of this hardship. Life continued on as best it could given the circumstances.<sup>11</sup> Economic development continued, and for the Lee family the tobacco warehouse at the Falls was maintained until Philip Ludwell Lee's death in 1775.

Philip Ludwell Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee also became trustees of a town established at Leesburg in 1758 on sixty acres of Nicholas Minor's land adjoining Loudon County courthouse. Philip Ludwell Lee's daughters, Matilda (his oldest child) and Flora inherited the Langley property.<sup>12</sup> Matilda Lee eventually married Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee, III (1756-1818), who continued to promote attempts to develop the area. Matilda had inherited Stratford in the division of her father's estate and continued to live there with her new husband. Matilda Lee and Henry Lee, Sr. (III) conveyed their property to their son, Henry Lee, Jr. (IV) while they were still living. This was likely due to the financial difficulties that Henry Lee, Sr. suffered and transferring assets could ward off the debtors. Henry Lee, Sr. and Henry Lee, Jr. also sold to Richard Bland Lee "all of that tract called Langley Farm containing 1600 acres." Richard Bland

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<sup>8</sup> Harrison, *Landmarks*, 1480-149.

<sup>9</sup> "Ohio Company," online at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio\\_Company](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ohio_Company); "The C & O Canal," online at <http://rs6.loc.gov/ammem/today/oct10.html>

<sup>10</sup> Harrison, *Landmarks*, 663.

<sup>11</sup> Nan Netherton et al, *Fairfax County, Virginia: A History*, 83.

<sup>12</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 6.

Lee, also suffering financial difficulties, sold the Langley tract to William Maffitt who conveyed it to Elizabeth Lee, Richard Bland Lee's wife.<sup>13</sup>

In the late 1780s, eminent leaders such as George Washington struggled to find a way to make the Potomac navigable. In order to achieve this it was necessary to build a canal with locks to bypass the Great Falls where giant rocks and a drop of nearly 80 feet in less than a mile caused strong swift currents and made the river impassable. Construction on the canal began in 1785 and took seventeen years to complete. During this time, after only eight years of marriage, Matilda Lee died in 1790, leaving three young children. In the same year, Lighthorse Harry Lee established a town to serve as headquarters for the Patowmack Company and home for the workers, naming it Matildaville. At its height, the town boasted the company superintendent's house, a market, gristmill, sawmill, foundry, inn, ice house, workers' barracks, boarding houses, and a sprinkling of small homes. Early users of the canal visited the town while waiting their turn through the locks, to change cargo, or to enjoy an evening out before continuing their journey.<sup>14</sup>

“Light Horse Harry” Lee attempted to secure his new town by incorporating road construction rights into the original charter to form the Little River Turnpike Company. The charter carried a provision for a Matildaville Company to open and maintain a toll road from the “great falls of Patowmack to the said town of Alexandria, the purpose being to connect Matildaville with the West”<sup>15</sup> (see figure 2-4 showing relative locations of Matildaville, the Great Falls and a ferry crossing).

The Patowmack Company suffered financial problems and was eventually taken over by the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, which promptly abandoned the idea of making the river navigable in favor of constructing a canal that ran alongside the river, today known as the C&O canal<sup>16</sup> (see figure 2-5 image of the falls).

Matildaville was founded on forty acres of land at the Great Falls of Patowmack in the County of Loudon. Three years after Matilda's death, “Light Horse Harry” Lee married Anne Hill Carter of Shirley Plantation. Together with the three children from his marriage to Matilda and his children from his second marriage to Anne Hill Carter, he continued to live at Stratford. Lee appears to have speculated heavily on too many ventures, resulting in years in debtor's prison in Westmoreland County. Land transactions he entered into with his wife Matilda prior to her death also indicate early financial problems.

These transactions were clearly a way to protect and retain ownership of landholdings when they could have been used to defray debts.<sup>17</sup> Lee was also indebted to family members, as in 1810 he

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<sup>13</sup> Fairfax County Deeds: J2:84 (June 7, 1808); J2:18 (July 18, 1808); J2:6 (July 19, 1808). For the Salona chain of title see Anderson, *Salona*, Appendix A.

<sup>14</sup> National Park Service, “The Patowmack Canal,” online at <http://www.nps.gov/archive/gwmp/grfa/canal/pato.htm> accessed September 19, 2006.

<sup>15</sup> Harrison, *Landmarks*, 559.

<sup>16</sup> City of Alexandria, “History of the Alexandria Canal,” online at <http://oha.ci.alexandria.va.us/oha-main/oha-alexandria-canal.html> accessed September 20, 2006.

<sup>17</sup> Fairfax County Deeds: J2:84 (June 7, 1808); J2:18 (July 18, 1808); J2:6 (July 19, 1808). For the Salona Chain of Title see Anderson, *Salona*, Appendix A.

sought to indemnify his brother Richard Bland Lee with a 1,300 acre tract, Langley Farm, near the Great Falls.<sup>18</sup>

“Light Horse Harry” Lee also sold the rights to his manuscript, since published in 1827 as the seminal *Memoirs of the War in the Southern Department of the United States*, to Richard Bland Lee who, after paying the cost of publication, was to retain \$7,000 of the profit. The balance of the proceeds would be used to buy back lands in the vicinity of Alexandria, which previous difficulties had forced Lee to sell. William Maffitt acted as witness to the transaction between Lee and Richard Bland Lee, regarding the Langley tract.<sup>19</sup>

Various records indicate that a portion of Langley Farm was worked by tenants. Deeds recorded the sale around 1808 of 300 acres from Richard Bland Lee and Elizabeth Lee to William Maffitt and described as part of a tract of farm “lying on the south or southeast side of the road leading from the town of Turbeville to the Little Falls of the Potomac and was occupied by T.C. Scott.” If the property was sold to Maffitt it appears he did not live there but rented the property out to T.C. Scott.<sup>20</sup> Some records speculate that this T.C. Scott may have been John Caile Scot, grandson of Alexander Scott, owner of Strawberry Vale, described in other sources as a seminary “a few miles from Langley.”<sup>21</sup> Other records indicate another family living at the portion of land divided off from Langley Farm: a Bible entry in Falls Church indicates that Thomas Sandford Wren “was born at Salona, on May 19, 1808 to Richard and Susannah (Adams) Wren.”<sup>22</sup> This is the first time the property is referred to as Salona. The Adams family owned a mill adjacent to the Salona property so it is possible that they built the house, although they appear not to have been any relation of the Lees but were more likely rent paying tenant farmers.

Further indications of the complexity of land transactions and the importance of land to families such as the Lees can be seen in the financial dealings of Richard Bland Lee who, in 1810, was forced to mortgage the 1300-acre Langley tract and his home, Sully, to rid himself of debt to an old friend, Judge Bushrod Washington.<sup>23</sup> One year later this was apparently still not sufficient to release him from the persistent creditors. As a result, he decided to sell his home, Sully, which included “all the land on both sides of the turnpike road.” The Langley tract was deemed more valuable so he retained 920 acres which “possessed superior soil and water resources, and lay

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<sup>18</sup> Fairfax County Deed Book J2: 84, in Robert S. Gamble, *Sully* (Chantilly, VA: Sully Foundation, 1973) 51.

<sup>19</sup> Harrison, *Landmarks*, 665.

<sup>20</sup> Fairfax County Deeds J2:18 in Anderson, *Salona*, 71.

<sup>21</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 8, and Nan Netherton et al, *Fairfax County, Virginia: A History* (Fairfax, VA: Fairfax County Board of Visitors, 1978), 297. Netherton reports that Strawberry Vale Manor was built in 1780 and owned by the Gantt family from 1814 until 1848. The Strawberry Vale Seminary was run by Ann Beale Wilson Gantt and closed following her death in 1860. It is possible that Ann Belae Wilson Gantt was related to Ann Beale Carter who was William Maffitt’s second wife, and thus the connection between Strawberry Vale Seminary and Maffitt is not so unlikely as it may first appear. See Fairfax County Planning Commission Newsletter, *The Planning Communicator*, April 2006, online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/April2006Newsletter.pdf>. Robert Gamble however indicates that Richard Bland Lee purchased Strawberry Vale in 1811. See Gamble, *Sully*, 53. It is of course possible that there was more than one property named Strawberry Vale.

<sup>22</sup> Melvin Steadman, *Falls Church by Fence and Fireside*, (Falls Church, VA: Falls Church Public Library, 1964) 509, in Anderson, *Salona*, 10.

<sup>23</sup> Fairfax County land tax records 1809, Book A, p. 10, Library of Virginia, in Robert S. Gamble, *Sully* (Chantilly, VA: Sully Foundation, 1973) 51.

nearer the Georgetown and Washington markets.”<sup>24</sup> After the sale of Sully, Richard Bland Lee and his family moved to Strawberry Vale. Additionally, part of the Langley tract may have been sold evidenced by an advertisement for the land appearing in the *Alexandria Gazette* in 1811 as follows:

Containing four hundred and sixty acres, and situated on the road leading from the Bridge over the river Potomac at the Little Falls to the upper country, distant from George Town and the city of Washington four miles, and from Alexandria ten miles. On this tract is a comfortable dwelling house and outhouses, a young thriving orchard of the choicest fruit, a good garden paled in, and a spring of fine water that has never been known to fail in the driest season, near the house – there is a good proportion of it in wood and a good meadow may be made at a little expense – the soil is well adapted to Plaister which can be bro’ by water to the landing at the Little Falls where there is an extensive merchant mill to grind it and will leave about two miles of land carriage.<sup>25</sup>

This advertisement suggests that the property is not in agricultural production as “a good meadow may be made at a little expense.” The advertisement also suggests that the property was highly valuable because it had a good source of water. Because of the complex nature of transactions involving the tract on which Salona was built, it is not clear who was responsible for constructing the house that stands today. It is not clear if this is a description of the Salona property, although it may have been as Salona was on the original Langley tract.

These transactions provide some insight into the way large landowners used their land, drawing on it as a safety net for financial security. When the land was not needed to repay debts, incurred through their often over-indulgent lifestyles, it was earning its keep through agricultural production and often as rented farming property. Land was a highly valuable commodity, in fact the most valuable commodity—together with slaves—as it represented the principal source of livelihood for early Virginians. As indicated above, the complicated transactions in which land was often mortgaged to protect the owner from creditors, but still enabled them to retain possession of the land for future purposes, often make it difficult for the historian to unravel true ownership and use patterns.

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<sup>24</sup> Gamble, *Sully*, 51.

<sup>25</sup> *Alexandria Gazette*, Nov. 18, 1811.

## Dividing the Langley Tract, Maffitt Ownership, and Madison's Visit (1812 -1860)

Two years after the advertisement of the property in 1811, William Maffitt was listed as paying tax on 466 acres. However, the land remained connected to the Lee family through Maffitt's wife. This was often a way of keeping the land in the original family lineage, in this case within the Lee family. William Maffitt (1769-1828) was born in Maryland to Samuel Maffitt and Ann Strawbridge. Maffitt as the eldest son, received training in the seminary, and, as Reverend Maffitt married Mrs. Harriotte (or Henrietta) Turbeville, daughter of Anne Gaskins Pinckard and Richard Bland Lee, brother of Philip Ludwell Lee. Henriotte and her first husband, Richard Lee Turbeville, a cousin, lived at Chantilly with their three children, Cornelia, Richard, and George. Richard Lee Turbeville died in 1799.

Harriotte Turbeville and William Maffitt married in May 1803. By June 8, 1804, Maffitt had resigned his post at the Alexandria Academy and moved to Chantilly with Harriotte, their first child and the three children from her first marriage. Thomas Lee, older brother to Harriotte, was legal guardian of her three Turbeville children. In 1805 Lee died, leaving William Maffitt to become legal guardian to the children. Expense records kept for the children indicate that Maffitt was living at Chantilly in Fairfax County at this time. Maffitt and Harriotte had two daughters, Harriotte died after the birth of the second child and at this time Maffitt began paying rent to the three Turbeville heirs for the use of their property. He was still paying rent to the Turbeville heirs in 1814. However, Maffitt is listed as paying property tax in Fairfax County in 1805. In 1807 he married for the second time. His new wife was Ann Beale Carter (1767-1852), daughter of Robert Wormley Carter of Sabine Hall, and Winifred Beale. Together they had a son, William, Jr., who was born in 1811.<sup>26</sup>

Three years later, national events transpired that strengthened Salona's connection to families in the highest social circles. On June 18, 1814, newly-elected president James Madison signed a Declaration of War against England, often termed the Second War of Independence. By August 23, British forces had approached so close to Washington that an actual invasion of the American capital appeared imminent. John Graham, Chief Clerk in the Department of State, together with Stephen Pleasonton, also of the Department of State, packed valuable public records into a linen bag and took them to a mill three miles beyond Georgetown for safekeeping. That night, Pleasonton spent the night at Salona. He later took the papers further from Washington to Leesburg.<sup>27</sup>

Tradition holds that James and Dolley Madison fled to Salona after the British burned the Capital in August 1814. Reliable details concerning the Madison's journeys have not yet been determined, however reports suggest in several cases that President Madison stayed at Salona, as did his wife. Other records contradict this version of the events and show that Dolley never

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<sup>26</sup>Regarding the Turbeville children's guardianship see Fairfax County Will Book H, p.55 and I, P. 413, and regarding Maffitt's property tax see Fairfax County Personal Property Tax Records 1805, all quoted in Anderson, *Salona*, 15.

<sup>27</sup> Dolley Madison to her sister Lucy Todd, August 23, 1814 in Allan C. Clark, *Life and Letters of Dolley Madison* (Washington, D.C.: W.F. Roberts, 1914) quoted in *Salona*, 18.

stayed at Salona. When Dolley Madison left the capital city, she apparently only traveled as far as an encampment at Tennytown and did not cross over into Virginia until the following day. She spent the night of August 25 with Matilda Lee Love at Rokeby, about ten miles from Washington (*figure 2-6 showing road from Georgetown to Tennytown*).

The President's plans were thwarted several times, though at some point he sent word to his wife that he would cross the Potomac at Mason's Ferry and meet his wife and her party at Maffitt's home three miles above the bridge at Little Falls.<sup>28</sup>

Madison, Rush, and Mason rode to Wren's Tavern, while Monroe and Ringgold took the Leesburg Road, stopping briefly at Rokeby, which was two miles above Little Falls, and went on to Wiley's Tavern on Difficult Run near the Great Falls. From Wren's Tavern (close to present-day Falls Church), the President went to the Minor home and from there to Salona where he spent the night with the Maffitts. Dolley Madison, however, never arrived at Salona as she and her party stopped at Rokeby, a mile away.

There appear to be several versions of the events of those few days regarding how the Madisons were received at various places in their attempts to find refuge, as well as the exact itinerary of their journey. Though the details remain foggy, accounts of the Madison's journey do provide some understanding of the context for the landmarks in the area and the extent to which Salona was part of a broader network of places connected to or owned by the landed gentry.

William Maffitt appears to have run a boy's school at Salona at sometime in the early 19th century.<sup>29</sup> Personal property tax records attest that he continued to work the land. In 1812, he was assessed for 18 horses and mules, and 21 slaves. In 1814 he was assessed for 19 slaves, 12 horses and mules, and a 4-wheeled carriage.<sup>30</sup> In 1828, the year of his death, Maffitt was assessed for 13 slaves and 3 horses. His estate inventory accounted for 116 head of livestock, including horses, oxen, sheep, hogs, and cattle. He produced turnips, corn, rye, oats, hay, and orchard grass, which is a type of short grass that grows in clumps in shady areas as pasture grass.<sup>31</sup>

Records also indicate that Maffitt continued to serve as guardian to his first wife's three Turbeville children. Her daughter Cornelia resided with her cousin in Alexandria, and the two sons appear to have lived at Salona until June 1815, when Richard tragically drowned in the Potomac while visiting his cousin Matilda Lee Love. The second son, George, who had become deaf and mute through a bout of typhoid fever, was sent to be cared for at an asylum in 1818.<sup>32</sup>

In 1823, William Maffitt appears to have been in straightened financial circumstances because he mortgaged Salona with his sister Margaret Wahn for \$6,000, paying back half the amount prior

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<sup>28</sup> Irving Brant, *James Madison: Commander in Chief, 1812-1836*, pp.306-308, in *Salona*, 20.

<sup>29</sup> Netherton, *Fairfax County: A History*, 234.

<sup>30</sup> Fairfax County Personal Property Tax Books, 1812-1843, Microfilm, Library of Virginia, quoted in Anderson, *Salona*, 22.

<sup>31</sup> Mike Haddock, "Orchard Grass," 2002, online at <http://www.lib.ksu.edu/wildflower/orchardgrass.html>, accessed August 21, 2006; Anderson, *Salona*, 22.

<sup>32</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 23.

to his death. In 1831, Margaret brought a chancery suit against the heirs of Maffitt and bought Salona at auction through an agent, Joseph McVean for \$2,650. The slaves and personal property were sold off and small debts repaid. Margaret Wahn was William Maffitt's sister, married to David Wahn. She never lived at Salona but allowed her sister-in-law, Ann Maffitt, and her children to remain at Salona until 1835.<sup>33</sup>

By 1842, Chapman Lee, who lived in Alexandria, purchased the property, and after three years, divided it, selling 208 acres to Elisha Sherman and the remainder to James McVean and Samuel Wahn. Eight years later Elisha Sherman sold his tract to Jacob Gillian Smoot. The deed of sale referred to the tract as having been “heretofore called Langley but now called Salona.” This note is curious as Langley continued to be used, and is visible on maps. It is possible that as the land continued to be divided the original tract remained known as Langley but subsequent tracts were named individually or for a house that was constructed.<sup>34</sup> The tract on which Salona was built was a portion of the original Langley Farm tract. As time progressed, it became an increasingly smaller tract. In 1850, the tract Smoot purchased amounted to 208 acres, a far smaller portion than the 466 acres that had been in Maffitt's possession.

Jacob G. Smoot's life was indicative of broader trends occurring in the country at the time. His family—originally from Holland—immigrated from Scotland to Maryland. From there some family members headed for Kentucky, others for Washington D.C. When Smoot purchased Salona he was described as “of Georgetown, D.C.” and as having “owned property on High Street [now Wisconsin Avenue].”<sup>35</sup> Some indication of the use he made of the land around Salona is evident in the fact that he purchased two prize hunting dogs, and established a good herd of registered Aberdeen Angus cattle. These cattle were apparently appropriated for food for Union troops during the Civil War. In a tax assessment of 1857, Smoot was listed as having 50 cattle; by 1860, however, the number was down to 12. In 1860, Smoot was also assessed for 20 sheep and hogs. His personal property included household furnishings, gold, plated silver, and jewelry and was assessed at \$500 – a value assessed above the average for a family in Fairfax County. No evidence has been found so far to indicate whether Smoot may have built the large stone bank barn or whether it existed at Salona prior to his arrival.<sup>36</sup>

## Civil War, 1861-1865

Jacob Smoot's land was strategically located in close proximity to the Potomac and to transportation routes to Washington and Alexandria (*figure 2-7*). Because Salona was located close to the falls of the Potomac but on the Virginia side of the river, and along a network of roads and creeks, it was considered a strategic place for military activities during the Civil War. According to Smoot family tradition, Salona was used as a headquarters for the Army of the Potomac, and Camp Griffin was reportedly established on farms that included the Salona

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<sup>33</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 26.

<sup>34</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 27.

<sup>35</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 28.

<sup>36</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 28-29.

property.<sup>37</sup> General Irvin McDowell's 1862 map indicates the relationship of the property to transportation routes (*see figure 2-7*). Joseph Goldsborough's "Army map of the seat of war" from 1862 indicates troops south of Lewinsville and in the vicinity of Miner's Hill, which is located just south of the Salona property (*see figure 2-4*). During this time, Salona lay between the Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad and a branch of the Leesburg Turnpike, and Civil War maps indicate military activity in the vicinity of Salona (*figures 2-8 through 2-10*).<sup>38</sup> Eyewitness accounts also verify its use during the Civil War, as follows:

E.M. Woodward, adjutant of the Second Pennsylvania Reserves wrote of his experience during the Civil War in the vicinity of Salona:

Early on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> (October, 1861) General Smith advanced his division from the neighborhood of Chain Bridge to Langley where, deploying his skirmishers, he pushed forward a brigade on the Dranesville Pike, and took possession of Prospect Hill. With his main body he diverged from the pike at Langley to the left, advancing toward Lewinsville, which village he entered and occupied without opposition, leaving the main portion of his troops at Smoot's Hill and pushing on a detachment to occupy Miner's [Minor's?] Hill...

During the first ten days, the "long roll" was beaten and the men got under arms five times. On the night of the 11<sup>th</sup> the pickets in the neighborhood of Lewinsville were driven in and the next day the enemy consisting of at least three regiments of infantry some cavalry and a battery of six guns were discovered near Miner's Hill, concealed in the woods, which led to the supposition that an attack was meditated the next morning. At noon the drums beat and the men got into fighting order. General McClellan and staff including the Comte de Paris and the Duc de Chartres rode over and remained during the night at Smoot's House, and at midnight the drums beat again and every preparation was made for an attack.<sup>39</sup>

Further accounts similarly describe activities in the area as follows:

On the 9th of October, the line of the army in Virginia was extended to the right, occupying Prospect and Miner's Hills. To hold the line thus extended the Reserves were ordered forward. Crossing Chain Bridge the Second Regiment bivouacked for the night near Langley, and on the following day tents were pitched and Camp Pierpont established. During the first ten days the long roll was beaten and the men called to arms five times. On the night of the 11th, the pickets in the neighborhood of Lewinsville were driven in, and the next day the enemy, with at least three regiments of infantry, some cavalry and a battery of six guns, was discovered in a wood near Miner's Hill, indicating that an attack was meditated. General McClellan and staff, including the Comte de Paris and the Duc de

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<sup>37</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 28- 40.

<sup>38</sup> Joseph Goldsborough Bruff, *Army Map of the Seat of War in Virginia* (New York: J. Disturnell; Washington D.C.: Hudson Taylor, 1862).

<sup>39</sup> Evan Morrison Woodward, *Our Campaign* (Philadelphia, PA: J.E. Potter, 1866) quoted in Anderson, *Salona*, 32.

Chartres, came on the ground and remained during the night. At midnight the drums and the trumpets sounded, and at two A. M., the national columns were in motion, four thousand cavalry and thirty pieces of artillery, with a proportionate force of infantry. At daylight it was ascertained that the enemy, attracted by the extension of the Union line, had sent out a reconnaissance in force, but had then withdrawn.

On October 18th, a reconnaissance was ordered by General McClellan, in which the First Brigade led the way, supported by the Second and Third. Crossing Difficult Creek, the brigade proceeded about three miles beyond Dranesville, when it was ordered back to Thornton's house. On the following day detachments were sent out to reconnoitre and make a topographical survey of the country. On the morning of the 21st in obedience to orders of General McClellan, the brigade returned to camp. On the same day the disaster at Ball's Bluff occurred. Had the Reserves remained in the advance position which they had occupied, they would have been within supporting distance of the column under the lamented Colonel Baker, and would doubtless have saved that fruitless slaughter and achieved a glorious victory.<sup>40</sup>

Other sources describe troops bivouacked on lands in the neighborhood of Salona. They reference the activities in close proximity to the property, providing an insight into the devastation caused by the war, in particular the barrenness which resulted from infantry customs of using local trees to provide barricades and construct temporary quarters. The following excerpt is from a regimental history of the 27<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Volunteers:

Every few days a company was detailed to go on picket – an event not altogether unwelcome, as a relief to the monotonous round of camp duties, and as an introduction to a new phase of experience. To obtain some idea of this portion of our regimental life around Washington, let us “fall in,” fully armed and equipped, and follow one of these parties to the picket line. On the present occasion, Company H with detachments from other regiments started out one morning, and, after marching several miles on the Leesburg Turnpike, arrived about ten o'clock at the village of Langley. The line of pickets extended along the main road a short distance beyond the centre of the place, and also along a cross-road, which coming up from the south, connects with the turnpike just before we reach the village. Houses, favorably situated at different points, were occupied as headquarters of the various squads, or, if such, conveniences were not at hand, brush huts supplied their place. At that time, Langley consisted of about a dozen houses, and one small church, and had once been favored with two regular taverns, whose sphere was now filled by two boarding houses of minor importance... Orders came, November 18<sup>th</sup> for Company H to strike tents, pack up and march over to Hall's Hill, there to clear up a place for the regimental

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<sup>40</sup> Samuel P. Bates, *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-65*, Harrisburg, 1868-1871 in Alice J. Gayley, “2nd Reserves/31st Pennsylvania Volunteers,” online at <http://www.pacoots.com/~pacw/reserves/2ndres/2dresorg.html>

encampment. Arriving on the hill in a pelting rain, huge fires were built of the brush and stumps which covered the ground, and by evening our tents were up, and we were as comfortable as circumstances would allow. Hearing of several deserted encampments about a mile distant, on Miner's and Upton's Hills, many parties went out the next morning to secure anything which might add to their convenience. A large barren plain was covered far and wide with the huts and debris of a portion of McClellan's army, which encamped here in the winter of 1862. The whole presented a very curious and suggestive sight. Meanwhile, orders came to strike tents... the enemy were said to be threatening General Sigel, in command at Centreville. In view of this state of affairs, the reserve, in the defenses of Washington, was called upon to be ready for any emergency.<sup>41</sup>

When federal troops moved in to occupy Salona, Jacob Smoot took eight slaves and moved his family to Georgetown, where his brother had a dry goods business. On their return, they found that both wings of the house, many trees, and the garden had been destroyed in their absence. Captain Hawley also left behind a memorandum dated March 24, 1863, authorizing Smoot to "take possession of all the effects left by the army – such as rags, lumber, furniture, etc. to the exclusion of all other parties."<sup>42</sup>

## Smoot and Reconstruction (1865–1895)

Like many other farmers returning to their homes after the war had ended, the Smoots were faced with the arduous task of restoring their property to a condition in which it could produce the crops needed for a farmer to remain viable. In 1868, the Smoot property had attained an aggregate value of \$1,085. The Smoot property had a large barn, a smokehouse, ice pond, and cabinet shop. Smoot likely dedicated a certain amount of land to fruit orchards as he reportedly grew scuppernong grapes, plums, and apricots. Jacob G. Smoot and his son William were listed as principal farmers in the Langley area for more than 20 years.<sup>43</sup>

Images of Salona from around 1900 show a large working farm separated into clusters of production. The main house and outbuildings were located on a slight rise and separated from the working farm by a fence. In addition, large trees around the house provided screening from the agricultural production areas. A comparison between the two historic images from 1890 and 1900 respectively, depict the farm and its environs and suggests that one of the barns, which appears to have been a storage barn, had eventually been enclosed, possibly to contain swine or other livestock (*see figure 2-11 images of farm at Salona, 1890 and 1900*).

A photograph of the house indicates a substantial five-bay, two-story mansion with a two-bay, two-story addition, a side-gabled roof and two heavy brick end chimneys. Decorative details of

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<sup>41</sup> Winthrop D. Sheldon, *The Twenty-Seventh, A Regimental History* (New Haven: Morris and Benham, 1866) online at <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/other/ABL/etext/ct27th-web/chp1/htm> accessed September 21, 2006. (Digitized by the Arnold Bernhard Library, May 2006).

<sup>42</sup> The original of this memorandum is in the hands of the current owners, the DuVals, referenced in Anderson, *Salona*, 32.

<sup>43</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 33.

the dwelling, such as the heavy enclosed cornice with decorative brackets beneath, decorative window lintels with keystones, and sills, indicates wealth and knowledge of architectural styles and trends. The house also featured a three-bay, single story porch supported on four simple columns and two engaged columns. A latticework balustrade enhances the roofline of the porch, which also boasts a heavy cornice, with dentil molding and brackets, as well as providing decorative relief between the columns.

All these decorative details suggest an Adamesque building that was likely constructed in the period between 1780 and 1820. These details were more elaborate than the somewhat severe and strictly classical Georgian buildings constructed around the same time.<sup>44</sup> Formerly called the Federal style, buildings in the Adamesque architectural style presented an indication of knowledge on the part of their owners of stylistic trends as well as a certain financial and social standing. Unfortunately, no evidence has been found to suggest an architect for the building. An examination of various Lee family homes suggests a knowledge of architectural practices and fashions however, and some similarities in outbuildings. For example, at Sully, home of Richard Bland Lee stone is used to build foundations and a large dairy or tenant house.<sup>45</sup>

It is likely, with the attention paid to symmetry in this house that a west wing also existed at one time. In fact, archeological evidence and traces of a doorframe in the brickwork indicate the outer west wall of the house. Smoot family legend says that Maffitt constructed the house between ca. 1790 and 1801 and that the wings were originally larger than the house. If this is so, it is interesting to compare images of Belmont, home of Francis Lightfoot Lee, last son of Richard Bland Lee and brother of Harriotte Lee Turbeville Maffitt. Both buildings are federal style brick rectangular dwellings with a highly emphasized front entrance and classical detailing.<sup>46</sup>

On Jacob Smoot's death in 1875, his four children received equal shares of the estate, and activities at the farm continued under their stewardship. On Smoot's daughters' deaths their nephews inherited the property and in turn it was divided among successive offspring. Little is known about the physical qualities of the property during that time, but a 1914 article in the Washington *Sunday Star* described the garden that surrounded the Salona house in this way:

You draw up in front of the garden which surrounds the house. A white-washed fence four boards high, incloses [sic] the garden. Inside are old cedars thick through the trunk and solemn in foliage. There are clumps of rose bushes and borders of jonquils. Stumps of trees that have been wrecked by wind or lightening support bark-bound flower boxes. A driveway curves to the left and a gravel path leads straight to the front porch before which the box trees are growing. The porch is capacious with a balcony on top. Under the porch and in the middle of the house is an arched doorway. On the left of the garden around the house is an apple orchard and on the right is a flourishing grape arbor. This is Salona. It is a fine, quiet and dignified old place.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1998), 153.

<sup>45</sup> See Robert S. Gamble, *Sully* (Chantilly, VA: Sully Foundation, 1973.).

<sup>46</sup> See Anderson, *Sully*, 49.

<sup>47</sup> Anderson, p. 38-39, from "The Rambler," *The Sunday Star*, August 2, 1914.

This romantic view stands in contrast to its accompanying photograph which indicates the poor condition of ornamental garden.

A soil map from 1915 indicates the Smoot property with the driveway leading from the main road straight to the house (*figure 2-12*). In 1932, the Smoots opened the house to the public in celebration of the George Washington's Birthday Bicentennial.<sup>48</sup>

In 1936, Salona was documented by H.C. McMullan as part of a Works Progress Administration (WPA) Historical Inventory. The documentation is somewhat confusing and seemingly inaccurate as it dates the property to 1814 and says it was built by George F. Walters about 1856, was bequeathed to his son George Walters, and then occupied by Walters's widow, Catherine Walters, from 1890. G.M. Hopkin's 1879 *Atlas of Fifteen Miles around Washington* indicates Geo. F. M. Walters' residence two farm houses to the east of Smoot's property off the Lewinsville Road, later known as the Georgetown Turnpike. The historical description relates the story of President and Dolley Madison as they fled the British occupation of Washington. A description of the physical landscape indicates the following:

“a glimpse may be caught of the gable and chimney of a brick house, and a part of the gray shingle roof with a mass of foliage. Farm buildings are clustered around it, and between the house and the road, is a beautiful wheat field, the wheat had been cut and a thrashing machine is waiting to begin work. A straight lane about a quarter of a mile long leads from the road to this house, and as you travel, you pass directly through this wheat field and drive up through the garden which surrounds the house. A four board whitewashed fence encloses this garden, and it is thick with cedar trees, and there are clumps of rose bushes and orders of jonquils. Stumps of trees which have been wrecked by lightning or wind, support bark bound flower boxes. The driveway curves to the left and a gravel pat leads straight to the front porch, before which are large boxwood trees. The porch is large with a balcony on top, and in the center of the house is an arched doorway, and at the left of the garden around the house is an apple orchard and on the right is a flourishing grape arbor.”<sup>49</sup>

The 1936 WPA Historical sketch indicates that Mrs. W.S. Smoot is the current owner of the property.

Aerial photographs of the property in 1937 indicate orchards to the east of the main house and open pasture to the north and south. A fence appears to divide the garden area to the west of the main house from a field and orchard located to the far west. A road runs on axis with the house and appears to cross the creek to the rear of the property before curving to the west and south through agricultural fields. A number of outbuildings are visible, including the large bank barn, red barn, springhouse, smoke house, kitchen, dairy, and three agricultural buildings on the far side of the creek to the south of the property (*figure 2-13*). These agricultural buildings appear to

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<sup>48</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 39.

<sup>49</sup> H.C. McMullan, “Works Progress Administration of Virginia, Historical Inventory,” in Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA.

be very similar to those visible in the earlier photos of the property from 1890 and 1900 (See figure 2-12).

As with much of the land around Washington, D.C. after World War II, Salona lost its viability as a farm. For a short time it was rented as pasture land and the family moved to a smaller house nearby. Anderson reports that the family occasionally lived in the “old stone house,”<sup>50</sup> although the Smoots described the house as located north and east of the mansion house and was referred to by one of the Smoots as “the trapper’s cabin.”<sup>51</sup> The exact location of the stone house has not been found nor has it been determined when it was built.

Faced with the rising cost of the property’s upkeep, the family decided the only solution was to divide it into smaller parcels. In the late 1940s and 1950s, as development increased around the periphery of Washington, D.C. the family attempted to hold onto remnants of their family property. William S. and Jennie K. Smoot retained 65 acres; however, small parcels were sold to the McLean Baptist Church, the Salona Shopping Center, and Trinity Methodist Church. The Smoots no longer lived at Salona, and it was left to renters. Finally, in 1952 Calder Gillian Smoot died and four nephews inherited the 65 acres. Fifty-two acres was then sold to Susan and Clive Duval.<sup>52</sup>

## **The DuVals and 20th-Century Ownership (1952-2002)**

After years of misuse by renters, the property was in a poor state. Clive DuVal and wife Susan purchased Salona in 1952 and undertook a restoration. An aerial photo of the property in 1954 indicated the newly developed subdivisions on the edges of what used to be fields. Many of the agricultural buildings had disappeared; those remaining were in the vicinity of the house except the large bank barn. A new driveway had been constructed circling the front of the house and connecting to the earlier road leading straight north from the house and also to another access road to the east of the house. The land to the west that was formerly an orchard lost many of its trees as has the area to the east which also used to be an orchard (*figure 2-14*).

DuVal served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1965 to 1971, when he was elected to the Senate and where he served until his retirement in 1991. DuVal, like many newcomers to Washington, D.C. during this period, came to take advantage of employment opportunities in the newly organized and expansive government offices. As was expected of a man in his position, DuVal made Salona a center of political and social entertainment. Various groups benefited from its grand spaces and the generosity of its owners.

DuVal was highly conscious of the significance and historic value of Salona. His political career began as a conservationist, attempting to resist development of the historically significant property, Merrywood, childhood home of Jacqueline Kennedy. Battling the development proposal for high-rise residential apartment buildings on the banks of the Potomac, Duval

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<sup>50</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 39.

<sup>51</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 50.

<sup>52</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 40.

succeeded in securing scenic easements and convincing U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Stuart Udall to free up federal funds to purchase the conservation easement to the Merrywood estate. This action became a paradigm for citizen resistance to development in McLean, which contained prime residential real estate in close proximity to Washington D.C. In 1969, DuVal received the National Wildlife Federation's National Conservation Achievement Legislative award.

In 1971, the DuVals entered into an easement agreement with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to preserve the house at Salona, its surrounding outbuildings, and approximately eight acres of land (7.7 acres is the official number of acres protected in the easement, which would include the land on which the house stands as well as that surrounding it). In 1973 the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. In 1975 the Society of the United States Daughters of 1812 placed a plaque at Salona to commemorate James Madison's visit during his flight from Washington in 1814. The bronze plaque was mounted on a foundation stone of what was thought to be former slave quarters on the property.

In December 2005, an additional conservation easement was established for the Salona property. The 2005 easement was placed on a total of 41.5 acres, 10 of those acres may be used for active recreation, such as soccer, and the balance for passive recreation, such as trails. Three acres were retained by the DuVal family.<sup>53</sup>

Changes have occurred to the property that include severe deterioration of the large bank barn, the demolition of one wing of the house, and the disappearance of the "old stone house," which may have been the remains of the dwelling that stood on the property when it was sold to William Maffitt in 1812.<sup>54</sup> The driveway came directly from the current Dolley Madison Boulevard through the field to the front of the house and has been realigned from Falls Road to Buchanan Street, leaving only a trace of its old location. The former rear entrance, which would have met what is currently called Wendy Lane, has since been closed by construction of subdivision housing to the south. The once fertile landscape surrounding the property has been most markedly altered in the encroachment of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century development, including housing, shopping centers, and roadways (*see figure 2-15*).

Several buildings and features remain at Salona that offer tangible evidence of its once active and financially secure past. These include the main house, a stone springhouse, a stone and wood barn, the foundation of the old bank barn, a substantial brick smokehouse, an exterior brick kitchen, and a brick bathhouse/privy.

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<sup>53</sup> Aranya Tomseth, "Plans for Salona Announced: Fields and Recreation announced for 41-acre site," October 5, 2005.

<sup>54</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 45.

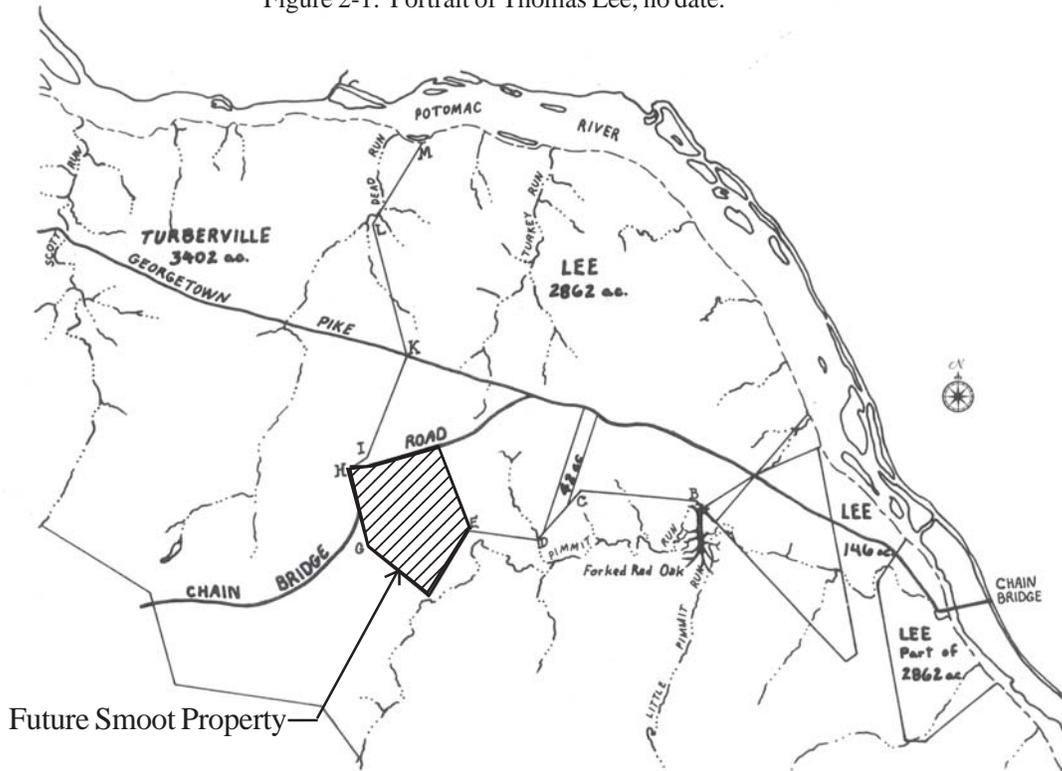
## Conclusion

Although it is not known exactly when the house at Salona was built or by whom, it is clear that the property was an important part of the Lee family legacy. Although it appears to have passed through several hands, it remained in the family for generations. It was also part of the Smoot family for several generations. Its main house, agricultural buildings, outbuildings, domestic landscape and agricultural field patterns, and natural systems contributed to a consistently viable agricultural enterprise through often rapidly changing circumstances and external developments. The recent suburban construction which surrounds the property today has cocooned it in an almost forgotten era when many such farmers made their living from the land, preserving and protecting it for their future generations. Despite the surrounding changes, the property itself has altered little and remains as a testament to an earlier era when Virginia was founded on and sustained by an agrarian economy.



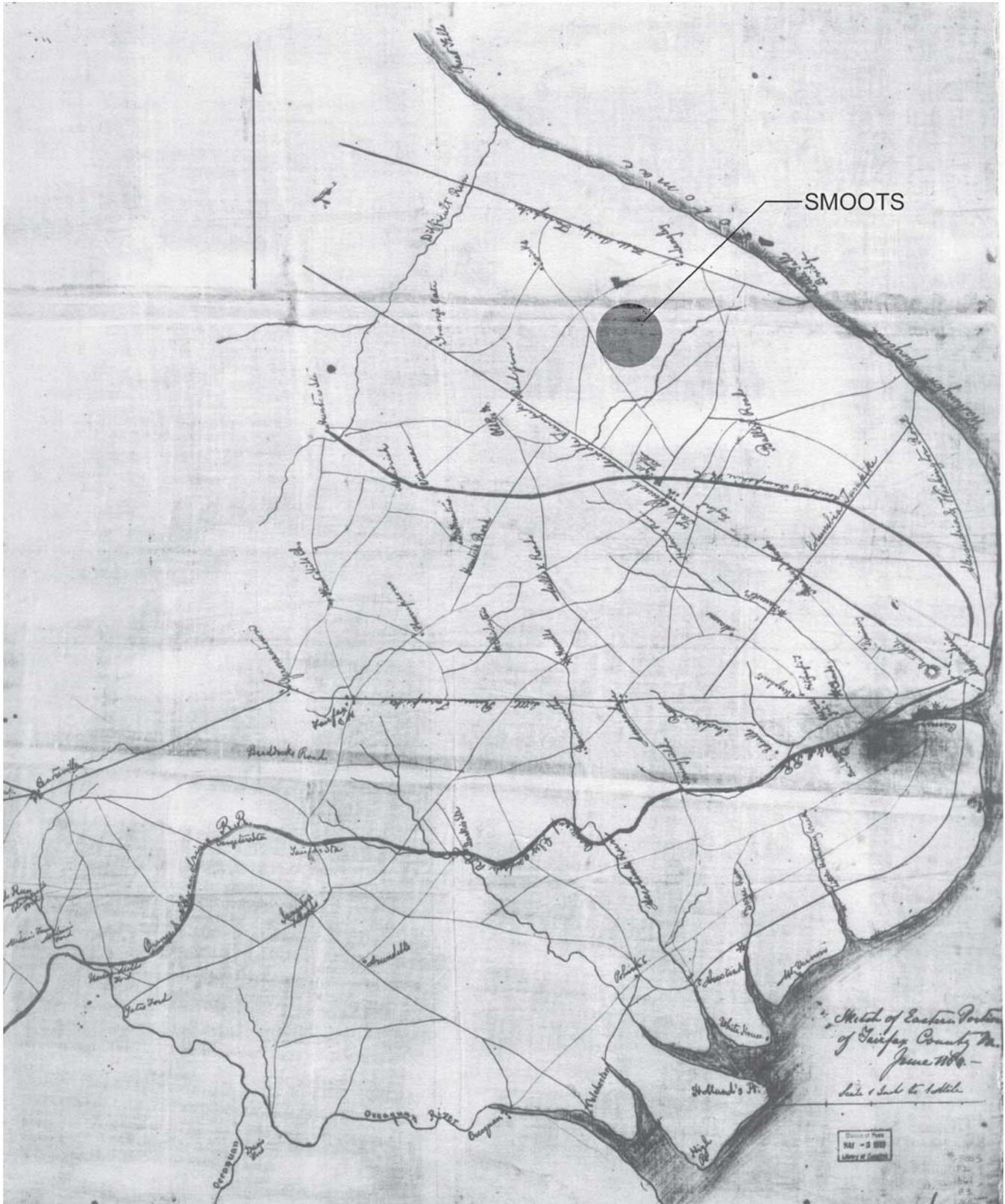
Source: Robert E. Lee Memorial Association, Inc.

Figure 2-1: Portrait of Thomas Lee, no date.



Source: Anderson, 7.

Figure 2-2: Thomas Lee's 1719 grant, adjoining Turberville, annotated by JMA to show the location of the future 208-acre Smoot property at Salona.



Source: Stephenson, 55.

Figure 2-3: “Sketch of Eastern portion of Fairfax County,” 1861, annotated to indicate location of Smoots’ property.



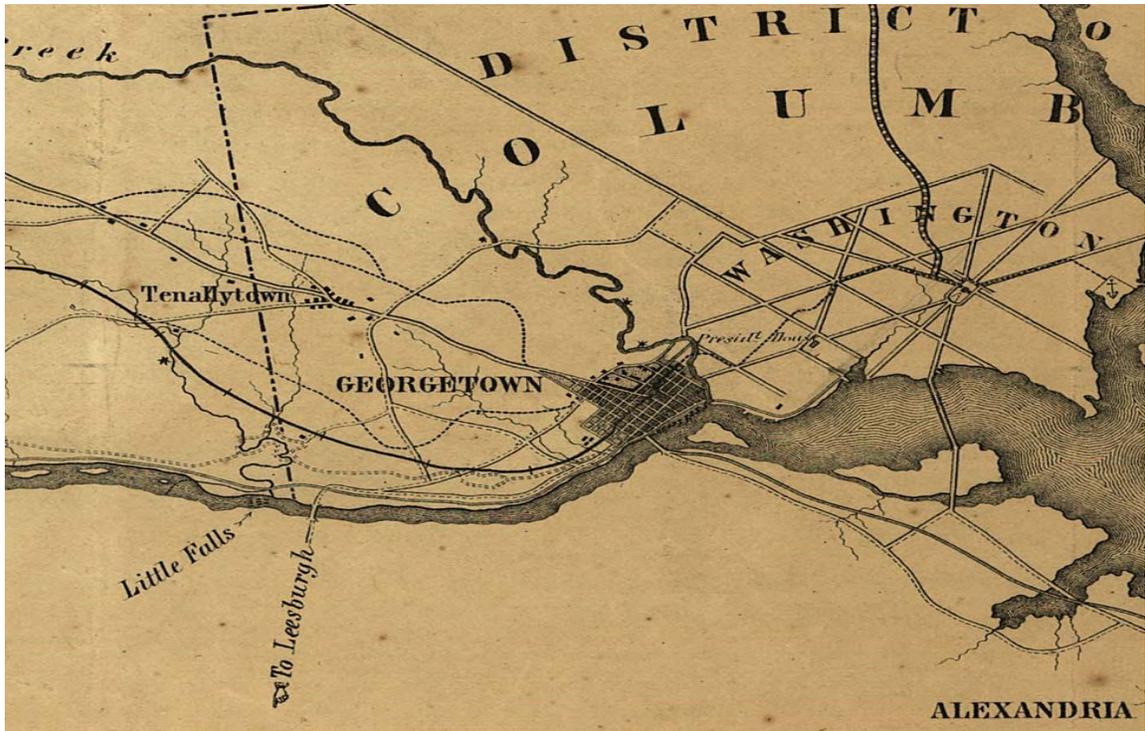
Source: American Memory.

Figure 2-4: “Army map of the seat of war in Virginia” by Goldsborough depicts relative locations of Matildaville, Little Falls, Great Falls, and a ferry crossing, ca. 1862.



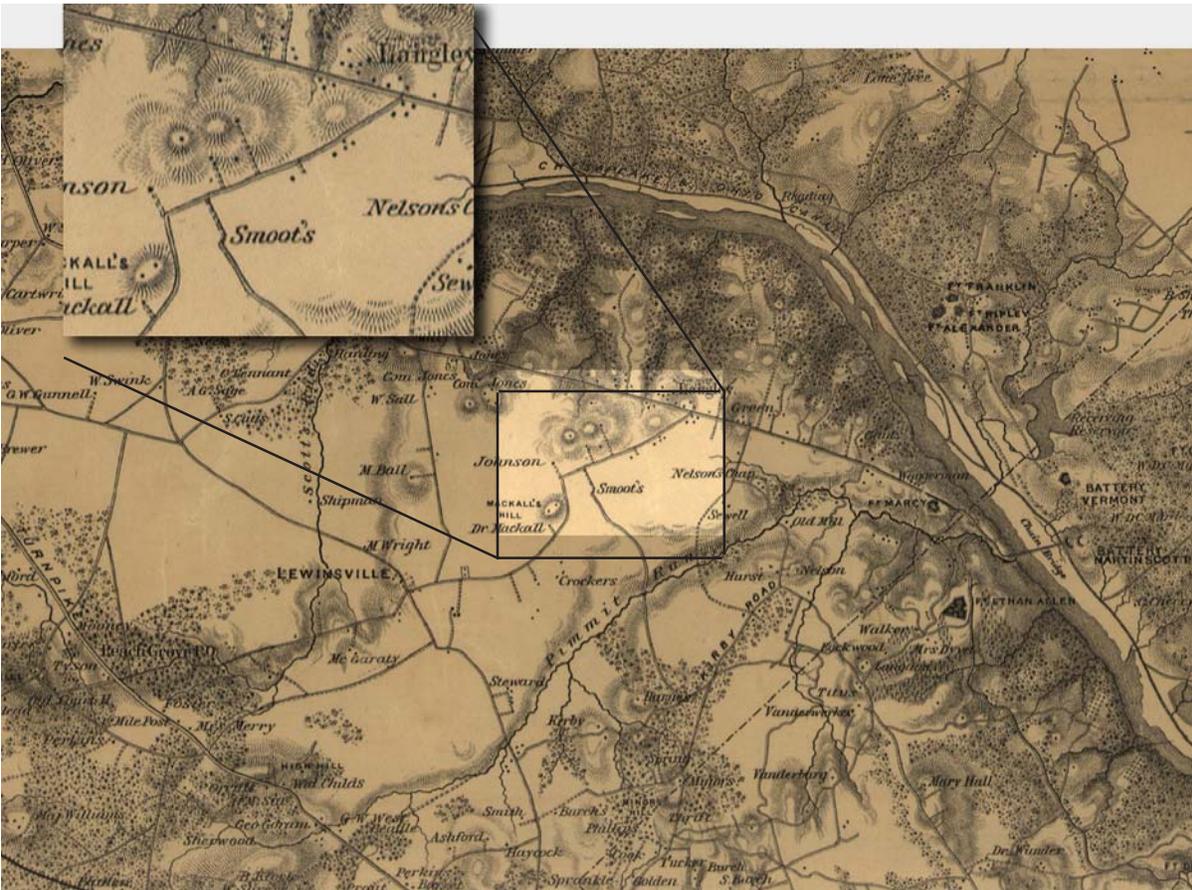
Source: American Memory.

Figure 2-5: The Great Falls of the Potomac and C&O Canal, ca. 1909.



Source: Stephenson.

Figure 2-6: Map showing road from Georgetown to Tenallytown, ca. 1855.



Source: Library of Congress.

Figure 2-7: General Irvin McDowell's map, annotated to show Smoot's place and adjacent buildings and vegetation, from "A map of Fairfax County, and parts of Loudoun and Prince William Counties, Va., and the District of Columbia," 1864.





Source: Stephenson, 58.

Figure 2-9: Detail from Corbett's "Map of the Seat of War," 1861, annotated to indicate location of Minor's Hill and Salona.

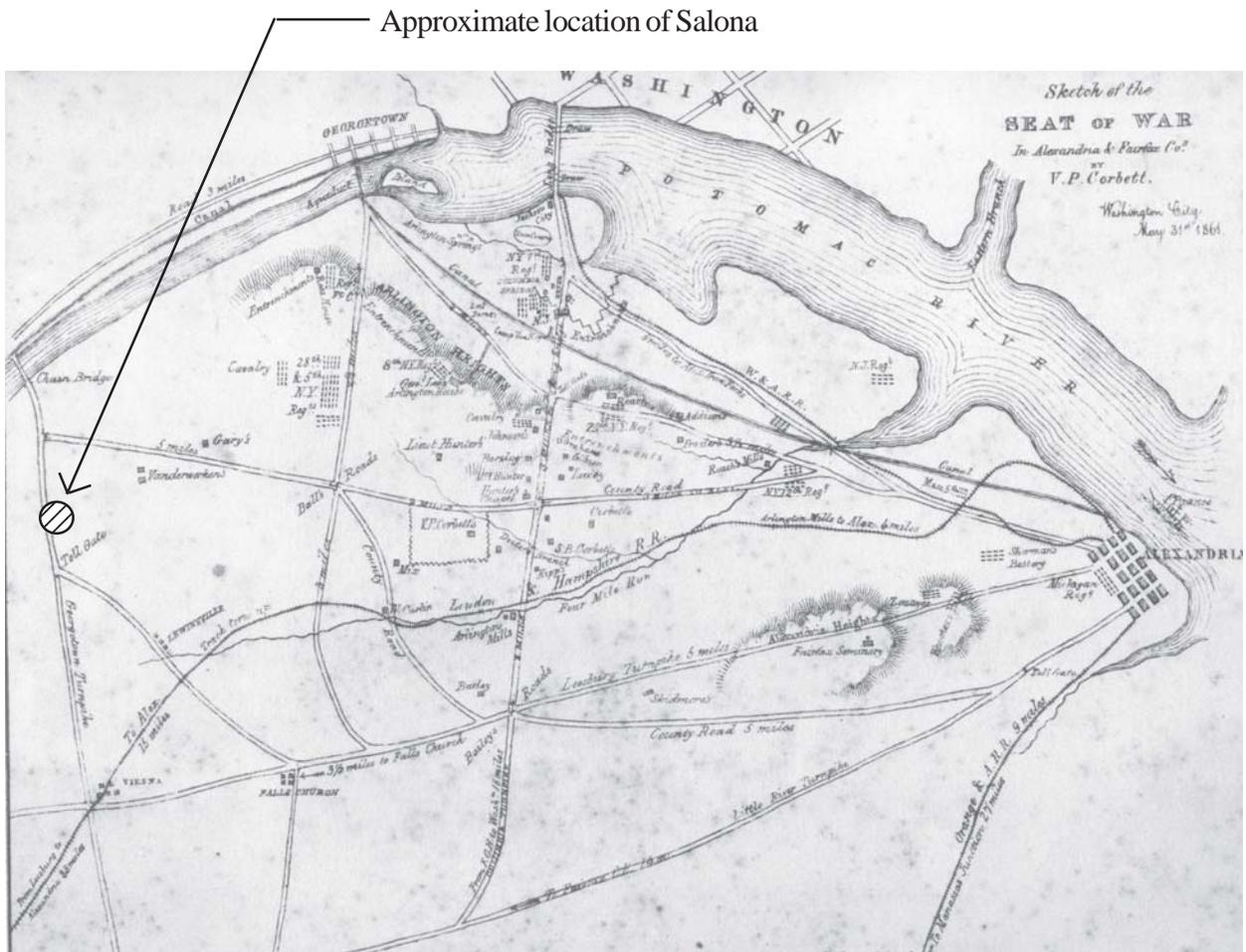
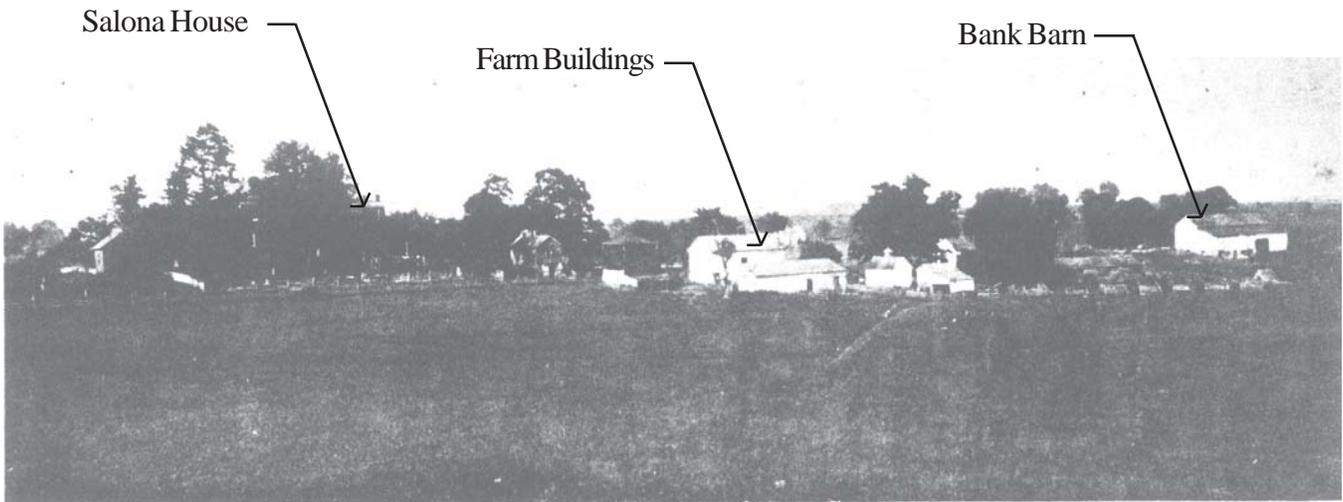
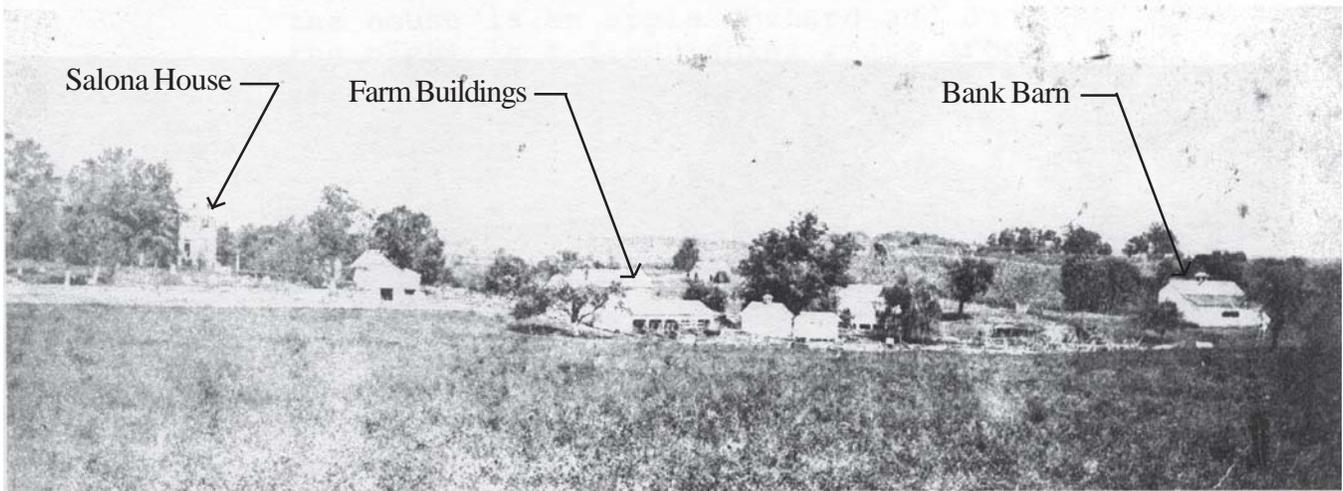


Figure 2-10: Corbett's Sketch of the Seat of War in Alexandria and Fairfax Cos, 1861.



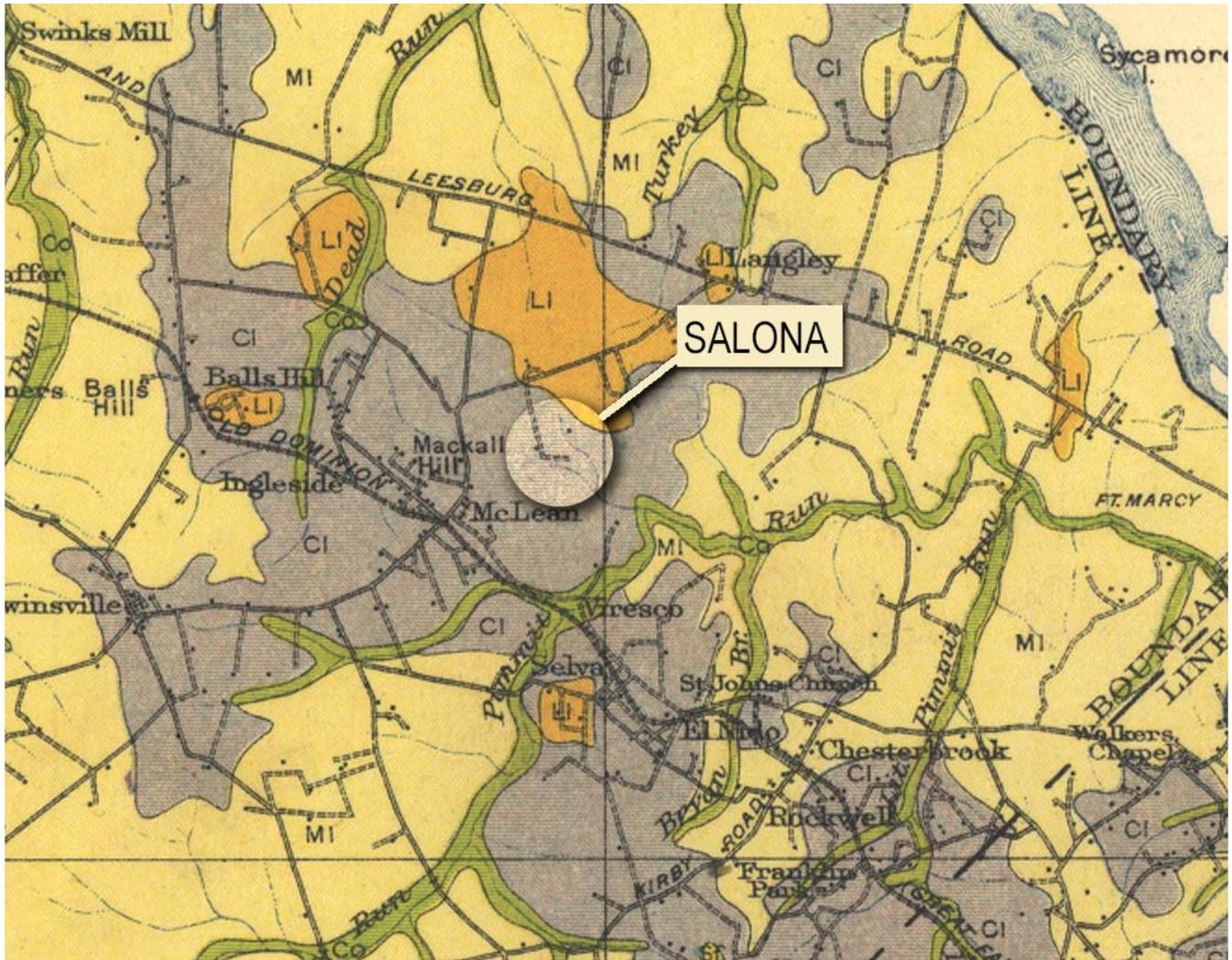
*Salona farm, about 1900.*



*Salona farm, about 1890.*

Source: Anderson, p. 37.

Figure 2-11: Salona house and farmstead viewed from the north, 1890 and 1900. Annotated by JMA for orientation and to identify important buildings on the site.



Source: Stephenson, 133.

Figure 2-12: Fairfax County soil map, 1915, showing Salona driveway.



Source: Fairfax County Park Authority.

Figure 2-13: 1937 aerial photograph of Salona.



Source: Fairfax County Park Authority.

Figure 2-14: 1954 aerial photograph of Salona.



Source: Fairfax County Park Authority.

Figure 2-15: 2002 aerial photograph of Salona.

# Chapter Three

## Existing Conditions

### Introduction

Salona is a remnant of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century landscape type that has all but disappeared from Fairfax County. The once prevalent estates, plantations, and summer homes of the Lee, Fairfax, Mason, Washington, and other notable families, along with their expansive tracts of crop fields, pastures, and forests have today been covered by the densely developed residential subdivisions, commercial areas, and road and highway corridors surrounding Washington, D.C.

This chapter describes, through narrative text, contemporary photographs, labeled base mapping, and analytical diagrams, the current conditions and extant landscape features associated with the Salona property. The first section—**Environmental Context and Setting**—places Salona in the larger regional and local contexts, discussing the larger systems that lie within and surround the property. The second section—**Cultural Context and Setting**—describes the site’s man-made surroundings, regional road corridors, and planning and zoning issues in the vicinity. The third section—**Landscape Description by Characteristic**—depicts the current condition and extant landscape features and resources that comprise the Salona property today based on the following categories:

- natural features and systems
- spatial organization
- views and vistas
- land uses
- topography
- circulation
- vegetation
- buildings and structures
- small-scale features;
- utilities; and
- archaeological resources

Diagrams and maps illustrate some of the features and their relationships. The locations of all landscape features are indicated on maps 3-1, 3-2, and 3-3. An inventory list is found at the end of the chapter.

## Environmental Context and Setting

Salona is located on the western edge of the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province, the flat stretch of land that borders the Atlantic Ocean from Rhode Island to Florida and extends from the ocean west to the fall line. The fall line occurs in Virginia within Fairfax County, marking the edge of ancient shoreline of the Atlantic. To the west are the metamorphosed rocks of the Piedmont and to the east are softer sedimentary soils deposited by erosion and water action.

Soils in the area of Salona consist of these Coastal Plain sediments, including the Worsham, Glenelg, Glenville, Meadowville, and Manor soils found on the Salona property.<sup>1</sup> Worsham, Glenville, and Meadowville soils are typically found in drainageways and low lying areas of the property and its surroundings. Worsham is a predominantly hydric soil which may contain wetlands. Its mixture of schist, granite, and alluvium is seasonally saturated, and surface drainage is slow. Soft clays and silts overlie silty and sandy decomposed rock. Glenville soils are similar, though with moderate permeability and a seasonal water table rising to one to two feet below the surface. Meadowville soils also have a similar composition and moderate permeability, but are somewhat less vulnerable to flooding, with a depth to seasonal high water table ranging from two to four feet.

The upland areas of the site and its surroundings are underlain by Manor and Glenelg soils, both themselves underlain by micaceous schist, a flaky type of metamorphic rock with a high percentage of mica. In both Manor and Glenelg soils, permeability is moderate to moderately rapid. Because of the high mica content, the soil tends to “fluff” when disturbed, and is difficult to compact and highly susceptible to erosion. Manor soils are silty and sandy, and usually found on sloping uplands. Depth from surface to hard bedrock below may be shallower than five feet on steep slopes. Glenelg soils occur on hilltops and side slopes and their silts and clays overlie silty and sandy decomposed rock. Of the five soils within the Salona boundaries, Glenelg is the most stable for building.

Perennial streams, formed by overflow from abundant springs and seeps on the site, have cut through the softer soils and created a rolling topography in the southern two-thirds of the Salona property. These streams feed the middle stretch of Pimmit Run, which flows from east to west just a few hundred yards south of the site. One of Fairfax County’s smaller watersheds, Pimmit Run’s headwaters lie to the west of Tysons Corner and the waterway empties directly into the Potomac River approximately three miles downstream from Salona.

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<sup>1</sup> Soil information is drawn from current Soil Map Unit Descriptions, Fairfax County DPW, on the county website: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/soil\\_d.htm#8](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/soil_d.htm#8). Soil names and numbers are taken from the Soil Survey of Fairfax County, Virginia, Series 1955, No. 11, issued May 1963.

## Cultural Context and Setting

Fairfax County is a fast-growing urban and suburban area within the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Its adjacency to the cities of Alexandria and Arlington, as well as the Pentagon, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, and Washington Dulles International Airport, has made Fairfax County a central location for residential and commercial development in the D.C. region. Salona Historic Site is located in the town of McLean, in the northeastern quadrant of the county, on the eastern border of the McLean central business district, in a single-family residential area. The property is easily accessible from I-495 (the Capital Beltway) and I-66. Dolley Madison Boulevard is a main four-lane route along the northern boundary of the property. Some of the other primary roads in the immediate area, such as Chain Bridge Road and Kirby Road, have historic associations. Countless small residential subdivision roads access the dense development that fills the areas between the McLean's main commercial and highway corridors.

The Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan designates the area within a few blocks to the west of Salona as the McLean Central Business Center (CBC), an area planned for village-center style commercial growth. The plan calls for any new development to be buffered from the adjacent residential areas of which Salona is a part.

The Salona property is zoned R-2. Its 52.2 acres are legally divided into three parcels under the terms of two easements purchased by Fairfax County in 1971 and 2005. A 1971 historic preservation easement protects the main house, utilized by the DuVal family as a private residence, and outbuildings within a surrounding rectangular parcel of 7.8 acres.

In 2005, Fairfax County acquired an easement for 41.5 acres at Salona, to be conserved for open space purposes, including specific recreational uses such as trails and possibly playing fields, in the northern part of the property. According to the easement deed, "the Property is unique to the immediate and surrounding area, and land development in the immediate and surrounding area is intense and the conservation of the Property is deemed to be a significant public benefit."

In addition to the 7.8 acres protected in 1971, the DuVal family will retain a 3-acre square wooded parcel that remains, along the southern end of the property where it adjoins the end of Wendy Lane.

Salona Historic Site is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register.

## Landscape Description by Characteristic

### Introduction

As recommended by the Secretary of the Interior's *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, this section is structured starting with descriptions of larger-scale elements of the Salona landscape, such as spatial organization, which are then followed by descriptions of smaller-scale individual features, such as vegetation and structures, all which contribute to the landscape's historic character. This section also describes the current condition of those extant landscape features and resources.

### Spatial Organization *(see map 3-1 at the end of this chapter)*

The northern portion of the site consists of three moderately level open fields divided by dense hedgerows. This approximately 20-acre **field complex** is physically and visually open to neighboring parcels and roads, including Dolley Madison Boulevard to the north, Buchanan Street to the east, and the rear yards of residences along Kurtz Road to the west. Dolley Madison Boulevard has been graded over time so that it is now much higher in elevation than the land within the fields, resulting in a steep embankment along the north property line.

To the south of the field complex and centrally located on the property lies the estate's **domestic core**. The main house sits on a gentle knoll, with a circular drive providing access to its front, or north, side. The circular drive terminates the Salona entrance road that leads from Buchanan Street. The house is surrounded by several historic outbuildings including a smokehouse, outside kitchen/office, and privy/bathhouse, as well as a boxwood-edged brick patio, numerous garden beds, crushed stone and brick paths, and areas of mowed lawn. To the east of the house, in a lower, level area, stands the **recreational area** with an assortment of features. The tennis court, swimming pool, and lawn are surrounded by relatively new fencing and edged by historic farm buildings to the south (*photo 3-1*). To the west of the house an open, grassy area is punctuated with trees, including a few large tulip poplars near the house, a mature screen planting of white pines, rows of cedars along a former road and fenceline, a few mature fruit trees in a former orchard area, and a small wooded area along Kurtz Road.

South and east of the recreational area associated with the house lie several buildings, sites, and ruins that comprise the **former farmyard area**.

South of the domestic core and the former farmyard area, the property has grown up in successional **woodland** with a dense underlayer of brush and brambles (*photo 3-2*). The woodland, fairly uniform in appearance, lies on rolling topography incised by the drainageways that flow towards the southern edge of the property.

## Natural Systems and Features

Several waterways flow through the site. These include ephemeral **tributaries to Pimmit Run**, a perennial creek that flows just south of the property. These tributaries are the result of surface drainage as well as springs and seeps that well up within the property. One unnamed tributary, which takes the form of a **channelized field drainageway** within the site, flows south along the eastern hedgerow from the northern boundary of the property. It enters the site from a drainage culvert pipe beneath Dolley Madison Boulevard, passes south along the hedgerow, crosses under the Salona driveway, and continues along a gently sloping natural drainageway to the southeastern corner of the property. Offsite water flowing through the drainage culvert contributes to this waterway, as do ephemeral flows along a channel in the western hedgerow and along the fenceline that runs east-west north of the knoll on which the house stands. This drainageway appear to be fairly incised and unstable due to excessive storm flow from upstream development and does not appear to support much aquatic life. However, it is likely a valuable water source for animals and birds. Another tributary wells up in a seep area to the southwest of the house and flows southeast along a natural drainageway to join with the other tributary just north of the property line.

There appear to be several **springs and seeps** on the property. In addition to the **springhouse spring**, other small **seeps** and water sources are visible along the southern tributary in the woodland.

The northern 21 acres of the site, comprised of the field complex and hedgerows, have been surveyed for wetlands. According to a November 2006 survey, there are two small **wetlands** within this area, both along the central portion of the eastern hedgerow, one on each side. Both exhibit characteristics of scrub-shrub wetlands, with some sedges and rushes and containing an inch of standing water at the time of the delineation survey.<sup>3</sup>

## Views and Vistas *(see maps 3-2, 3-3, photos 3-1, 3-17, 3-31)*

Views across Salona's gently rolling topography are determined by variations in vegetation massing and open space. Due to its exposure, the field complex has the most expansive viewshed, and it is adversely affected by **views of nearby development** along Kurtz Road, Dolley Madison Boulevard, and Buchanan Street. There are also **views into the field complex** from Buchanan Street and Dolley Madison Boulevard, providing a visual respite from the otherwise dense development lining these roads.

The main house is not visible off-site, because the perimeter of the domestic core is bounded by dense vegetation on all sides. There is an arrival vista, a **view of the main house** from a low knoll along the upper portion of the driveway, but this is somewhat obscured by trees and shrubs

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<sup>3</sup> "Delineation Map – Salona Property," Williamsburg Environmental Group, surveyed November 7, 2006.

in the center of the circular driveway and foundation plantings around the house. There are, however, clear **views of the main house from the former farmyard area**, now an open lawn with private recreational features.

## Land Uses

The main house is currently used as a **residence** by the DuVal family. There are no other active uses on the property at this time.

## Topography

The northern part of the site, among the open fields, is relatively level. A short, steep bank descends from the constructed **road grade** of **Dolley Madison Boulevard** into the field area, and the fields are dissected by shallow, probably man-made drainage ditches or channels in the hedgerows. The house stands on the crest of a gentle **knoll**. The south side of the knoll descends gently to a drainageway; a stone retaining wall shapes a segment along the south edge of the knoll. The topography rises on the other side of the creek to another gentle knoll at the southern edge of the property. To the east of the house, a **level lawn area** that may have been graded at one time slopes evenly to the southeast, and is edged by another knoll in the woodland southeast of the barn ruin, which divides the house and lawn areas from the drainageway near the eastern property boundary.

## Buildings and Structures

The brick **main house** stands on a gentle knoll in the west-center of the current property (*photo 3-3*). It is a neo-classical brick building typical of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century in Virginia. Occasionally referred to as the Federal style (sometimes the Adamsque style) and constructed between 1780 and 1830, this type of building is symmetrical with classical detailing. The house at Salona is five bays wide and two rooms deep, with a two bay, two-story east wing. (A west wing once mirrored the existing wing).<sup>4</sup> The side gable roof has a heavy cornice with dentil molding and decorative brackets beneath the overhanging eaves. The central doorway is sheltered by a two-bay single-story porch with a flat-topped hip roof and a highly elaborate cornice with brackets, columns and upper and lower latticework rails (*photo 3-4*). Windows have decorative stone lintels with keystones and sills, and are double-hung two-over-one sash with wooden shutters.

The **outside kitchen/office** is a one-and-a-half-story brick outbuilding that stands just southwest of the house. It has a side gabled standing seam metal roof and one-over-one double hung sash

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<sup>4</sup> See Chapter 2, Site History, p. 20.

windows. Steps lead up to a single leaf main door from a brick walkway that connects directly with the rear of the main house (*photo 3-5*).

The brick **smokehouse** stands directly southeast of the main house. It is a single-story square building with a side gabled, shingled roof and sits on a high stone foundation (*photo 3-6*).

A wood frame **garage** with double sliding doors stands north of the house along the circular driveway (*photo 3-7*). It is in poor condition and is currently used to house a riding lawn mower.

The **privy** or bathhouse is a small, one-story brick structure with a door on the east side and small casement windows on the north and south sides (*photo 3-8*). It stands in an open area to the west of the house. Inside, the floor shows evidence of disturbance, possibly by digging animals, and brick remnants. This structure has been considered a privy, but there are details which suggest it may have been used as a bathhouse: its construction is solid, its interior walls have traces of plaster or other covering, and it has a built-in bench and a rear grate. The bench has three holes that may have served as places to set copper kettles with hot and cold water. The rear ground grate may have functioned as a drain for waste water but does not appear to be part of a tunnel, which was the usual case for disposing of waste from privies. (*Photo 3-9*). The building is in fair condition: there are broken panes in the windows, a missing door, and damage to the exterior brickwork.

A small, two-story **red wood frame outbuilding** (possibly a dairy) with a high stone and brick foundation and a front-gable roof stands to the southeast of the house, banked into the slope so that the lower level can be accessed from below (*photo 3-10*). The upper level has been altered with the installation of a large window on the south side.

The **springhouse** is a single-story, mortared stone structure measuring approximately 14 by 15 feet. It has a new, standing seam, metal roof and a door on the north side that is 3 feet below grade (*photo 3-11*). A concrete wall and a set of concrete steps on both sides access the interior which has a slightly raised floor around which a gully allows spring water to flow in and out of the building (*photo 3-12*). The springhouse is in good condition; the wall and steps are in fair condition with some moss growth and erosion. Water still flows from the springhouse into a tributary of Pimmit Run.

The **red wood frame hay barn** is located west of the springhouse beside the swimming pool (*photo 3-13*). It measures 24 feet square, is one and a half stories with a gable roof, and stands on brick piers that appear to be of recent construction. The barn itself is still in use and includes: a central passage, hayloft, two storage rooms and an open-slat crib.

A log **corn crib**, consisting of a small two-bay rectangular building of saddle notch construction rests on large stones and is located to the south of the springhouse (*photo 3-14*). The building has a front gable, and a standing seam metal roof which has partially fallen in. There is a door in the western side and a window with metal hinges in the eastern side, but no communication between the two rooms within. The building is in poor condition, as the stones have collected water causing rot in the corners; the building is in partial collapse. There is some interior framing and siding above the door constructed of what appears to be dimensional lumber.

A large **stone bank barn ruin** is located southeast of the red hay barn (*photo 3-15*). The ruin consists of several rubble-filled dry-laid stone walls, measuring approximately 2 feet 6 inches thick with a very large base course of rough hewn stones. On its western side, there appears to have been a separate section which was only accessible from the exterior entrance, but not connected to other bays of the building. The barn foundation's dimensions are approximately 73 by 95 feet overall and is built into the slope leading to the adjacent stream. It must have been a formidable structure in its time, and in comparison to other co-existing structures on the site.

A **stone retaining wall** about 20 feet long edges the southeast corner of the knoll beside the red frame outbuilding. As indicated in the 1937 aerial photograph, it may have led to another outbuilding at one time (*photo 3-16*).

A contemporary **swimming pool**, with stone retaining walls, and surrounded by a **flagstone patio** is located adjacent to the red hay barn (*see photo 3-1*). A trench drain in the paving prevents water from running off beneath the barn. A contemporary wood-and-chain-link-fenced **tennis court** stands between the house and pool (*see photo 3-1*).

## Circulation

Public roads that edge the site include **Dolley Madison Boulevard**, a four-lane divided thoroughfare along the northern edge of the property (*photo 3-17*); **Buchanan Street**, a 22 foot wide, unstriped, asphalt road that edges the northern segment of the eastern property line (*photo 3-18*); **Kurtz Road**, a two-lane unstriped residential road that edges part of the property line to the west; and **Wendy Lane**, a small, residential dead-end street that culminates at the southern edge of the property (*photo 3-19*).

The main access to the property is via a residential **driveway** from Buchanan Street (*photo 3-20*). This 10-foot-wide private drive is surfaced in light-colored crushed stone and leads to the **circular drive** in front of the north façade of the main house.

Walks are present in a few locations, mostly surrounding the main house. These include **crushed-stone walks with metal edging** (*photo 3-21*), **brick walks**, and a **flagstone walk**. A brick walk leads from the **brick patio** on the south side of the house to the outside kitchen/office (*photo 3-22*). A remnant **flagstone walk**, partly overgrown by grass, leads eastward a few feet from the door of the privy/bathroom.

A **former driveway trace** is visible within the western hedgerow in the field complex, leading from Dolley Madison Boulevard due south, oriented toward the front of the house. Wheel ruts, drainage ditching, and road material rubble such as stone occur within the hedgerow for approximately 900 feet (*photos 3-23 and 3-24*).

A **trace farm road** runs east-west south of the house. The impression of the road is visible for about 200 feet on the western edge of the property west of the outside kitchen, where it is lined by cedars (*photo 3-25*). The trace disappears south of the house, but its alignment is marked by a stone retaining wall and red clapboard outbuilding and by two gates in the new fence around the

private recreation area, one on the east and one on the west side (*photo 3-26*). The trace is visible again to the east for about 160 feet, going uphill to the area of the bank barn, then disappears (*photo 3-27*).

## Vegetation

Several groupings of shrubs and trees, or individual trees, within the Salona site that have cultural associations and are likely historic. Plantings of **boxwoods**, including a pair of symmetrical curving hedges of English boxwood with plantings of single large American boxwoods at the terminus of each hedge, frame the patio on the south side of the main house; additional boxwoods frame the door on the east side of the kitchen/office (*see photos 3-3 and 3-4*). The boxwoods are all in good condition. Numerous well-maintained contemporary **planting beds** surround the house, with a variety of garden plants, shrubs, and groundcovers (*photo 3-28*). A privately maintained **cutting garden**, fenced in green vinyl-coated chain link, lies to the north of the driveway in the eastern field and is planted with varieties of annual and perennial flowering garden plants (*photo 3-29*). Similar, smaller, ornamental flower beds are found along the edges of the swimming pool area. All are maintained by the current owner. **Foundation plantings** of boxwood, holly, and other evergreens edge the main house.

**Mature tree plantings** including oaks and hollies in the center of the circular driveway have filled in the space, obscuring views of the front façade of the house from the entrance drive. A **grove of mature white pines**, probably planted for screening purposes, stands northwest of the house along the edge of the circular drive (*photo 3-30*).

A possible **remnant orchard** is located on the western edge of the property to the west of the main house, near Kurtz Road (*Photo 3-31*). It includes approximately five mature apple and pear trees and a large fruiting persimmon, as well as the stump of an unidentified tree.

Several **rows of mature Eastern red cedars** mark former boundaries within the site, such as the edges of roads and fields. Overall, these tree rows are in good condition. Cedars line both sides of a road trace southwest of the main house (*photo 3-23*), mark fenceline traces beside the outside kitchen and the garage, and appear along both sides of the former driveway trace.

Vegetation within the **field complex** is varied in type and quality, including native wet meadow and upland species. According to Charles Smith of the Park Authority, altogether, the three fields, referred to as the eastern, western, and central fields, comprise the largest remaining open meadow in this part of Fairfax County.<sup>5</sup> The eastern field, 3.3 acres in size, is dominated by fescue and native meadow species, interspersed with some invasive species such as small carp grass (*Arthraxon hispidus*) (*photo 3-32*). This field may have been used for agriculture in the

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<sup>5</sup> Charles Smith, Fairfax County Park Authority, letter to authors, November 29, 2006 containing information gathered at the site on October 2, 2006.

recent past, probably for raising hay or pasture, suggested by the relatively uniform presence of pasture or fodder grasses and the lack of woody vegetation.

Based on the vegetation present, the 5.5-acre western field shows the highest level of human disturbance. It contains invasive species, but also has areas of Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) (photo 3-33), a desirable native meadow grass; and native wetland vegetation, including sedges, rushes, solidago varieties, and other species that may provide valuable habitat and could serve as a foundation for meadow restoration (photo 3-34).

The central field, the largest of the three at 5.9 acres, is considered particularly special and rare in its composition and stability. Different in character from the other two fields, the central field harbors a consistent cover of Indian grass and numerous other native meadow species, such as switch grass (*Panicum virgatum*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*), and forbs (photo 3-35). This unusually high quality of meadow is extremely rare in Fairfax County, and indicates that this field may have been purposely planted in a native meadow restoration effort at some point in the recent past.

The two **hedgerows**, east and west, include a mix of native and non-native vegetation, which appears to be on average less than 50 years old. This includes Loblolly pines that may have been planted as well as Eastern red cedar and autumn olive, which may have been either planted or have naturalized in place (photo 3-36). The eastern hedgerow includes two small areas of wetland vegetation growing along its channelized drainageway and located approximately 100 yards north of the southern end of the hedgerow (photo 3-37). One wetland is located on the central field side and the other on the eastern field side of the hedgerow.

The western hedgerow includes more Eastern red cedar that may have naturalized or been planted along the driveway trace (photo 3-38). Several small areas within this hedgerow have wetland vegetation, but lack either the type of soil or amount of water to actually be labeled as wetlands. However, the presence of these plants indicates that water regularly enters the fields along this side prior to emptying into the channel at the southern end of the western and central fields. While some invasive plants are present in this hedgerow, it also hosts a small colony of native persimmon and other native plant species that lend wildlife value to this and the eastern hedgerow.

The **woodlands** to the south and east of the house, encompassing just over 20 acres, are of moderate age, predominantly deciduous with numerous large tulip poplars, as well as black cherry and other successional hardwoods. These woodlands exhibit a high degree of human disturbance and evidence of deer grazing. Invasive and aggressive species present in the woodlands include Japanese honeysuckle, common privet, English ivy, brambles, bamboo, and multiflora rose.

Native plants observed on the property include:

Trees

- Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)
- Ash-leaved maple (*Acer negundo*)
- Silver maple (*Acer sacharinum*)
- Ironwood (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- Northern Catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*)
- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)
- White ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)
- American holly (*Ilex opaca*)
- Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)
- Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
- Tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
- Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*)
- Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
- Swamp oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- Loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*)
- Virginia pine (*Pinus virginiana*)
- Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
- Pin oak (*Quercus palustris*)
- Willow (*Salix* sp.)
- Elm (*Ulmus* sp.)

Shrubs

- Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- Winged sumac (*Rhus copallinum*)
- Raspberry (*Rubus* sp.)
- Smooth blackhaw (*Viburnum prunifolium*)

Vines and Groundcovers

- Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)

- Catclaw greenbrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*)
- Poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*)
- Grape (*Vitis* sp.)

#### Ferns

- Ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*)
- Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
- Christmas fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*)

#### Grasses

- Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*)
- Broom sedge (*Andropogon virginicus*)
- Deer tongue (*Panicum clandestinum*)
- Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*)
- Timothy (*Phleum pretense*)
- Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*)
- Purpletop eastern gama (*Triodia flava*)
- Eastern gamagrass (*Tripsacum dactyloides*)

#### Reeds and Sedges

- Common reed (*Juncus effusus*)
- Sedge (*Carex* sp.)

#### *Invasive Species*

Numerous non-native, invasive, species are found on the property, mostly in the woodlands and to a lesser degree in the field complex. They are not evident in the maintained lawn and garden areas around the house. A planted row of mature Bradford callery pears stands along Dolley Madison Boulevard at the northern edge of the middle field. There appear to be some saplings of this species colonizing the adjacent field. A thick growth of invasive bamboo has engulfed an area just east of the stream along the property's eastern edge.

The invasive species observed on the property to date include:

#### Trees

- Bradford callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana* 'Bradford')

### Shrubs

- Barberry (*Berberis angustifolia*)
- Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)
- Beautyberry (*Callicarpa japonica*)
- Autumn olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*)
- Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)
- Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

### Vines and Groundcovers

- Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Porcelain berry (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*)
- Oriental trumpet-creeper (*Campsis radicans*)
- Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*)
- Small carp grass (*Arthraxon hispidus*)
- Tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*)

### Grasses

- Small carp grass (*Arthraxon hispidus*)
- Orchard grass (*Dactylis glomeratus*)
- Barnyard grass (*Echinochloa crus-galli*)
- Tall fescue (*Festuca elatior*)
- Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Yellow foxtail (*Setaria glauca*)

### *Aggressive native species*

In a healthy plant community, species composition is kept in balance by various factors. However, a disturbance, cultural or natural, can create an opportunity for a particular native species to flourish to the point where it can be considered aggressive. Typically, the growth of such prolific plants is corrected over time, balanced out by other species until the plant community reaches a state of equilibrium. However, in suburban sites such as the Salona property, aggressive native species may require treatment to manage them appropriately and create a healthy ecosystem.

A vine that appears to be five-leaved akebia has aggressively overgrown the area around and to the north of the bank barn ruin. Numerous invasive species are also found in this area (see below). The aggressive native and non-native species observed on the property to date include:

- Five-leaved akebia (*Akebia quinata*)
- Poison ivy (*Rhus radicans*)
- Brambles (*Rubus spp.*)
- Common grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*)
- Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*)
- Porcelain berry (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*)
- Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*)
- Tall fescue (*Lolium arundinaceum*)

### Small-scale Features

Small-scale features found on the property relate to historic agricultural uses, drainage, memorialization, and contemporary private residential use.

At the “Y” where the gravel drive leads into the circular drive stands a low **stone marker** installed in 1975 by the Virginia Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of 1812 to commemorate the use of the site by President James Madison in 1814 (*photo 3-39*). The marker is in good condition.

Several metal pipe **culverts** of varying ages and conditions are found along the drainageways and roadways on the site. One runs beneath the circular drive on its northern edge to drain the house area. A mature Eastern red cedar has grown over the outlet end of the pipe (*photo 3-40*).

Four **concrete piers**, one foot square and of varying heights with their tops at an even height, stand to the west of the bank barn. They are approximately five feet apart east-west and eight feet apart north-south. The piers are in fair condition; the structure they appear to have once supported is missing.

A **low board fence** edges one short length of the circular drive, acting as a guardrail to keep cars from driving into a small culvert. The fence, painted off-white, consists of wood stakes about a foot tall with sections of horizontal 1 x 8 board nailed to them. The fence is in good condition (*photo 3-41*).

There are several **remnant fencelines** in fair to poor condition, comprised of cedar posts with box woven wire and a strand of barbed wire along the top. One runs from the red-sided wooden outbuilding south of the house in a southerly direction, crossing the stream and turning to the

west, running about 50 feet to a point just southwest of the log outbuilding, then turning north again to cross the stream (*photo 3-42*). Another runs north-south along the east side of the stone bank barn ruin (*photo 3-43*). These fences are in fair to poor condition, with vegetative growth, rusted and missing wire, and some rot or damage apparent to the wooden posts.

A **new fence** surrounds an area southeast of the house, including an expanse of lawn, the modern recreational features including tennis court and pool, and several standing historic outbuildings of the former farmyard area (*photo 3-44*). The fence is split-rail with wire mesh, three rails high, with decorative wooden gates in several locations around the perimeter.

Various **furnishings** belonging to the residents, such as patio furniture, planters, a bird feeder, compost bins, etc. are found throughout the domestic area of the site.

## Utilities

A below-ground **sanitary sewer line** crosses the western field from north to south.

A group of **utility boxes** and an underground utility vault are located on the northeastern property corner at Buchanan Street and Dolley Madison Blvd.

**Machinery** associated with the swimming pool stands to the east of the red hay barn (*photo 3-45*). An **outdoor air-conditioning unit** stands at the eastern side of the smokehouse.

## Archaeological Resources

The property was not assessed archaeologically as a part of this study. However, several sites with archaeological potential have been observed. These include the two **road traces**, and the **bank barn ruin** and its surroundings. The **house yard** likely has high archaeological sensitivity. Another **site** that may have been an outbuilding such as a spring house or pump house is visible as a depression with brick rubble, lying within the eastern hedgerow along the east edge of the waterway.

## Inventory of Landscape Features by Characteristic

This section includes all inventoried landscape features identified at Salona, both historic and non-historic. Where appropriate, the condition of the feature has been assessed. For more detail, see the preceding text.

### Spatial Organization

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Field complex	Undetermined
• Domestic core	Undetermined
• Recreational area	N/A
• Former farmyard area	Poor
• Woodland	N/A

### Natural systems and features

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Tributaries to Pimmit Run	Fair
• Channelized field drainageways	Fair
• Springhouse spring	Undetermined
• Springs and seeps	Undetermined
• Wetlands	Undetermined

### Views and vistas

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Views of nearby development	N/A
• View into field complex from Buchanan Street and Dolley Madison Boulevard	N/A
• Views between house and former farmyard area	Poor
• View of main house on knoll from driveway	Poor

## Land Uses

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Residential	N/A

## Topography

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Road grade of Dolley Madison Boulevard	N/A
• Knoll	Undetermined
• Level lawn area	Undetermined

## Buildings and structures

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Main house	Good
• Outside kitchen/office	Good
• Smokehouse	Good
• Garage	Poor
• Privy/bathhouse	Poor
• Red frame outbuilding	Good
• Springhouse	Good
• Red hay barn	Good
• Corn crib	Poor
• Stone bank barn ruin	N/A
• Stone retaining wall	Good
• Swimming pool	N/A
• Flagstone patio	N/A
• Tennis court	N/A

## Circulation

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Dolley Madison Boulevard	N/A
• Buchanan Street	N/A
• Kurtz Road	N/A
• Wendy Lane	N/A
• Driveway	Good
• Circular drive	Good
• Crushed stone walks at main house	Good
• Brick walk to outside kitchen/office	Good
• Brick patio	Good
• Flagstone walk at bathhouse/privy	Fair
• Former driveway trace	Undetermined
• Trace farm road	Undetermined

## Vegetation

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Boxwood plantings	Good
• Planting beds	Good
• Cutting garden	Good
• Foundation plantings	Fair-Good
• Mature tree plantings	Fair
• Grove of white pines	Fair
• Remnant orchard	Fair-Poor
• Eastern red cedar rows	Good

- |                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| • Field complex vegetation | Good      |
| • Hedgerows                | Good-Fair |
| • Woodlands                | Fair      |

### Small-scale features

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Stone marker	Good
• Culvert beneath circular drive	Fair
• Culvert along driveway	Good
• Concrete piers (4)	Fair
• Low board fence	Good
• Remnant fencelines	Fair-Poor
• New fence	Good
• Furnishings	Undetermined

### Utilities

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Sanitary sewer line (underground)	N/A
• Utilities at northeast corner	N/A
• Swimming pool machinery	N/A
• Outdoor air-conditioning unit	N/A

## Archaeological Sites

<u>Feature name</u>	<u>Condition Assessment</u>
• Former driveway trace	N/A
• Farm road trace	N/A
• Bank barn ruin	N/A
• House yard	N/A
• Outbuilding site	N/A



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-1: Private recreational area east of house. Red barn is at left, main house in background on knoll above tennis courts.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-2: Successional woodland.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-3: South facade of main house.



Source: Richard Williams <<http://www.aiadc.com/pdf/winter05/farmhouse.pdf>>

Photo 3-4: Main house, central doorway and porch.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-5: Outside kitchen/office.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-6: Brick smokehouse.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-7: Garage, north of the house, along the circular driveway.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-8: Privy/bathhouse.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-9: Interior of privy/bathhouse.



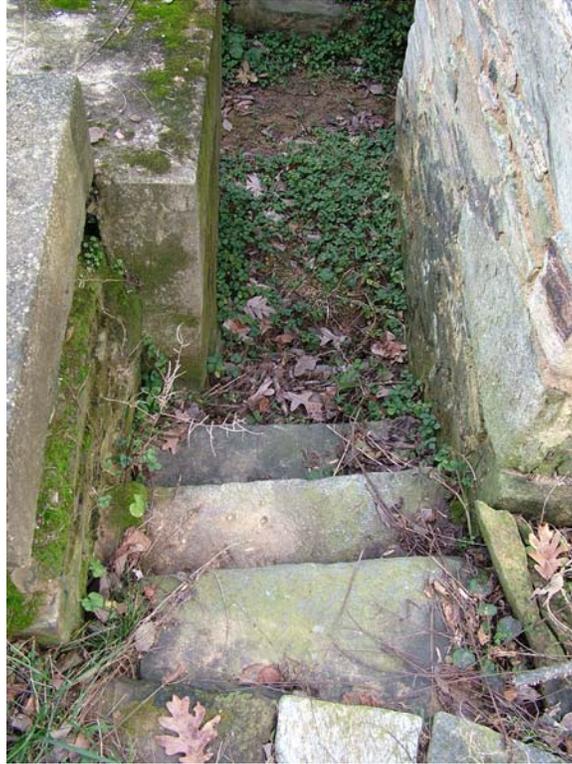
Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-10: Red frame outbuilding.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-11: Springhouse.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-12: Concrete wall and steps.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-13: Red hay barn.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-14: Corn crib.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-15: Stone bank barn ruin.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-16: Stone retaining wall and red frame outbuilding.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-17: Dolley Madison Boulevard.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-18. Buchanan Street and the eastern field at left.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-19. End of Wendy Lane.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-20: Salona driveway, looking east from house area.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-21: Crushed stone walk.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-22: Brick walk leading to outside kitchen/office.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-23. Former driveway trace.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-24. Former driveway trace, stone rubble road base material.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-25. Trace farm road, lined with Eastern red cedars.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-26. Trace farm road and new fencing, looking east toward bank barn ruin.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-27: Trace farm road at bank barn ruin.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-28: Contemporary planting beds surrounding the house.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-29: Perennial cutting garden.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-30: Grove of mature white pines.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-31: Remnant orchard near Kurtz Road.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-32: Eastern field - Dolley Madison Blvd. in background.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-33: Indian grass in field.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-34: Hedgerow at field edge; variety of grasses and forbs.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-35: Native meadow species in central field, looking south.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-36: Hedgerow.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-37: Inside the eastern hedgerow.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-38. Inside the western hedgerow.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-39: Stone marker.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-40: Red cedar growing over drain pipe at circular driveway.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-41: Low board fence along circular drive.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-42: Remnant fenceline.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-43: Remnant fenceline near stone barn ruin.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-44: Former farmyard area. Note new fencing; structures from left are red hay barn, springhouse, and (barely visible) corn crib.



Source: John Milner Associates, Inc.

Photo 3-45: Swimming pool equipment east of red hay barn.

Salona

Dolley Madison Boulevard  
McLean, Virginia

for the  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**JMA**  
John Milner Associates, Inc.

103 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia  
22902

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

johnmilnerassociates.com

FOR  
ANALYSIS  
ONLY  
NOT FOR  
CONSTRUCTION

project: SALONA  
drawn:  
checked:  
phase: existing conditions  
date: January 2008  
revised:



Dolley Madison Boulevard

Buchanan Street

Bamboo Invasive

Knoll

Field complex  
(see map 3-2)

Former farmyard  
(see map 3-3)

Former Pasture/  
Successional woodland

Domestic core  
(see map 3-3)

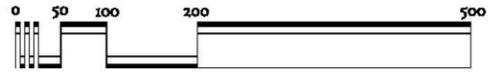
Wendy Lane

Knoll

Kurtz Road

**Legend**

- Property Line
- Sub-parcels
- 2' Topographic Contour
- Waterway
- Road
- Driveway
- Road Trace
- New Fence
- Historic Fence
- Building Structure
- Site
- Woodland
- Cedar row
- Tree
- Shrub
- Wetland



SCALE: 1" = 200'-0"



**Map 3-1**

Existing  
Conditions  
overall property





Salona

Dolley Madison Boulevard  
McLean, Virginia

for the  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**JMA**  
John Milner Associates, Inc.

103 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia  
22902

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

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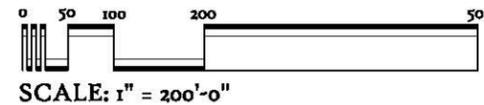
**Map 3-4**

Existing  
Conditions  
photographic station  
points  
Copyright 2008 John Milner Associates, Inc.



**Legend**

- Property Line
- Sub-parcels
- 2' Topographic Contour
- Waterway
- Road
- Driveway
- Road Trace
- New Fence
- Historic Fence
- Building Structure
- Site
- Woodland
- Cedar row
- Tree
- Shrub
- Wetland
- Photographic Station Point



# Chapter Four

## Landscape Analysis and Evaluation

### Introduction

This chapter is comprised of three sections:

- an evaluation of the significance of Salona in accordance with the guidance provided by the National Register of Historic Places
- a comparative analysis and inventory of historic and existing landscape conditions; and
- an integrity assessment

The significance evaluation identifies the important historical associations of the property, as well as its architectural, archaeological, and social value. The property's significance is also tied to a discrete period of time in which its important contributions were made and the historic contexts within which the activities that occurred on the property may be placed.

The JMA team prepared a comparative analysis of historic and existing conditions based upon the identification of the Salona's significance and its cultural context. The result of this analysis is a comparison of the property's characteristics between today and the period of significance. One of the byproducts of the comparative analysis is an inventory of contributing features that survive from the period of significance. Resources that originated after the period of significance are also inventoried and described as **non-contributing**. Features that were present on the site during the period of significance but are no longer extant are identified as **missing features**. Those for which no information was found are identified as resources **not yet determined**.

The final section of the chapter is comprised of an integrity assessment. This summarizes to what degree the property retains its ability to represent authentic conditions during the identified period of significance. This section supports treatment recommendations made in Chapter Five-Treatment Plan.

## Historical Significance of Salona

### National Register Significance

Salona was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and deemed significant at the state level for architecture for the year ca. 1812.<sup>1</sup> The nomination states that:

- Salona is a good example of the Federal-style farmhouses that were once scattered about the rural landscape of Fairfax County, that it retains its rural setting and several early outbuildings, and that it has an unusual floor plan with a large T-shaped hall dominating the first floor
- Salona was the agreed meeting place for President James Madison and his wife, Dolley Madison, in their flight from the British in 1814
- Salona served as the headquarters of General George McClellan, Commanding Officer of the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War, and was damaged during this occupation when troops removed its interior trim
- The Salona tract had been part of the Lee family holdings since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and that in 1812 Richard Bland Lee conveyed 42 acres of his farm, Langley, to Reverend William Maffitt, who at the same time purchased 466 acres from William Herbert, who had obtained the land from Richard Bland Lee in 1810. Maffitt was connected to the Lee family through his marriage to Richard Bland Lee's daughter Henriette Lee Turbeville. Maffitt built Salona around 1812.<sup>2</sup>

The 1973 nomination for Salona does not address in detail the contribution of outbuildings or other landscape features such as circulation and field patterns. Since that time, a fundamental shift has occurred from a building-oriented approach to property survey and evaluation to one which takes into consideration both buildings *and* their settings. In that light, this CLR augments the original National Register Nomination findings and synthesizes new and existing research, providing landscape information that adds to the significance of the property. A summary and evaluation of the findings is detailed below and is presented in a format that is compatible with today's more holistic guidelines. This information may prove useful for future modification of the National Register nomination and any further documentation and evaluation of the property by Fairfax County or other organizations.

### Significance Evaluation

Based on documentation connected with this report, Salona has been found to possess significance at the state level under *Criterion A, B, C, and D*. *Criterion A* is for resources associated with events significant in the nation's history; *Criterion B* is for properties considered significant for their association with important persons; *Criterion C* is for properties significant for their association with design; and *Criterion D* is for properties found to be significant for their potential to reveal further information through archeology.

---

<sup>1</sup> Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission (VHLC), "National Register Nomination for Salona, Fairfax County," Richmond, Virginia, 1973.

<sup>2</sup> (VHLC), "National Register Nomination for Salona, Fairfax County."

## Period of Significance

A property's *period of significance* is defined by the National Register as "the length of time when a property was associated with important events, activities, or persons, or attained the characteristics which qualify it for National Register listing."<sup>3</sup>

The proposed period of significance based on a synthesis of research to date, described in detail above, is ca. 1790-1952 in the areas of architecture, agriculture, and military history. The beginning date of 1790 is the earliest considered construction date of the house and conforms to the Early National Period in which Virginia saw a changing economy and society. Large plantations that once dominated the Virginia landscape of the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries gave way to more numerous smaller farms that were better equipped and boasted more substantial houses, replacing the one-or two-room structures of an earlier age. By then, farmers had become more knowledgeable about methods and equipment and developed beyond self-sufficiency to feed markets that were both local and farther afield, accessible through improved transportation and thriving commercial centers.

The end date of the proposed period of significance coincides with the date of acquisition of Salona by the DuVal family in 1952. A historic aerial photograph from 1937 depicts Salona and the surrounding area as rural and agricultural in nature, but an aerial photograph of the property from 1954 indicates newly developed subdivisions on the edges of what used to be fields, changing the historic setting of the site. Many of the agricultural buildings within Salona had disappeared. With the exception of the ruins of the bank barn, the only historic buildings remaining on the property were in the vicinity of the house. A new circular driveway had been constructed in front of the house, changing the entry sequence from an axial connection to the main highway to a more circuitous connection west of the house. Acreage to the east and west of the house that formerly supported orchards had lost many trees and pastureland was being re-colonized with secondary forest growth.

## Historic Contexts

The State of Virginia has developed historic contexts within which to understand and evaluate historic resources. The contexts found to be relevant to the significance of Salona are described by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources below:<sup>4</sup>

- *Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning Theme:*  
This theme explores the design values and practical arts of planning, designing, arranging, constructing, and developing buildings, structures, landscapes, towns, and cities for human use and enjoyment. Property types include impermanent structures, rural vernacular buildings and structures, urban vernacular buildings and structures, great architectural landmarks, buildings exemplary of national styles, parks, gardens, and

---

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior, *National Register Bulletin 16A* (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1991), 42.

<sup>4</sup> Virginia Department of Historic Resources, "Guidelines for Conducting Survey in Virginia," online at [http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/review/section\\_106.htm](http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/review/section_106.htm).

landscaped cemeteries, town and village plans, urban design and planned communities, and company towns.

- *Subsistence/Agriculture Theme:*

This theme most broadly seeks explanations of the different strategies that cultures develop to procure, process, and store food. Beyond the basic studies of site function based on the analysis of a site location, the tool types from the site, and the food remains recovered, this theme also explores the reconstruction of past habitats from the perspective of their potential for human exploitation, energy flow studies on the procurement and processing of food, and the evolution of particular subsistence strategies over time within and between neighboring regions. Agriculture specifically refers to the process and technology of cultivating soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and plants. Property types for the subsistence/agriculture theme include resources related to food production such as prehistoric villages, small family farmsteads, large plantations with representative or important collections of farm and outbuildings, and other agricultural complexes such as agri-businesses; sites or properties associated with processing such as a meat or fruit packing plant, cannery, smokehouse, brewery, winery, or food processing site; storage facilities such as a granary, silo, wine cellar, storage site, or tobacco warehouse; agricultural fields such as a pasture, vineyard, orchard, wheat field, complex of crop marks or stone alignments, terrace, or hedgerow; animal facilities such as a hunting and kill site, stockyard, barn, chicken coop, hunting corral, hunting run, or apiary; fishing facilities or sites such as a fish hatchery or fishing ground; horticultural facilities such as a greenhouse, plant observatory, or garden; agricultural outbuildings such as a barn, chicken house, corncrib, smokehouse, or tool shed; and irrigation facilities such as an irrigation system, canal, stone alignment, head gate, or check dam.

- *Military History Theme:*

This theme relates to the system of defending the territory and sovereignty of a people and encompasses all military activities, battles, strategic locations, and events important in military history. It includes property types related to arms production and storage such as a magazine, gun manufactory, or armory; fortifications such as a fortified military or naval post, palisaded village, fortified knoll or mountain top, battery, or bunker; military facilities such as a military post, supply depot, garrison fort, barrack, or military camp; battle sites such as a battlefield; coast guard facilities such as a lighthouse, coast guard station, pier, dock, or life-saving station; naval facilities such as a submarine, air craft carrier, battleship, or naval base; and air facilities such as an aircraft, air base, or missile launching site.

## Evaluation by National Register Criteria

### *Criterion A: Agriculture*

The documentary and physical record of Salona from 1812 to 1952 bears witness to its use as an agricultural complex. In 1805 William Maffitt was paying property tax in Fairfax County,<sup>5</sup> and was documented as farming Salona in 1812 when he was assessed for 18 horses and mules and 21 slaves. In 1814 he was assessed for 19 slaves, 12 horses and mules, and a 4-wheeled carriage. In 1828, the year of his death, Maffitt was assessed for 13 slaves and 3 horses; his estate inventory accounted for 116 head of livestock, including horses, oxen, sheep, hogs, and cattle. His farm at Salona produced turnips, corn, rye, oats, hay, and orchard grass, which is a type of short clumping grass grown in shady areas for pasture.<sup>6</sup> It is possible that Salona was farmed by a tenant during the period between 1803, when Maffitt and Harriotte Lee Turbeville were married and lived at Chantilly, and 1812 when Maffitt was assessed for produce and livestock at Salona. The Smoot family farmed Salona from 1853 to 1952, an operation that included husbandry of sheep, cattle, hogs, and chickens, and productive fields of wheat and corn. The Smoots also grew scuppernong grapes, plums, peaches, and apricots. Local gazetteers listed Jacob Smoot and William Smoot, his son, as principal farmers in the Langley area of Fairfax County for a period of more than 20 years.<sup>7</sup>

According to tax records from 1857, Jacob Smoot owned around 50 Aberdeen-Angus cattle.<sup>8</sup> The Aberdeen-Angus was a cross breed of cattle developed in northeastern Scotland in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. A black, hornless, and stocky animal, the breed became known for producing prime beef. Smoot's connections to Scotland suggest he may have known of the Aberdeen-Angus breed and imported it directly from Scotland as the breed was not common in the United States until the later 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>9</sup>

Some of the agricultural buildings that supported the Smoot's farming operations and are visible in photographs of 1890 and 1900 remain on the property today, including the stone foundation of a substantial bank barn, a stone springhouse, a brick smokehouse, and two wood-frame barns, one with a stone foundation (*see figure 2-12*). The layout of the three planted fields on the north end of the property, dating from before 1937, is also extant today, although not currently planted in grain crops (*see figures 2-13 and 2-15*). In sum, the Salona agricultural landscape survives today as one of very few such landscapes that remain relatively intact in Fairfax County.

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<sup>5</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 15.

<sup>6</sup> Mike Haddock, "Orchard Grass," 2002, online at <http://www.lib.ksu.edu/wildflower/orchardgrass.html>, accessed August 21, 2006; Anderson, *Salona*, 22.

<sup>7</sup> Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, *Fairfax County in Virginia: Selections from Some Rare Sources* (Fairfax, VA: Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1974), 126-127, in Anderson, *Salona*, 33.

<sup>8</sup> Fairfax County, Virginia, Personal Property Tax Book, 1860, in Library of Virginia.

<sup>9</sup> Oklahoma State University, Board of Regents, "Breeds of Livestock," online at <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/cattle/angus/> (accessed March 26, 2007).

### *Criterion A: Military History*

Salona may possess significance at the local level in the area of Military History under *Criterion A* for its association with a known Civil War-period military encampment in the area, perhaps Camp Griffin, and with the occupation of the house in March 1862 by Union Captain W. A. Hawley and Lt. Col. W. B. Hazmand of the 102<sup>nd</sup> New York Volunteer Battalion.<sup>10</sup> The 1973 National Register nomination cites McClellan as the General who occupied Salona; additional reference to General McClellan as spending the night at “Smoot’s place” is made in Evan Morrison Woodward’s *Our Campaign* and quoted in Ellen Anderson’s *Salona*, as well as Samuel Bates’ *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers* online.<sup>11</sup> Other reports suggest that McClellan was most likely stationed in Washington and sent orders for troop movement in the vicinity of Salona. Further research and archeological investigation could provide information regarding the extent of the encampment, use of the house as a headquarters, and Salona’s role within the broader context of the Civil War.

### *Criterion B: The Lee Family; James and Dolley Madison*

Salona possesses significance for its association with the Lee family, particularly Henrietta Lee, daughter of Richard Bland Lee of Chantilly. Members of the Lee family were instrumental in settling and developing the eastern area of Fairfax County and the land on which Salona was constructed, part of a much larger estate known as Langley, which was originally bequeathed by Philip Ludwell Lee to his daughter Matilda. The Langley tract was likely part of a Northern Neck grant to Thomas Lee (1690-1750) indicated as “2862 acres above the falls of the Patowmack River, two miles above the first or lower falls.”<sup>12</sup>

Salona also has significance for its association with James and Dolley Madison, who may have looked to Salona for refuge when the British burned Washington in 1814. Records differ, but it appears that Dolley Madison spent the night at Rokeby, the home of Matilda Lee Love, not far from Tenallytown and about ten miles outside Washington. James Madison apparently spent the night at Salona. In 1975 the United Daughters of 1812 placed a plaque at Salona commemorating President James Madison’s visit.

### *Criterion C: Architecture*

Salona was recognized as a Federal-style dwelling in the 1973 National Register nomination and continues to convey its significance for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for architecture. It conveys characteristics of the style in both form and details, as follows: it is rectangular in plan, two rooms deep with four rooms on the first floor, has a symmetrical façade with a highly emphasized portico, and has a heavy cornice with decorative moldings.

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<sup>10</sup> Reference is made in Ellen Anderson’s book *Salona* of a note in the possession of the current owners, Clive and Susan DuVal, written by Captain W.A. Hawley to compensate the Smoots after his occupation there in 1862.

<sup>11</sup> Samuel P. Bates, *History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865*, in Alice J. Gaye, “2<sup>nd</sup> Reserves/31<sup>st</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteers online at <http://www.pa-roots.com/~pacw/reserves/2ndres/2dresorg.html>; Evan Woodward Morrison, *Our Campaign* (Philadelphia, PA: J.E. Potter, 1866).

<sup>12</sup> Northern Neck Grant Book 5:240, quoted in Ellen Anderson, *Salona*, Fairfax County, Virginia (Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1979), 71.

Recent investigations including architectural studies prior to this CLR have provided more detailed evidence regarding the evolution of the house, determining that the wings were larger than the main house and that its construction was likely between 1790 and 1801.<sup>13</sup> Some features of the main house at Salona strongly resemble those of the Sully house, located in the vicinity of Dulles Airport and constructed on land owned by Henry Lee I. The Sully land was later bequeathed to Richard Bland Lee, father of Henrietta Lee Turbeville Maffitt and brother-in-law of Matilda Lee, who originally owned Langley. Historians have noted the similarity between the “Cross and Bible” doors at the north entrance of Salona with several of the doors at Sully.<sup>14</sup> In addition, some of the stone outbuildings at Salona resemble those at Sully. This may simply be due to the prevalence of stone in the area but may also be the work of the same builder. A comparison could also be made with other Lee properties, for example, Belmont, which was constructed between 1799 and 1802, and inherited by Ludwell Lee on his marriage to first cousin Flora Lee. The two sisters, Matilda Lee and Flora Lee, inherited land from their father, Philip Ludwell Lee, Matilda inheriting Langley and Flora likely inheriting what later became known as Belmont. Belmont resembles Salona in style and plan with a wide T-shaped hall, two rooms deep with wings added, and appears to have similar moldings.<sup>15</sup>

#### *Criterion D: Archeology*

To date no archeological investigations have been undertaken at the Salona property. Information has recently surfaced regarding a slave cemetery that may be located “about 220 feet south of the main house,” and where there are thought to be “at least 12 burials dating from ca. 1810 through 1856.”<sup>16</sup> This description in the Fairfax County Cemeteries archives online also reports that no headstones have been located. This area is currently heavily overgrown and was found to be inaccessible during fieldwork undertaken in 2006 for this CLR.

Records of the presence of slaves during the Maffitt and Smoot ownership of the property infer there would have also been dwellings for their occupation. Archeological investigation could reveal the location of the slave cemetery and slave dwellings, in addition to outbuildings appearing on the 1890 and 1900 photos but whose footprints have yet to be discovered. Archeological investigation also has the potential to reveal further information about the Civil War occupation of the property.

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<sup>13</sup> Ellen Anderson, *Salona* (Fairfax, VA: Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1979) 45-52.

<sup>14</sup> Anderson, *Salona*, 45.

<sup>15</sup> See description of Salona in (VHLC), “National Register Nomination for Salona, Fairfax County,” and of Belmont in NetArtifex llc., “Belmont Plantation, Ashburn, VA,” 1996 - 2005 online at <http://www.ashburnweb.com/history/belmont.htm> (accessed March 29, 2007).

<sup>16</sup> Fairfax County, “Slave Cemeteries of Fairfax County,” online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/vr/cem/slave.htm> (accessed March 26 2007).

## Comparative Analysis and Inventory

### *Introduction*

In order to better communicate the relationship between the existing Salona property and its character during the period of significance, this section compares historic with existing landscape conditions. It identifies the broad patterns and specific features in the landscape associated with the period of significance and assesses to what degree they survive today. The evolution of the Salona cultural landscape is illustrated in three diagrammatic maps—or period plans—that show historic landscape patterns in the Salona vicinity at the points in time for which relatively detailed information was available. For this information, the research team relied on two ground-view historic photographs from 1890 and 1900 that depict views of the Salona farm complex as seen from the south, as well as two aerial photographs of the property: one from 1937 and one from 1954 (*see figures 2-12, 2-14, and 2-15*). Features that can be identified from the 1890 and 1900 photographs are combined and shown as an overlay atop a GIS base from 2005, provided to JMA by Fairfax County for reference. Features from the 1937 and 1954 aerial photographs are also shown as overlays on the same base. While specific details of the appearance of Salona during the period of significance remain elusive, establishing these earlier snapshots of the landscape may provide important insight into its later development and appearance in 2006 (*see figures 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, and 4-4*).

The comparative analysis also indicates what is known about the dates of origin of all extant resources, and identifies known missing features. Lists of features contributing to the period of significance, as well as non-contributing, missing, and yet-to-be-determined features, follow this section. The three primary goals in preparing this comparative analysis are:

- First, to understand which features, if any, contribute to the period of significance
- Second, to establish the basis for an integrity evaluation that assesses the degree to which the extant landscape resembles the landscape during the period of significance
- Third, to provide an understanding of the similarities and differences between historic and existing conditions that will support treatment recommendations for the cultural landscape

The analysis is organized according to the landscape characteristics used in Chapter Three-Existing Conditions to present existing conditions documentation information, as follows:

- natural features and systems
- spatial organization
- views and vistas
- land uses
- topography
- circulation
- vegetation

- buildings and structures
- small-scale features

### *Natural Features and Systems*

Landforms, topography, and natural resources that were present within the region during the early historic period of the site were influential in the development of roads, farming practices, and the siting of homesteads and farm complexes. Many of these are still apparent in the landscape today, although 20<sup>th</sup> century residential subdivisions, modern road construction, and commercial, institutional, and industrial concentrations have obscured the visibility of some of these features.

As mentioned in Chapter Two-Site History, the property now known as Salona was part of Thomas Lee's original grant of 1719. In 1853, Jacob G. Smoot purchased 208 acres of the tract known as Langley; it remained in his family until 1952 (*see figure 2-2*). The 208-acre tract was bounded on its north side by the portion of Chain Bridge Road that is now called Dolley Madison Boulevard. Leading to the west from the Potomac River, Chain Bridge Road followed a ridge that divided the watersheds of Turkey Run and Dead Run to the north from that of Pimmit Run to the south. These 208 acres fell from this ridge south almost to the banks of Pimmit Run itself.

The site today retains this natural and gradual fall from north to south; within its boundaries appear finer topographic features shaped by the activities of water on its erodible soils. In 1811, a newspaper article describing the sale of what is thought to have eventually become the Salona tract describes it as having “a spring of fine water that has never been known to fail in the driest season, near the house – [with] a good proportion of it in wood and a good meadow [to] be made at a little expense.”<sup>17</sup> Today, a historic stone spring house still exists on the property and the spring spouting from within feeds a tributary that has, over time, cut a swale through the site, extending south past the property line to Pimmit Run. No date has been ascribed to this structure, but it is possible that it shelters the spring mentioned in 1811. Another tributary feeds into the drainage run of the spring, cutting a shallow swale, and may be fed by another spring on the property. The main house at Salona was constructed on a high point created by these activities of water, with a commanding view across the landscape.

In addition to the advantage of its location for views across the countryside, the main house was constructed on the most stable soils on the site, the Glenelg series, which usually occurs on hilltops and side slopes.<sup>18</sup> The smokehouse, wooden barn, bank barn, and most of the other farm structures were also built on Glenelg soils. Exceptions include the springhouse and the frame farm buildings in its immediate vicinity—all constructed on the poorly-drained Meadowville soils that surround the spring area—and the small outbuilding located along the drainage ditch north of the house that was built on Glenville soil, another less-stable series.

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<sup>17</sup> *Alexandria Gazette*, Nov. 18, 1811.

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/soil\\_d.htm#55](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/soil_d.htm#55).

With the exception of two smaller areas of Glenelg soils, the three agricultural fields to the north of the house are composed primarily of Glenville soils with one smaller patch of Worsham series. These are all known for their poor drainage and their unsuitability for building. Their suitability for agriculture is not known, but they may be more fertile than other parts of the site because they were regularly plowed for raising row crops. The southern end of the Salona site is primarily composed of Manor and Glenelg series soils, which, although more suitable for structures, may not be as easy to plow due to shallow bedrock. This could possibly explain why that area was used primarily for pasture.

The character of tree cover in the Salona vicinity prior to the Civil War is not known, but earlier in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when settlement in the area was sparse, Eastern deciduous hardwood forests typical of the Coastal Plain physiographic province likely dominated the area. On the other hand, Native Americans in the area were known to practice limited cultivation; prior to European settlement they may have manipulated woodland cover through burning to enhance hunting practices and establish views for protection against attack.

Beginning in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, European settlers began to move into the area and continued to clear the land for agriculture. Farms and plantations in Fairfax County from the 18<sup>th</sup> century are described in sales advertisements as having positive attributes such as vast plantings of grains, kitchen gardens, and orchards. Such records also refer to the proximity of local sawmills, indicating that prior to the Civil War there was widespread harvesting and removal of timber in the area as increasing amounts of land were placed under cultivation. Wood was also typically harvested as a cash crop, for fuel, and as a construction material during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Civil War maps support the understanding that the landscape around Salona by this time was composed primarily of open agricultural fields and pasture with very little woodland remaining (*see figures 2-7 and 2-8*).

This was the character of Salona until sometime after 1954. As seen in historic aerial photographs and ground view images of the farmstead in 1890 and 1900, much of this area remained open fields and pastures with fences and hedgerows along their borders until well past the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (*see figures 2-12, 2-14, and 2-15*). Today, successional woodlands, modern meadow plantings, and ornamental yard plantings have replaced the once open, agricultural nature of the site.

### *Spatial Organization*

Suburbanization has profoundly changed the character of the McLean area surrounding Salona since the period of significance and has altered the spatial relationship of the Salona property to the surrounding landscape. An 1862 military map illustrates a landscape characterized as a loose patchwork of woodlots and open pastures and farm fields, crossed by a few main roads, with houses widely scattered (*see figures 2-7 and 2-8*).

The area retained this open, rural character up into the mid-1950s. The 1937 aerial photograph of the property depicts one small housing subdivision southwest of Salona, but the surrounding properties remained open fields and pasture. The other aerial, taken in 1954, shows two

additional large-lot subdivisions and three new roads southwest of Salona. It also shows newly-constructed Buchanan Street to the northeast of Salona and its associated cul-de-sacs, Gilliams Road and Sothoron Road. After 1954, lots fronting on these streets were developed as housing, further encroaching on the open spatial character of the site. By 2002, when the last aerial photograph of the property was taken, additional lots had been sold and developed for houses on the northwestern, southwestern, and southern edges of Salona (*see figure 2-14*).

Despite these developments, the larger-scale internal organization of the site has changed little since 1937. The 1937 aerial depicts a landscape generally organized into three parts: the northern section, composed of three long fields, divided and edged by fences and hedgerows; the mid-section, made up of a loose arrangement of domestic structures; and the southern section, once open pasture and now dominated by the secondary growth.

On the other hand, the smaller-scale spatial organization of the primary clusters of domestic and agricultural buildings at Salona has changed due removal of some of the buildings that appear in the 1890 and 1900 photos and in the 1937 and 1954 aerials. The main brick house remains in place today, as it was in 1890, as does the original brick smokehouse, kitchen, spring house, hay barn, and dairy barn. It is not known when the privy/washhouse was constructed, but what appears to be a path to that building is visible in the 1937 aerial, so it may be contemporary with the other brick outbuildings. A picket fence that encloses the house yard to the west can be seen in the 1900 photo and in both the 1890 and 1900 photos; a post-and-rail fence extends along the farm lane, enclosing the house yard to the south, reaching as far as the dairy building. Neither of these fences exists today.

The large cluster of agricultural buildings and associated fencing depicted in historic photographs is no longer entirely extant. At least seven agricultural buildings appear in the 1890 photograph to the southeast of the still-extant dairy building. They include a barn, a stable, a small frame building topped with an air vent, two raised-frame barns, and a large bank barn with a lean-to addition. In the distance, the silhouette of what appears to be a small farmhouse is visible. While the springhouse is hidden from view by larger buildings in the 1890 photo, it has been documented as existing at least by the time of its HABS documentation in 1958. In addition, the 1900 photo shows a building not evident in any other historic photos—its appearance suggests that it may have been a temporary agricultural building.

Both the 1890 and 1900 photos depict a snake rail fence that appears to enclose the work yard associated with the cluster of farm buildings. The photos indicate that the farm lane was flanked on both sides by a post-and-rail fence that extended from the west as far as the dairy barn on the house side and as far as the first barn on the farm side. None of this fencing exists today. However, remnants of a barbed wire fence on the site today may mark the location of farmyard fencing from the historic period.

The springhouse and one of the smaller barns remain standing in good condition. What remains of the bank barn's stone foundation exists in its original location, but evidence of the exact locations of the other buildings has not been discovered. In their place, the work yards and pasture that once surrounded them have grown up with secondary-growth trees and brush,

creating a heavy enclosure along the east and south edges of what had once been an open landscape.

### *Land Use*

Agricultural land use, predominant in Fairfax County prior to World War II, has been replaced since then by residential and commercial uses. Records indicate that during both the Lee and Smoot family ownership, the Salona property was probably kept largely in cultivation and pasture. The 1890 and 1900 photos show a complex of agricultural structures for housing animals, dairy and other farming equipment, and animal food. The complex still appears—albeit in a gradually-eroding form—in the 1937 and 1954 aerials. As a working residential farm supporting generations of the Lee and Smoot families, Salona also provided homes for the owners, farm managers, tenants, laborers, and enslaved workers.

By 1948, Jacob Smoot's original 208 acres had been divided among family members and was gradually sold off for commercial, religious, and residential uses. The central 7.8 acres of Salona, protected by the conservation easement, and an additional 3 acres at the southeast corner, will be retained by the current owners for residential use. Ten of the remaining 41.6 acres are planned for active recreational use by the Park Authority and 31 acres for natural and cultural preservation and passive recreation.

### *Topography*

The main house at Salona was constructed on a high knoll that at one time afforded an extensive prospect of the property (*see figure 2-12*). This placement of a house on a hill is typical of houses in the region from the mid 18<sup>th</sup> through the late 19<sup>th</sup> centuries when wealthy landowners used the topography to create a hierarchical domain, with the main house on the high point overlooking the property, generally visible from great distances. While there is no historic topographic information available for comparison, the 1890 and 1900 photos show the dominant location of the house.

It is not known how much the topography of Salona has changed over time, but it appears to have been modified only slightly to control drainage in the agricultural fields, to construct the driveway to Buchanan Street after 1954, and to construct the tennis courts and swimming pool in the recent past. It appears that the fields were once drained by a single canal, but that another was cut prior to 1934, its water directed to a canal along the south end of the fields, which then connected to another drainageway and to a creek on the east edge of the site.

### *Circulation*

Several alignments of highways in the larger landscape surrounding Salona remain from 1850, when Smoot purchased his original 208 acres from the Lee family, including the Georgetown Turnpike and Chain Bridge Road, which turned south from the Turnpike and defined the

property's northern edge (*see figure 2-2*). Today, this stretch of Chain Bridge Road has been renamed Dolley Madison Boulevard in honor of her passage through the area in 1814. The character of this road has probably been greatly altered since the historic period to accommodate automobile traffic, including paving, regrading, widening, and the addition of traffic lights and signage.

A map drawn in 1947 showing the division of the Smoot farm and, based on a description of Smoot's plat as part of Lee's original 1719 grant, suggests that Chain Bridge Road, which led from the "Chain Bridge" crossing the Potomac, westward to Lewinsville, was one of the original roads through this area (*see figure 2-2*). While not specifically named, this road also appears in this configuration in General McDowell's military defense survey from 1862, in which Smoot's property is specifically identified (*see figure 2-7*). This same road is again depicted in General McDonald's 1862 map, but this time identified as the "Lewinsville Road" (*see figure 2-8*). Smoot's property is also noted specifically on this map.

A 1915 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) soils map of the area shows a number of unnamed routes extending from the Georgetown-Leesburg Road (Georgetown Pike), including Chain Bridge Road (Dolley Madison Boulevard) and, extending southward from it, the driveway leading into the Salona property (*see figure 2-13*). This driveway also appears on both McDonald's and McDowell's 1862 maps as the north end of a road that leads from Chain Bridge Road, through the Smoot property, down to and over Pimmit Run, and southward to Kerby Road. It appears that this was once the most direct route to the south and may have allowed Smoot more convenient access to resources in that direction.

By 1915 it appears that this road reached only as far as Pimmit Run, serving more as a farm lane connecting to Chain Bridge Road rather than a through-road (*see figure 2-13*). This is confirmed in the 1937 aerial, which depicts a road trace leading from the farm buildings to the south, but suggests only intermittent use (*see figure 2-14*). By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the southern extension of the farm road had disappeared entirely, as shown in the 1954 aerial (*see figure 2-15*).

Traces of this north-to-south farm lane still remain on the Salona property today. Field surveys of the existing tree line dividing the two larger fields north of the house have revealed what appear to be sunken wheel traces and parallel lines of red cedars and other trees, suggesting either purposeful plantings or parallel fencerows lining the lane (*see figures 3-23 and 3-24*). It is also supposed that a small bridge crossed the drainageway that separates the fields from the house landscape, although no physical evidence of such a crossing has been found in the field. It is clear, however, that shortly after the DuVals purchased the land, the entrance drive to the property was purposefully moved to its current location, possibly in response to regrading of Dolley Madison Boulevard in that area (*see figure 2-15*). The construction of Buchanan Street in 1954 may have also presented an easy solution and a lowering of costs in maintaining the long entrance road. Today, the roadbed of Dolley Madison Boulevard is at least eight feet higher than the northern end of the original Salona road trace.

McDonald's 1862 map also indicates a second farm lane within Salona, oriented perpendicular to the north-to-south farm lane. This lane is also evident in the two ground-view photographs of the

property from 1890 and 1900, which show a roadway through the farmstead lined on both sides by a post-and-rail fence. In addition, the 1915 soils map indicates a road leading to the east from the main farm lane. Examination of the 1937 aerial suggests that a road crossed the farmstead from east to west, possibly providing a shortcut through adjacent properties in either direction. Traces of this farm lane remain on the property today, suggested by alignments of red cedars and a slightly sunken linear pathway (*see figures 3-25, 3-26, and 3-27*). Faint vehicular tracks are also evident in the 1937 aerial, appearing to lead to various work areas within the farm.

There is little information about the evolution of pedestrian circulation at Salona. It is possible that during the period of significance much of it was informal, following farm lanes and grass paths. A Smoot family photograph from the late 1800s<sup>19</sup> depicts what appears to be a herringbone patterned brick walkway extending from the front door and the 1914 *Washington Star* article describes “a gravel path...[leading] straight to the front porch, before which are large boxwood trees.”<sup>20</sup> In the 1937 aerial, however, this area is in shadow, so it is not known exactly where the gravel path was located and there is no evidence of it or the brick path in the landscape today.

A photograph from 1975 also shows a brick walkway extending from the kitchen towards the house,<sup>21</sup> which is still existing today (*see figure 3-22*). In addition, a crushed stone path leads from the house towards the tennis courts, terminating in a bluestone step at the edge of the house terrace.

### *Vegetation*

No records have been found describing the character of vegetation on the Salona property prior to the Civil War. However, when interviewed in the early 1970s, Smoot family members reported that when the family returned to the property after the war, their garden and “many fine trees” had been destroyed while they were gone.<sup>22</sup> Given what is known about the devastation of the Fairfax County landscape during the War, it is likely that the trees that exist on the property today post-date the conflict.

Upon their return, the Smoots set about restoring their farm. Family members recollect wheat and corn crops, scuppernong grapes, plums, apricots, and peaches.<sup>23</sup> An article in the *Washington Star* in 1914 also reported “old red cedars,” roses, jonquils, boxwoods, apples, grape vines trained on an arbor, and flowers in bark-bound boxes.<sup>24</sup> Shrubs and trees depicted in an accompanying photograph have not been identified, but appear to be in decline or overgrown with invasive vines and weeds.<sup>25</sup> No other photographs of the landscape of Salona from the

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<sup>19</sup> Anderson, p. 34.

<sup>20</sup> “The Rambler,” the *Sunday Star*, August 2, 1914. Quoted in Anderson, p. 67.

<sup>21</sup> Anderson, p. 52.

<sup>22</sup> Anderson, p. 33.

<sup>23</sup> Anderson, p. 33.

<sup>24</sup> Anderson, p. 38-39, from “The Rambler,” *The Sunday Star*, August 2, 1914.

<sup>25</sup> Anderson, p. 38.

period of significance are available to suggest further details of plantings, either ornamental or agricultural. Field investigations did not locate any of these plants in the landscape today, with the exception of a small number of fruit trees, which may be remnants of the orchards from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Several large Eastern red cedars at Salona may either date to the period of significance or may be descendants of cedars from that time. Comparison of the 1954 and 2002 aerials suggest that plantings along some fencerows present in 1954 may be the same existing today. Eastern red cedars typically sprout up along fence lines because those edges are rarely mowed. The lines of cedars present on the site close to the house may follow a fence row that once enclosed the orchard (*see figure 2-14*).

Other plants existing today are clearly not of the period of significance, such as the grove of white pine that shades the northwest arc of the driveway and the fenced cutting garden adjacent to the entrance drive. The large boxwoods that now flank the front and back doors of the main house do not appear in the 1914 photograph but are evident in images from 1975, already fairly mature in size. This suggests that they may have been planted by the DuVals in the 1950s. The boxwoods outside the kitchen/office also appear in 1975 images.<sup>26</sup>

It is not known when the meadow grasses and forbs now flourishing in the north fields were planted, but it thought that they may have been seeded as part of a fairly recent state or federally-subsidized agricultural cost-share program. This meadow, part of which is a designated wetland, and the hedgerows that enclose it have become important wildlife habitat and should be protected as an environmental resource for Fairfax County.

### *Buildings and Structures*

Many of the domestic buildings dating to as early as ca.1790-1812 are still existing at Salona while most of the agricultural buildings depicted in the photographs from 1890 and 1900 and in the aerials from 1937 and 1954 have collapsed or been removed. The main brick house (ca. 1790-1812) remains in its historical location, as does the brick smokehouse, kitchen, springhouse, hay barn, and dairy barn (construction dates unknown). It is not known when the privy/wash house was constructed, but it appears to be contemporary with the other original brick outbuildings. A stone house documented by HABS/HAER in 1958, possibly the dwelling referred to as the “old house” by the Smoot family, is no longer extant.<sup>27</sup>

According to the 1890 photograph, there were at least seven agricultural buildings existing on the site then, including a barn, a stable, a small wood frame building topped with an air vent, two raised wood frame barns, and a large bank barn with a lean-to addition. In the distance can be seen what appears to be a small farm house. The spring house is hidden from view by larger buildings. The 1900 photo shows a building not evident in any other historic photos—its appearance suggests that it may have been a temporary shelter, perhaps for the hay crop.

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<sup>26</sup> Anderson, p. 51-52.

<sup>27</sup> Anderson, p. 50.

Construction dates for the agricultural buildings are not known. Of these buildings, the only ones still extant are the barn and the dairy; the stone remains of the bank barn. Evidence of the locations of the other agricultural buildings has not been discovered.

A wood frame barn in poor condition still stands to the northwest of the house. Its location suggests that it was built prior to the closing of the original axial entrance drive from what is now Dolley Madison Boulevard. It is now used to store mowing equipment.

A stone retaining wall appears to support the slight rise in topography on which the small frame barn with a stone foundation rests at the rear of the house.

### *Small-Scale Features*

With the exception of fencing and three Victorian flower pots, little is known about the character of small-scale features that may have been on the Salona property during the period of significance, and investigators found no historic small-scale features surviving today. Photographs from 1890 and 1900 depict a white picket fence that defined the eastern edge of the house yard and a double post-and-rail fence that flanked the edges of the east-to-west farm lane at the center of the property. The same photos also show the snake rail fence that enclosed the farm yard. Fencing was likely used in association with the house precinct to protect orchards, kitchen gardens, and crops from livestock and other wandering animals. During the period of significance, fencing may have also defined property boundaries along fields and road corridors, as was common in the region. The *Star* article also mentions a “white-washed fence four boards high,” that surrounded the Salona garden.<sup>28</sup>

The only other small-scale landscape features known from the period of significance are the flower containers depicted in the photograph illustrating the *Star* article. One, either a “bark-bound” pot or possibly half of a wooden barrel, sits atop a tree stump and is planted with what may have been annual flowers. Another pot stands—apparently empty—to the right of the entrance walk. A third is suspended from a metal tripod and contains what appear to be geraniums.

Small-scale features found at Salona that are considered non-contributing include the chain-link fence surrounding the cutting garden adjacent to the entry drive, the wooden fencing and gate between the house and the swimming pool area, a low board fence edging the circular drive, security lighting, pool deck furnishings, and the Daughters of 1812 historical marker mounted on a large piece of granite.

Features which remain undetermined at this time include the remnants of wood post and woven-wire fencing on the site, which may have replaced earlier stone walls.

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<sup>28</sup> Anderson, p. 39.

### *Views*

At the time of its construction, Salona's main house would have been prominently visible in the larger landscape and, located on a high knoll, would have afforded a commanding view of the surrounding area. During the Smoot family tenure, the upper windows on the south side of the Salona main house might have presented a panoramic view of the farmscape below and adjacent farm properties. Such a view was considered a major asset to a home site at the time, as evidenced by advertisements for the sale of similar estates in the area. For example, Oakley, located within Fairfax County, was touted in an 1838 *Alexandria Gazetteer* advertisement as sited "on an eminence; commanding a view of the whole farm." Likewise, an 1813 *Alexandria Herald* advertisement for Rose Hill noted that "its very remarkable healthfulness and beauty, and a fine distant prospect of Potomac river, charm all who reside at it."

This view appears to have survived well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but present-day vegetation and suburban development surrounding the Salona property have since obscured these views.

### *Utilities*

Features related to utility systems on the site include utility poles and overhead wires, an electrical transformer at the intersection of Buchanan Street and Dolley Madison Boulevard, underground sewer lines located within the north fields, storm drain pipes leading from under Dolley Madison and under the entrance drive, and equipment related to the swimming pool and hot tub. Further investigation may reveal the locations of other underground utilities, such as water and gas lines.

### *Inventory*

The following section includes an inventory and short assessment of landscape features based on their potential association with the Salona property during the period of significance. All inventoried resources are listed within one of the primary categories shown below: Contributing, Non-Contributing, Missing, and resources Not Yet Determined. The condition of each feature has been assessed using the categories described in the National Park Service's *Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide*: Good, Fair, Poor, and Unknown. The definitions of these categories are as follows:

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

Unknown: Not enough information is available to make an evaluation.

For this report, “n/a” will be used when condition is not determined because the feature is either large-scale and naturally-occurring, a land use, or an archaeological site.

## Inventory of Resources and Condition Assessment

<u>Feature Type / Feature</u>	<u>Level of Contribution</u>	<u>Condition Rating</u>
<i>Natural Systems and Features</i>		
Springs and seeps	Contributing	n/a
Soils	Contributing	n/a
Tree cover	Contributing	n/a
House knoll	Contributing	n/a
<i>Spatial Organization</i>		
Cluster of domestic buildings and structures	Contributing	good
Cluster of agricultural building and structures	Contributing	poor
Larger plantation complex, including agricultural fields and pastures	Missing	unknown
<i>Land Use</i>		
Residential	Contributing	n/a
Agricultural	Missing	n/a
<i>Topographic Modifications</i>		
Drainage ditches	Contributing	unknown
<i>Circulation</i>		
Axial entrance drive	Contributing	poor
East-to-west farm lane	Contributing	poor
Circular drive	Contributing	good
Buchanan Street	Non-contributing	good
Pathways/patio at main house	Not yet determined	unknown
<i>Vegetation</i>		
Eastern red cedar marking house fence line	Contributing	unknown
White pines along driveway	Non-contributing	unknown
Successional woodland	Non-contributing	unknown
Boxwood	Not yet determined	unknown
Orchard remnant	Not yet determined	unknown
Grapes on arbor	Missing	unknown
Grain crops	Missing	unknown
Jonquils	Missing	unknown
Meadow grasses and forms	Not yet determined	unknown
<i>Buildings and Structures</i>		
Main house	Contributing	good
Privy/bath house	Contributing	fair

Kitchen/office	Contributing	good
Spring house	Contributing	good
Dairy	Not yet determined	reconstructed?
Hay barn	Contributing	good
Temporary farm structure	Missing	n/a
Corn crib	Not yet determined	poor
Bank barn	Contributing	n/a
Stone retaining wall	Not yet determined	unknown
Swimming pool and deck	Non-contributing	unknown
Tennis courts	Non-contributing	unknown
Garden arbor	Missing	n/a
Small farm house	Missing	n/a
Barns, sheds, and stables	Missing	n/a
<i>Small-scale Features</i>		
Commemorative marker	Non-contributing	good
Virginia Historical Marker	Non-contributing	good
Chain-link fencing	Non-contributing	good
Security lighting	Non-contributing	good
Retaining wall and drainage at Dolley Madison	Non-contributing	unknown
Mailbox	Non-contributing	unknown
Fire hydrant	Non-contributing	unknown
Picket fence	Missing	n/a
Post-and-rail fence	Missing	n/a
Snake rail fence	Missing	n/a
<i>Views</i>		
Views over farmstead from house	Missing	n/a
<i>Utilities</i>		
Storm drain	Non-contributing	unknown
Electrical transformer	Non-contributing	unknown
Power lines and poles	Non-contributing	unknown
Hot tub and swimming pool equipment	Non-contributing	unknown
<i>Archaeological</i>		
Possible slave cemetery	Not yet determined	unknown

## Summary of the Historical Integrity of the Property

For a property to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places it must meet at least one of the criteria for significance discussed earlier in this chapter; in addition, it must retain historic integrity of those features necessary to convey its significance. Integrity is defined in *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* as “authenticity of a property’s historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property’s historic or prehistoric period.”<sup>29</sup> There are seven aspects of integrity a property may possess: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship,

<sup>29</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (Washington, D.C. 1997), 4.

feeling, and association. In order to retain integrity the property must meet as many of these aspects as possible.

### **Overview of Property Integrity**

Based on the comparative analysis and evaluation of the historic resources that comprise Salona, this CLR has determined that the property possesses various degrees of integrity for the following aspects:

**Location** refers to “the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.” The construction of the Salona house in this location between 1790 and 1812 and possible subsequent expansion of the farm complex by the Smoot family between 1853 and 1952 was deliberate, based upon the specific characteristics of the place. Located on a promontory overlooking the surrounding countryside, the house was placed on the more stable soils on the property. The farm was supported by agricultural crops on the deeper, more fertile soils and by pasturing livestock in the areas of shallow bedrock. Salona was not too distant from small market towns such as Lewinsville and Langley and located historically along Chain Bridge Road, now known as Dolley Madison Boulevard.

The main house at Salona, most of its domestic outbuildings, and some of its farm buildings are known to have existed from ca.1890 and its agricultural fields likely remain in the same location. Salona thus possesses a high degree of integrity of location for the period of significance during which the house was construction, as well as the period related to its use as an agricultural complex.

**Design** refers to “the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.” The main house retains much of its integrity although its form has been altered somewhat by the loss of one wing. The domestic core, consisting of the main house, the kitchen, the smokehouse and a small frame and stone barn on the edge of the slope, which was possibly a dairy, and the privy or wash house, all continue to convey the original design.

Although some historic buildings are missing, the overall composition of the agricultural complex at Salona also appears to retain much of its integrity for the period of significance. Two ground-view photographs from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as well as later aerial photographs, suggest that the physical layout of the property—based on the qualities of soils on the site—with agricultural fields to the north, the domestic complex in the mid-section, and pasture to the south was retained for the last 100 years or so.

Successional vegetative growth of trees, invasive shrubs, and vines on former pasture have changed the spatial qualities of the site in its southern half. Integrity of the site has also been diminished somewhat due to the removal of several of the farm buildings and fencing from the turn of the century. Circulation patterns that are part of the designed landscape and date to as early as 1862 are also no longer extant, in particular the axial driveway that led directly to the house until the 1950s, and its extension, which led through the property to the south. These routes remain as intermittent traces. This is also true of the farm lane that crossed the property

from east to west, which at one time provided access to the agricultural complex from the main road in McLean.

**Setting** is “the physical environment of a historic property.” Much of the land surrounding Salona was part of the original Thomas Lee land grant, retained by various members of the Lee family until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century when it was gradually divided and sold off as suburban development encroached on agricultural lands. When the main house at Salona was built, the surrounding area was agricultural in nature with much of the land still owned by the Lee family or their in-laws and more distant relatives. Today, however, Salona’s once-rural setting has disappeared as former farmland has been developed for residential and commercial use. As a result, none of the historic views into and out of the property are available today due to a combination of this encroachment and hedgerows that screen views to adjacent tracts. Today, while the tract that the Smoot family acquired in the 19<sup>th</sup> century can still be traced along subdivision lines, the erosion of its by housing development is evident, thus diminishing the integrity of the setting of Salona.

**Materials** are “the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.” Salona possesses a high degree of integrity of materials comprising the historic buildings from the periods of significance. The red brick from which the core of domestic buildings was constructed is thought to be contemporary with the initial construction date of the house and, with the exception of the privy, which was hidden by vegetation, all of these buildings appear in a photograph dated ca. 1890. The stone spring house is thought to be contemporary with these buildings or perhaps even of an earlier vintage.

**Workmanship** refers to “the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period of history or prehistory.” Salona also retains a high degree of integrity in the workmanship used to build these brick and stone structures. The architectural details on the main house are likely the work of a master craftsman, knowledgeable in new methods of design and construction that depict a new level of sophistication in the years between the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Bricks were likely made from local materials by skilled slaves who were often imported from elsewhere for the job; stone may have been quarried nearby, although a quarry has not been identified for this CLR.

**Feeling** refers to “a property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.” Salona possesses a moderate degree of integrity of feeling due to the continued existence of a large number of built and landscape features from the period of significance. Nevertheless, certain changes made to the property since 1954, in particular, circulation patterns, surrounding development, and several recently added features detract from the integrity of feeling. The axial character of the main entrance drive leading directly to the house from Chain Bridge Road was lost when a circular loop drive leading to Buchanan Street to the west was installed and the axial drive abandoned. In addition, the loss of the farm lane leading to the south and the lane crossing the site from east to west impact the integrity. Finally, the recent additions of tennis courts, a swimming pool, and hot tub to the west of the house and adjacent to the historic hay barn have a further detrimental impact to the integrity on the historic feeling of the place.

**Association** refers to “the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.” A historic narrative that involves Salona in the British occupation of Washington, to the visit of President James and Dolley Madison in 1814, and through the occupation by Union forces during the Civil War, provides strong associations of the property with events that are important in our nation’s history. Therefore, Salona has a high degree of integrity for historic association.

### **Threats to Integrity**

Threats to the integrity of a historic property generally include natural forces, neglect, and human intervention. Currently, natural forces pose a limited threat to Salona. Potential natural threats include the instability of the locally prevalent Meadowville soils on which the springhouse rests and which have a tendency towards slippage, invasion of the property by exotic and invasive vegetation that is difficult and expensive to control and eradicate, and the potential for trees to fall on and damage historic structures and for their root systems to damage building foundations.

Potential threats posed by human intervention include degradation of cultural features, such as road traces or archaeological sites by landscape maintenance and management practices, vandalism, neglect, and property development that inadvertently destroys historic resources. Invasive and destructive investigative techniques could pose a threat to the property's resources.

The integrity of the designed landscape would potentially be threatened by the construction and installation of inappropriate structures, property elements, circulation, or vegetation. Inappropriate use of the property's resources, including active recreation in historically or naturally sensitive areas of the site, and unmonitored public access to sensitive resources also pose a threat to the landscape’s integrity through soil and slope erosion, damage to and loss of vegetation, and physical damage to constructed features. Development of incompatible uses on adjacent properties also poses a threat to the integrity of the property's land use history and viewsheds.

### **Conclusion**

Salona has been found to exhibit the level of integrity necessary to be considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Loss of integrity including disappearance of historic outbuildings, agricultural fields and field patterns, vegetation, and circulation features, and the encroachment of development has not adversely affected the property to the extent that it cannot express its historic character. Future protection and sensitive maintenance of the property is crucial to preserving the integrity of this significant and rare historic landscape.

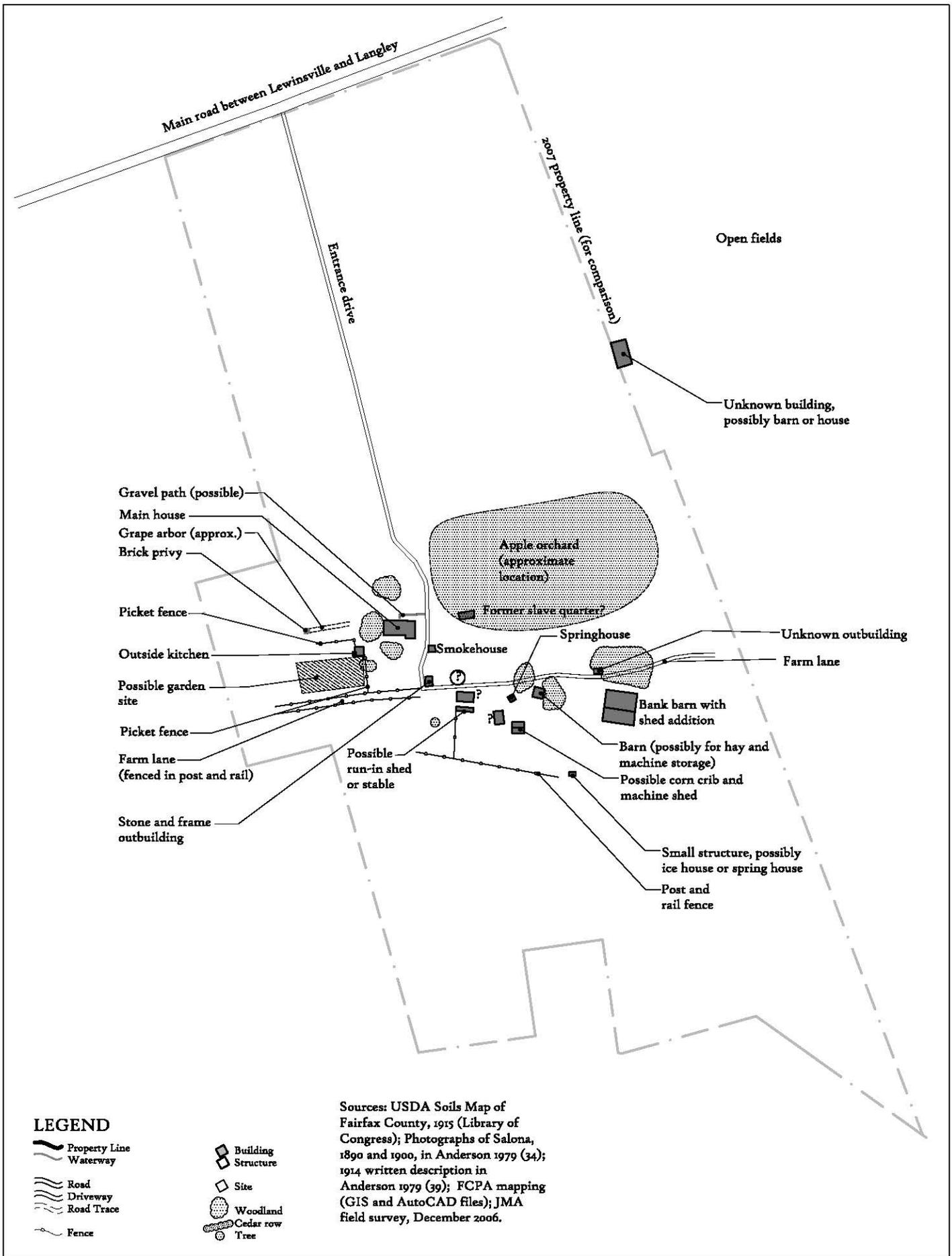


Figure 4-1. Period Plan Salona ca. 1900

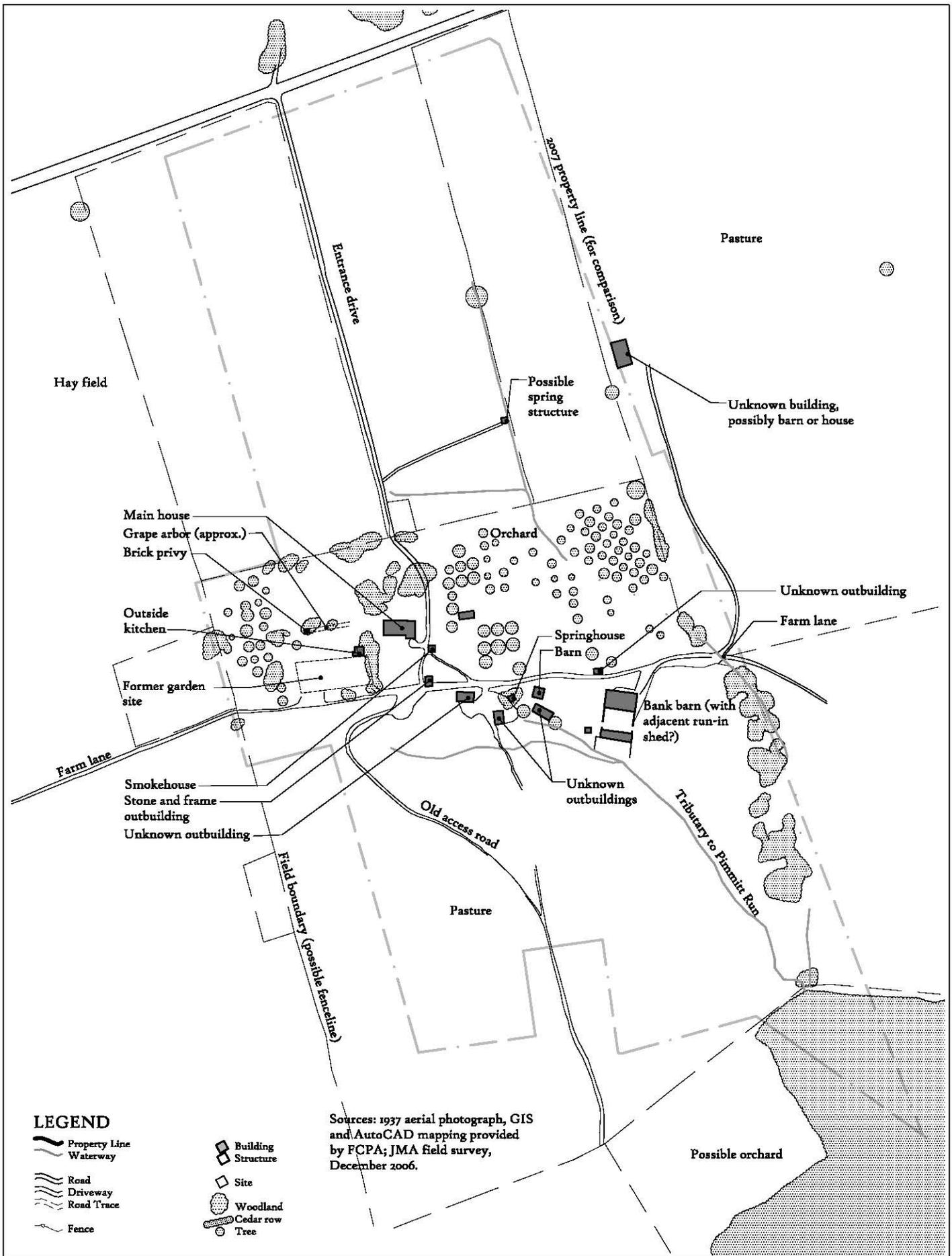


Figure 4-2. Period Plan Salona 1937

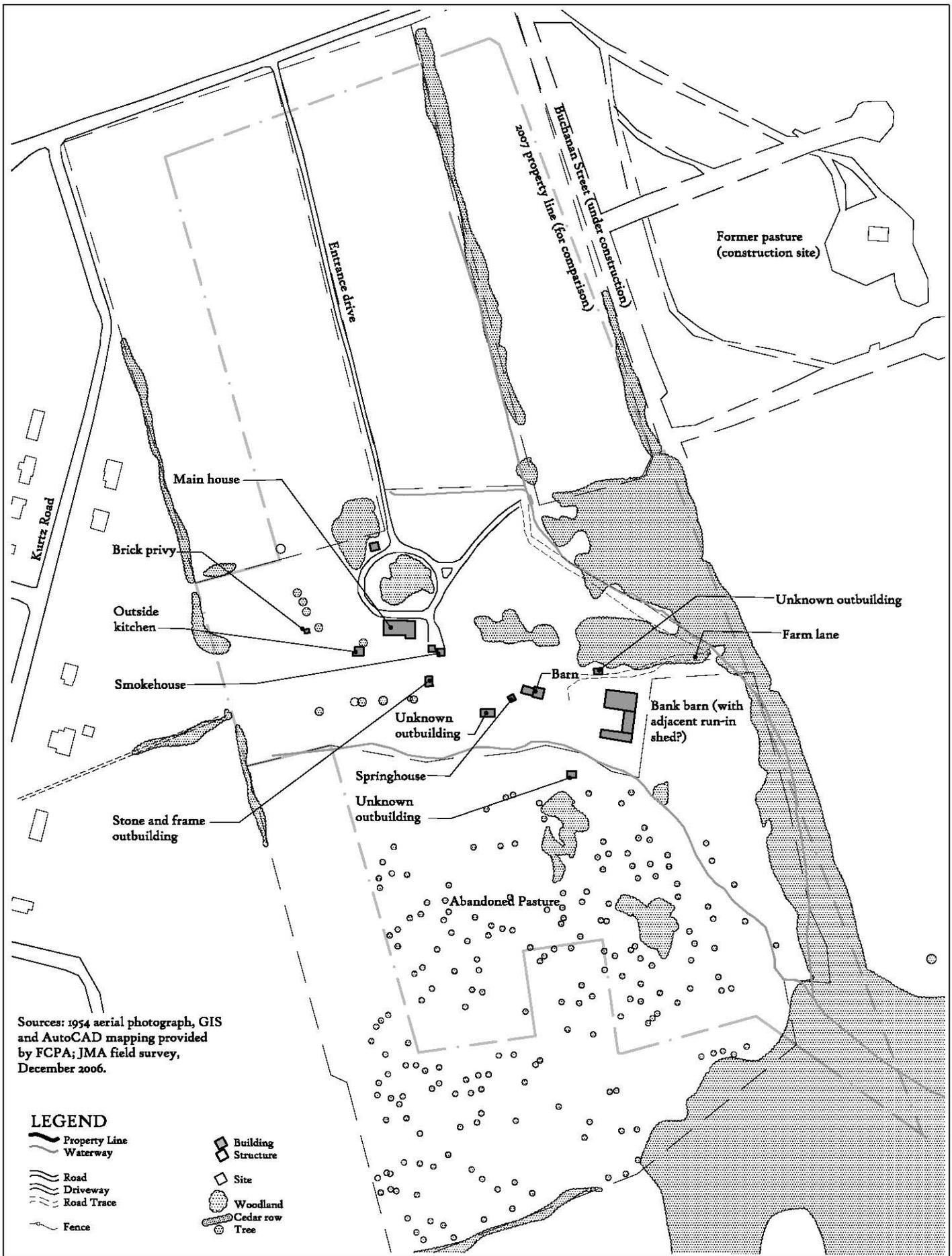


Figure 4-3. Period Plan  
Salona 1954

0 75 150 300  
SCALE 1" = 300'



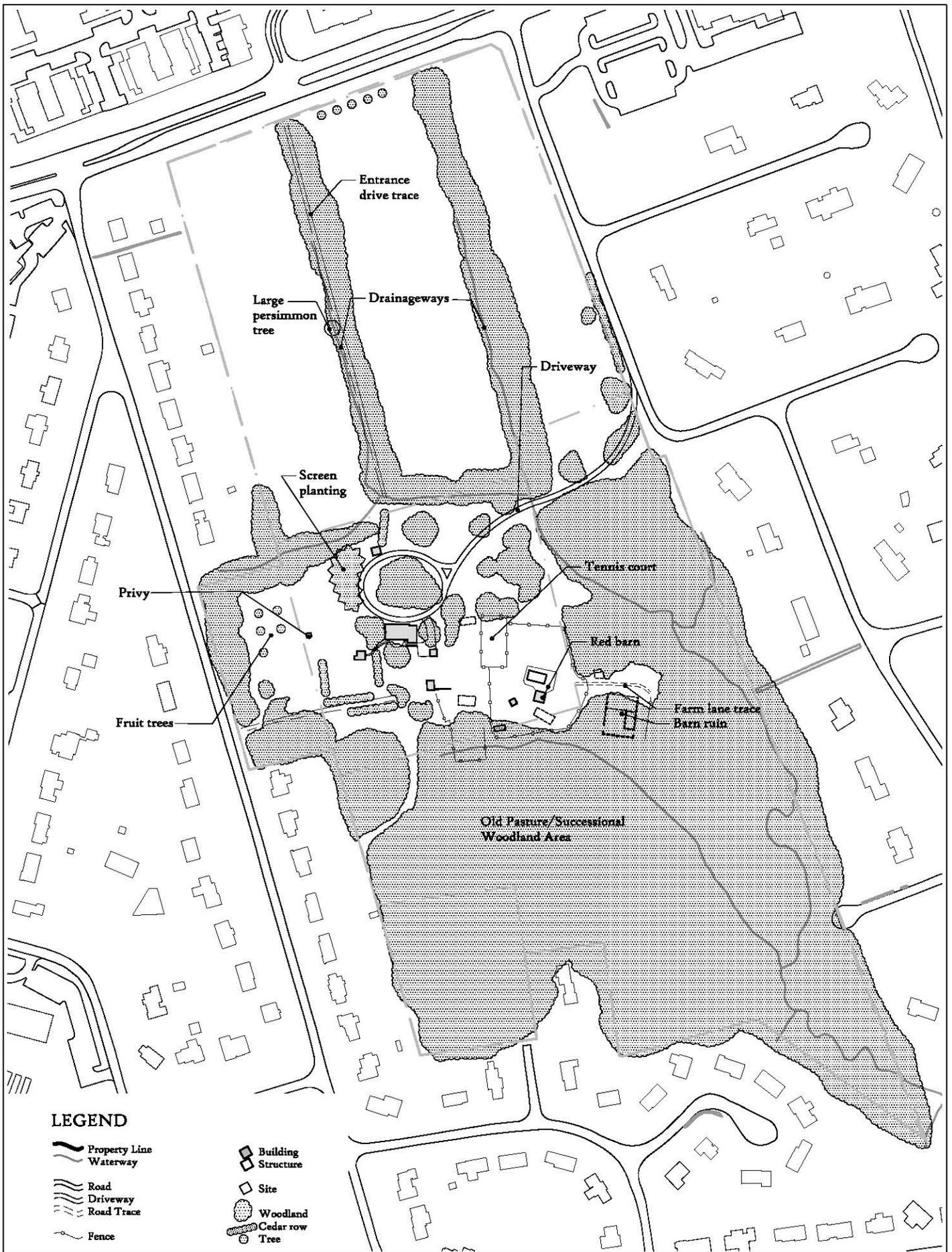


Figure 4-4. Period Plan Salona 2007

# Chapter Five

## Treatment Plan

### Introduction

This treatment plan has been prepared to provide the Fairfax County Park Authority (Park Authority) with an overall vision for managing the cultural and natural resources associated with the Salona property. The treatment plan offers guidance and support for long-term management and interpretation of the historic property and its resources. The plan is divided into four primary sections:

- 1) **Management Issues, Goals, and Objectives**, identifying the management concerns voiced by the Fairfax County Park Authority and the stipulations of the Deed of Open Space and Easement Conservation
- 2) **Treatment Alternatives**, describing the four appropriate treatment alternatives recognized by the Secretary of the Interior for historic sites detailing the alternative selected for the property
- 3) **General Design and Management Guidelines and Recommendations**, outlining an approach and method for addressing management issues and the implementation of treatment within the project area
- 4) **Treatment Plan**, providing resource-specific guidance on the treatment of landscape features and systems

Development of the treatment plan has been based on property-specific guidance provided by the Park Authority, wetlands delineation by Williamsburg Environmental Group, site reconnaissance by JMA (John Milner Associates), and site tours with cultural and natural resource representatives from the Park Authority.

### Management Issues, Goals and Objectives

Any plans for site development at Salona are mandated through the Deed of Open Space and Easement Conservation and include the establishment of active and passive recreational uses, educational and interpretive improvements, open space preservation, as well as protection measures aimed at preserving the historical integrity and significance of the property.

### *Management Issue: Conservation Easement*

The entire Salona site contains 52.4 acres, at the center of which is the property's residential core comprising 7.8 acres, protected in perpetuity by a 1971 easement to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The DuVal family occupies this residential core and retains an additional 3 acres within the property for their personal use. In December 2005, a new conservation easement was placed on the remaining 41.6 acres, including 10 acres for active recreational use and 31.6 acres for natural and cultural resource preservation and passive recreational uses. The purpose of the conservation easement is to offset high density development in the area and, as stated in the Deed of Open-Space and Conservation Easement:

“...to preserve the open, scenic, natural, and historic character and values of the Property, as well as certain public recreational values of the Property described herein, and assure that the conservation values of the Property be forever maintained and preserved.”

The easement legally restricts the uses of the house and property in ways that are meant to protect the historic character of Salona. The covenants and restrictions relating to the historic cultural landscape of the site are as follows, in summary:

- The property may not be subdivided.
- Industrial and commercial activities that permanently alter the physical appearance of the property or are not consistent with conservation values are prohibited.
- Dumping is prohibited.
- Excavation and changes to topography are prohibited, aside from changes associated with construction of recreation facilities, parking and access, placement or movement of rock, soil, or vegetative matter to mitigate erosion or drainage problems or enhance habitat values; or excavation by a professionally trained archaeologist, if approved by the Park Authority.
- Minimal use of chemicals (herbicides, etc.)
- The property shall not be included as part of the gross area of other property not subject to this Easement for the purposes of determining density, lot coverage, or open space requirements under otherwise applicable laws, regulations or ordinances controlling land use and building density.
- Removal of living trees with a diameter over 9 inches, is prohibited except in the following cases:
  - If pruning is required for plant health and safety reasons, and done according to ANSI standards.

- If trees are determined to be diseased or threaten the conservation values of the property. In this case, the County must be notified of the removal beforehand, except in case of emergency tree removal, which may be reported afterward.
- New structures or improvements shall be limited to barns, sheds or structures that are consistent with agricultural, equestrian, horticultural, or other farm uses consistent with the permitted uses of the Property.
- New signs may not exceed a dimension of 3 feet by 3 feet, except for temporary signs.
- New fences, gates, and walls must blend in with the natural landscape and not infringe materially on views into the property.
- Construction activities must be conducted to minimize their potential impacts on the landscape, including soil erosion and damage to trees and shrubs.
- No structures or improvements other than trails or other exempted uses shall be made within the Resource Protection Area (“RPA”).
- Approximately 10 acres of the Property can be used for recreational purposes as long as such activity is conducted in the area bounded by Buchanan Street and Virginia route 123 (Dolley Madison Boulevard).

### *Management Goals and Objectives*

An outline of goals for the Park Authority management of Salona include:

- “Set aside public spaces for and assist citizens in the protection and enhancement of environmental values, diversity of natural habitats and cultural heritage to guarantee that these resources will be available to both present and future generations.”<sup>1</sup>
- “Create and sustain quality facilities and services which offer citizens opportunities for recreation, improvement of their physical and mental well-being, and enhancement of their quality of life.”<sup>2</sup>
- Provide the setting and tangible resources for educating a broad and diverse public constituency in the specific attributes of the site’s significance;

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<sup>1</sup> Fairfax County Park Authority mission statement.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

- Provide the setting for active and passive recreational activities compatible with the fragile character of the tangible resources and the unique significance of the historic ensemble, and consistent with currently accepted preservation standards.
- Provide interpretation of the primary periods of significance at strategic site locations where the visitor can observe the early Federal-period architecture of the brick main house and its setting, including the collection of early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century brick, frame, and stone outbuildings set in an agricultural landscape.
- Provide interpretation of cultural and natural resources and processes through observation of woodlands, meadows, land use patterns, topography, water and drainage systems and historic structures.
- Provide interpretation of local agricultural practices and changing life from rural to suburban in 20<sup>th</sup> century northern Virginia.
- Use the property for appropriate recreational purposes including field sports, recreational walking, self guided walking tours, picnics, and play in a designated playground area.
- Avoid use of the site for large scale gatherings which require bus parking and or extensive overflow parking.
- Provide educational programs specific to the site and require reservations by school groups in order to limit the number of visitors and avoid conflicts with other scheduled activities.
- Manage the landscape to maintain recreational facilities on historic property.
- Protect important natural, historic, cultural, and archaeological resources.

## **Recommended Treatment Approach**

To address the issues, concerns, and challenges associated with providing recreational facilities on the historic Salona site while protecting the significant historic resources, this report includes a recommended treatment approach for the site that is consistent with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*, as well as and Fairfax County Park Authority's Policy 205 "Historic Restoration", Appendix 12 "National Trust for Historic Preservation Guidelines" and Appendix 14, "Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in Virginia."

## Summary of the Treatment Alternatives for Historic Landscapes Identified by the Secretary of the Interior

The Department of the Interior – a federal agency that has established nationally accepted standards for historic preservation – currently recognizes four appropriate treatment alternatives for historic landscapes: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. These are defined and discussed in *The Secretary's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. Following are the definitions of these four alternatives:

**Preservation** is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

**Rehabilitation** is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alternations and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

**Restoration** is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

**Reconstruction** is defined as the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form features and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location.

## Recommended Treatment Approach for Salona

Historic landscapes are rarely static environments. The treatment recommendations and guidelines outlined in this section are intended to help the Park Authority preserve the historic character of Salona while meeting current and future functional, maintenance, and management goals. Based on the definition of **rehabilitation** as “the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair alterations, and additions,

while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values,” rehabilitation is the primary overall recommended approach to landscape management at Salona.

Rehabilitation is both the selected treatment alternative as well as the best choice for this property out of the four alternatives identified by the Secretary of the Interior. Preservation is not an appropriate treatment alternative for Salona given that visitor access and the recreational facilities are important future components of the property that require change. Although restoration and reconstruction have been considered, the required program for Salona precludes the recommendation of these alternatives as appropriate treatment approaches for the historic landscape.

Taking into consideration the proposed future use of the property and the findings of this CLR, rehabilitation appears to best meet the goals and objectives of the Park Authority, follows the Park Authority’s *Policy 205: Historic Restoration* and the Deed of Easement by preserving and stabilizing features of the historic property, while also allowing for new uses including visitor access, parking, recreational field, play area, picnic shelters, trailhead and trail loop system. As part of rehabilitation, new design and management practices within the historic landscape must take into account the sensitivity of its character, and the qualities which render it significant. Wherever possible, historic features and land uses should be retained. In the case of Salona, the CLR specifically recommends rehabilitation of the existing landscape, a focus on land use history for interpretation, and an emphasis on knowledge and interpretation of the property during the periods of significance.

In addition to the protection of Salona’s overall historic landscape character and its individual historic features, the rehabilitation approach allows for the establishment of a rich and fulfilling visitor experience, the addition of much needed recreational fields for the densely populated county, and the implementation of functional site improvements required as support for these new recreational facilities. Rehabilitation will also allow the Park Authority the flexibility to incorporate new findings into site management and interpretation while pursuing resource management initiatives intended to promote sustainability.

Areas of the landscape that are particularly sensitive to disturbance by human use and changes including wetlands, meadows, native vegetation, wildlife habitat, drainage-ways and other natural systems. As with the historic resources that contribute to the integrity of the landscape and survive from the periods of significance, protection of these natural resources during rehabilitation of the property requires special consideration.

#### Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation

The ten basic principals that comprise the Secretary of the Interior’s standards for rehabilitation are intended to help preserve the distinctive character of a historic building and its landscape, while allowing for reasonable change to meet new needs. The standards apply to both interiors and exteriors of historic buildings of all periods, styles,

types, materials and sizes and encompass related landscape features, building site, and environment, as well as attached, adjacent, or related new construction:

- A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.
- The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.
- Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.
- Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.
- Distinctive features, finishes and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a historic property shall be preserved.
- Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical or photographic evidence.
- Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.
- Significant archaeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.
- New additions, exterior alternations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

## **Treatment Considerations**

The underlying assumption for the recommended treatment approach at Salona is that the landscape will be managed to provide and maintain recreational facilities on this historic property, protect important natural, historic, cultural, and archaeological resources and enhance the interpretation of the property for the visitor. This section describes the issues that have influenced the development of the more specific management guidelines and treatments that follow.

### Landform and Topography

The northern part of the site, among the open fields, is relatively level. A short, steep bank descends from the constructed road grade of Dolley Madison Boulevard into the field area and the fields themselves are dissected by shallow, man-made drainage ditches or channels lined with hedgerows. The Salona house stands on the crest of a gentle knoll in the center of the site. Selection of this site for the placement of the main house was clearly influenced by the configuration of the property's landform, and appears to take advantage of the height of the knoll for ventilation and drainage as well as potential views. The south side of the knoll descends gently to a drainage-way; a stone retaining wall shapes a segment along the south edge of the knoll. The land rises on the other side of the creek to another gentle knoll at the southern edge of the property. To the east of the house, a level lawn area that may have been purposefully graded at one time slopes evenly to the southeast. It is edged by another knoll hidden by forest southeast of the barn ruin, which divides the house and lawn areas from the drainage-way near the eastern property boundary. The forested landscape slopes upward from the stream to the south and west boundaries of the site. The most dramatic topography is in the forested zone of the site. Future treatment should ensure protection of the integrity of the landform and topography at Salona.

### Vegetation

Very little is known about the vegetation that may have existed on the property during the periods of significance. Much of the extant vegetation, with the possible exception of the larger shade trees and some of the boxwood, likely post-dates the period of significance. Vegetation that is known to impede historic patterns of spatial organization should be considered for judicious and careful removal. Invasive alien plants with the likelihood of disrupting native vegetation should also be removed. Unless there is a compelling reason to remove landscape features, however, vegetation not in conflict with interpretive values and historic patterns should remain until more is known about the property during the periods of significance.

The hedgerows that constitute the significant landscape pattern in the meadow area consist of a mixture of native and non-native vegetation that appears to be on average less than 50 years old. While most of this vegetation appears to be volunteer, there are some trees, such as loblolly pine, that were likely planted because they are not native to this area. These hedgerows contain cultural features such as the original driveway trace and

the site of a former structure. While they contain invasive vegetation, they also act as important edge and wildlife habitat. In these roles, the hedgerows are critical habitat and should be preserved and managed to the greatest extent possible.

### Natural Systems

The Salona property includes at least one flowing spring over which the still-extant stone springhouse was built. Other springs are evident on the ground surface as low, wet areas that drain into one of the two perennial streams on the property. These springs may be part of what attracted the Lee and Smoot families to this property. Protection and interpretation of the springs and the stone springhouse are important components of the plan for natural and cultural resource management. Treatment of natural systems such as these springs is directly related to water quality, soil erosion control, wildlife habitat and movement and interpretation of the historic landscape. Special consideration should therefore be paid to protecting the springs and associated water quality.

Across the creek from the spring house area there is a pond in the floodplain directly adjacent to the creek. The pond is shallow with a very high surface to volume ratio that makes it ideal for making ice. It also functioned for livestock watering. The pond is an agricultural feature that is part of the agricultural complex zone of the site.

### Circulation

Traces of circulation systems depicted in historic aerials and ground level photographs still survive in the landscape today. They include the former main driveway leading from what is now Dolley Madison Boulevard and a farm lane that intersects with the driveway to the south of the Salona house. There is also a trace farm road running east-west and located south of the house. The impression of the road is visible for about 200 feet on the western edge of the property and is lined with cedars. The trace disappears south of the house but is visible again to the east for about 160 feet uphill to the bank barn where it again disappears. While there is little remaining evidence of the location of paths or walks that connected elements of the house complex and its environs, it is possible that these could be discovered through archaeological research. One of the challenges at Salona will be to reveal missing circulation features with minimal impact to surviving surface and subsurface resources.

### Buildings and Structures

The surviving residential core of buildings associated with Salona is an unusual, relatively intact example of an early 19<sup>th</sup> century country estate in Fairfax County. In the future, should Fairfax County acquire the 7.8 acres currently occupied by the DuVal family, these historic buildings and structures would provide significant opportunities to enhance the interpretation of the history of the property. Part of what is the former farmyard, or area and structures associated with the agricultural complex, is located on the 7.8 acres occupied by the DuVal family and part is located in the woodland zone of the easement. The stone barn ruin, historic fenceline, farm road trace, orchard remnant

and possible site of a former building are all located outside the 7.8 acre historic domestic core.

## **General Management and Design Guidelines and Recommendations**

### *General Management and Design Guidelines*

The following section provides general guidelines for the treatment of the historic landscape of Salona, including the proposed design of recreational facilities, that support all of the individual treatment recommendations and alternatives that follow. These guidelines relate to a philosophy of cultural landscape treatment based on *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscape*, and a comprehensive view of the project area as a whole. The following guidelines should be used when planning for any and all landscape changes, and should be considered in connection with each of the proposed landscape treatments included in this report.

### Land Use

- Avoid land-use activities, permanent or temporary, which threaten or impair known or potential archaeological resources.
- Monitor and regulate use of the landscape to minimize immediate and long-term damage to cultural resources.
- Consider equally both natural and cultural features of the project area in land-use decisions.

### Buildings and Structures

- Consider the interpretive value of non-intrusive, non-contributing buildings and structures.
- Consider the removal of non-contributing structures that are intrusive to the historic landscape.
- Avoid conjectural reconstruction of historic buildings and structures.

### Circulation

- Minimize the visual impacts of vehicles and non contributing vehicular access systems, including drives and parking.
- Make vehicular access to the site as non-obtrusive as possible. Consider noise and other visual impacts that parking will have on the site.

- Encourage pedestrian circulation throughout the project area as an alternative to vehicular access.
- Minimize the visual impacts of pedestrian access systems.
- Incorporate the historic road trace in the west hedgerow as part of the site trail system, and interpret the trace at appropriate locations.
- Interpret all other historic road traces as part of the overall interpretive plan for Salona.
- Develop a comprehensive Interpretive Plan for Salona as visitor participation on the site increases due to the proposed recreational facilities and trail system.

#### Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants, Native Plants and Animal Species

- Verify that the Virginia Department of cultural Resources state data base does not contain any records of rare, threatened, or endangered species on the site.
- Evaluate recommendations affecting identified endangered or threatened plant or wildlife species, if found prior, to undertaking any construction or vegetation removal project. Consider evaluating the treatment plan for its potential impact on rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal populations whose habitat is consistent with the environmental conditions present at Salona.

#### Sustainability

- Institute cultural and natural resource treatment and maintenance methods that are environmentally and culturally sensitive and sustainable over the long term.
- Minimize areas of woodland disturbance, grading and compaction of soil, and alterations to drainage patterns.
- Promote biodiversity and native plant species.
- Emphasize landform-based solutions over hardscape solutions.
- Take into consideration life-cycle costing of materials for new design to assess the long-term wearing capacity and maintenance costs. Consider materials that are non-toxic, durable, long-lived, and low-maintenance.

#### Topography

- Minimize soil disturbance and grading.
- Preserve existing landforms and natural drainage patterns to the greatest extent possible.

### Land Cover Management

- Encourage best management practices, integrated pest management, and soil and erosion control measures in all maintenance and management practices in order to minimize water pollution and degradation of natural systems.
- Establish native vegetative cover on all slopes greater than 15 percent for erosion control. Consider planting species that are appropriate to the soil conditions, such as using wet-site species in perennially wet areas.

### Forest Management

- Seek to preserve and enhance the greatest possible diversity of native species and focus on protecting the remaining tree diversity, particularly specimen trees and unusual species indicative of the vegetative community type. Examples are shagbark hickory and the massive northern red oak.
- Remove, when necessary, existing trees using a method that minimizes the potential impacts on known and potential archaeological resources. Avoid removal of root masses (also known as stump grinding) by cutting the tree flush with the ground. Undertake tree removal from areas with known or potential archaeological resources under the guidance of a historical landscape architect and an archaeologist.
- Retain, where appropriate, existing woodlands; allow successional areas to mature, and establish new buffers along appropriate sections of the property boundary when protection of viewsheds is required. Visual buffers should consist of mixed species woodland with understory plants. Promote varied plant composition, and consider locally native woodland species for screen and buffer plantings.
- Remove invasive alien species identified during woodland monitoring activities using NRMP best practices to facilitate their removal. Do not uproot invasive plants if doing so will disturb cultural resources. The Park Authority has the *Invasive Management Area Program* in place to address removal issues.

### Water Resources Management

- Retain and maintain all existing water resources, including springs and seeps.
- Monitor water resources for invasive alien plant species. Remove invasive alien species identified during water resource monitoring activities using ecologically sound removal techniques.
- Periodically monitor spring water for pollution.

- Use methods and practices that increase stream bank stability and in stream habitat.
- Design proposed recreational facilities and parking utilizing methods and practices that decrease stormwater concentration times and improve groundwater recharge. Use best practices to include LID methods for any construction on site.

### New Design and Construction

- Avoid adding new features or altering existing features in ways that adversely affect the landscape's historic character. Introduce features to facilitate access and interpretation in ways that minimize any adverse impacts. New construction should be limited to those alterations and additions that are necessary for visitor access, interpretation, and management. This might include vehicular, pedestrian, and interpretive systems such as trails and paths; minimal automobile parking areas; and unobtrusive and minimal wayside, informational, identity, and regulatory sign systems. The new or altered features should be as unobtrusive as possible while allowing for accessibility and safety. Whenever possible, while considering the visitor experience and without compromising visitor safety, utilize off-site facilities.
- Evaluate all proposed new uses in consultation with an historical landscape architect and other appropriate professional.
- Undertake sufficient study and recordation of landscape features requiring modification, repair, or replacement before work is performed to protect research and interpretive values.
- Retain and maintain historic materials, features, finishes, construction techniques, spaces, and spatial relationships.
- Avoid landscape changes that create a false sense of historical development, including the addition of conjectural, "typical," or representative features.
- Retain and maintain changes to the cultural landscape that have acquired historic significance in their own right.
- Repair, rather than replace, deteriorated historic features. Repair of deteriorated features should be based on archaeological, documentary, or physical evidence. Replacement of historic features, if necessary, should also be based on archaeological, documentary, or physical evidence; the new feature should match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials.
- Avoid the use of chemical or physical treatments that cause damage to cultural resources and natural systems. Undertake the surface cleaning of structures using the gentlest means possible.

- Conduct archaeological investigation prior to any ground-disturbing activities to determine the presence or absence of sites.
- Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. If such resources must be disturbed, undertake mitigation measures such as bury in place, recovery, curation, and documentation.
- Design and site new additions or alterations to the landscape in ways that do not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the cultural landscape. Design all new additions and alterations to be a product of their time, and compatible with the historic resources in materials, size, scale and proportion, and massing. Differentiate new work from the existing historic resources.
- Design and site new additions and alterations to the landscape in such a way that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the cultural landscape would be unimpaired.
- Minimize disturbance associated with the installation of visitor access facilities and systems that cross or abut wetlands to preserve existing landforms, and plant and animal life.
- Design new features, systems, and programs to be as accessible as possible.

#### Adjacent Lands and Visual Quality

- Develop and maintain communication with adjacent property owners. Work with neighbors and community groups to develop a program of monitoring unauthorized access and destruction of resources.
- Educate adjacent property owners regarding historic cultural and natural resources located on their lands. Work with these owners to develop programs for the protection of resources on their lands.
- Develop visual buffers along property lines abutting the surrounding neighborhoods. Retain select viewsheds into Salona could remain to encourage access to the site on the trail system.

#### Access to Resources

- Limit, monitor, and control unauthorized access to the site.
- Limit, monitor, and control access to areas that are vulnerable to damage from human access or use.
- Develop an interpretive program that addresses cultural resources, natural systems, and their interrelationships.

- Minimize the visual and physical impacts of interpretive, recreational, and visitor access facilities on cultural resources and natural systems. Develop the least-intrusive interpretive and visitor access physical improvements as possible.
- Erect the minimal number of signs possible for identification, direction, interpretation, and regulation needs.
- Develop universally accessible circulation and space for interpretive and educational programs.

### Role of Preservation Specialists

- Undertake all treatment projects under the direction of appropriate specialists, including cultural and historical landscape architects, historical architects, historians, archaeologists, natural resource management specialists, and qualified technicians and artisans.

### Documentation

- Document, through drawings, photographs, and notes, all changes and treatments. Maintain records of treatments and preserve documentation according to professional archival standards.

## **Treatment Plan**

### **Introduction**

This section provides more specific guidance on the treatments proposed by the CLR for protecting historic resources, addressing current and anticipated management and maintenance needs, and identifying appropriate sites and configurations for the new recreational facilities interventions. These recommendations are organized by management zones, that is, sub-areas of the site that encompass groups of features with similar levels of significance and integrity. Management zones are used to help establish a more specific framework or approach for treatment for distinct sub-areas. For example, stabilization and preservation, which are components of the Secretary of the Interior's discussion of rehabilitation as a treatment alternative, are the most appropriate treatment choice for sub-areas that retain higher degrees of integrity. Those areas that have already experienced a diminishment of integrity are better candidates for rehabilitation and the incorporation of necessary new uses or features. The management zones that comprise the site include:

- Meadow/Hedgerow /Field Zone
  - East Field
  - East Hedgerow

- Central Meadow
- West Hedgerow
- West Field
- Domestic Core Zone (not within the conservation easement)
- Agricultural Complex Zone

Structures and features of this complex are also located in the private 7.8 acre domestic core zone. Treatment for this zone is integrated into the plan for the entire site and specifically in the recommendations for the domestic core. It will not be a separate management and treatment zone (*see Map 5-1, Management Zones*).

These zones are based upon the analysis of landscape characteristics, and the significance and integrity evaluations included in Chapter Four of this CLR. They are defined in conjunction with their associated treatment recommendations. The treatment recommendations represent the best and highest use for the site as a whole. Site development to accommodate visitor access, parking, recreation field, play area, picnic shelter, trailhead and trails will require that choices be made that sometimes compromise to a greater or lesser degree these recommendations. The goal of this chapter is to provide sufficient philosophical treatment and intent information to assist the Park Authority and others in making wise and appropriate choices when implementing necessary changes at Salona.

### **Property-wide guidelines (apply to all zones)**

- Retain and maintain all extant features and systems of the Salona site. Missing features and systems known to have existed during the period of significance should not be reconstructed unless the reconstruction is based on detailed documentary evidence or archaeological investigation and evidence of the feature to be reconstructed. The main house at Salona, most of its domestic outbuildings, and some of its farm buildings are known to have existed from ca. 1890 or earlier and its agricultural fields to the north likely remain in the same location. Salona thus possesses a high degree of integrity of **location** for the period of significance during which the house was constructed, as well as the period related to its use as an agricultural complex. The integrity of the designed landscape would potentially be threatened by the construction and installation of inappropriate structures, property elements, circulation, or vegetation. Inappropriate use of the property's resources, including active recreation and unmonitored public access to sensitive resources may also pose a threat to the landscape's integrity through soil and slope erosion, damage to and loss of vegetation, and physical damage to constructed features.

- Interpret the historic uses of the Salona property to the greatest extent possible.
- Incorporate new information about the history of the site, as it becomes available, into the overall interpretive plan for the site.
- Determine staffing needs for maintenance and interpretation of the park facilities during periods of visitation.
- Determine land use approval and permit-related issues regarding proposed improvements for the site.
- Consider the focal points within the Salona landscape, particularly locations with a strong sense of place, where people will naturally stop and gather. Shape these as “nodes” within the interpretive system, taking the opportunity to locate waysides or other interpretive conveyances, and site furnishings such as benches within the nodes so that visitors can enjoy and appreciate the special character of Salona.
- Explore the potential of landscape features to enhance interpretation. Landscape features that could be utilized to tell the property’s stories include, but are not limited to the:
  - Main house
  - Farm road trace
  - Smokehouse
  - Outside kitchen/office
  - Privy/bathhouse
  - Springhouse
  - Historic fence line
  - Red hay barn
  - Red wood frame outbuilding (possibly a dairy)
  - Corn crib
  - Cedar tree rows
  - Stone barn ruin
  - Remnant orchards

- Slave cemetery
- Fields
- Vegetation
- Farm road trace
- Historic driveway trace
- Meadow
- Hedgerows

Any of these features which are located on private property should be interpreted at a distance and when possible with a visual connection to the structure or other feature. The circulation system should be designed to avoid and discourage access to the domestic core which is not in the conservation easement. This includes the western edge of the site that only has access to the neighborhood through a public access easement. As this small parcel directly adjoins the protected core, some barrier should be constructed to keep visitors and neighbors from crossing into private property. As it is now, visitors would have to cross a small portion of the private property, but in the future thought should be given to access from this small parcel to the recreational field and woodlands trail and interpretation. Every effort should be made by the Park Authority to get an access agreement if possible. If this small parcel remains isolated from the rest of the site, consider introducing use as a neighborhood park with picnic facilities, open play space, a designed trail and interpretive waysides.

- Establish a trail system that links the interpretive features of the site. Provide this system with well-spaced interpretive opportunities that maintain interest levels throughout its length. Encourage visitors to remain on the trail through informational and regulatory systems such as signs or brochures.
- Plan trails that skirt the margins of sensitive areas to enhance preservation of the wildlife value and provide wildlife viewing opportunities for the public while limiting disturbance that could introduce more invasive species.
- Consider a variety of materials for path, trail, and parking area paving, and their potential visual impact on the historic property. Materials for paths, trail and parking must also be universally accessible. Options for paving materials include stabilized crushed brownstone and colored concrete or stamped asphalt, either of which could be mixed using warm-brown-colored aggregate. Also consider pervious materials for parking and access.
- Control unauthorized access into the area by establishing gates at vehicle access points. Identify the property boundary with signs.

- Establish signage for identification and interpretation of the RPA zone.
- Establish an identity sign system for the site that includes a consistent approach to graphic and narrative information depiction. The signage system will be low key and unobtrusive.
- Eradicate all non native invasive plant species currently in evidence on the site.
- Check all new plant material intended to be planted on the site prior to installation for diseases, pests, and parasites. Do not install any plants that are known or suspected to be infested.
- Establish a monitoring program to periodically check for non native invasive plant species. The Park Authority has the *Invasive Management Area Program* in place.
- Develop a site specific invasive management plan for Salona.
- Document with photographs, maps and drawings, and narrative descriptions any features to be demolished or removed from the site, no matter how recently established. Include such documentation as part of the archival record of Salona.

## **Treatment Recommendations by Management Zone**

(see Maps 5-3 through 5-9)

### Zone A: Meadow/Hedgerow

The northern 20 acres of the Salona property consist of three fields of approximately equal size divided by hedgerows. Each hedgerow contains a drainageway that appears to have been created for agriculture. The hedgerows consist of a mixture of native and non-native invasive species vegetation that appears to be on average less than 50 years old. The fields vary in the quality of their vegetation. They have both upland and wet meadow vegetative cover and some portions are of very high quality and are extremely important in that they represent the largest patch of meadow in this portion of Fairfax County. Plans for recreational facilities and the required vehicular access and parking at Salona will be implemented in this zone. The generally flat topography and the proximity of Buchanan Street and Dolley Madison Boulevard are major factors in the decision to locate the new facilities in the east field.

**Rehabilitation** is the most appropriate landscape treatment approach for this zone, particularly to accommodate public access and the recreational facilities.

### *Natural Systems and Features*

- Improve the vegetation composition of the west field to bring it up to the high quality of the central meadow.
- Maintain the hedgerows to retain favorable native species and eliminate non-native invasive species.
- Preserve, manage and interpret the central field as the most ecologically diverse meadow in eastern Fairfax County.
- Control stormwater runoff from new parking areas. Consider utilizing grass swales, planted filter strips, rain gardens and other environmentally preferable means for reducing runoff and pollution, and promoting stormwater infiltration on-site.
- Use permeable materials for paving to minimize runoff.
- Mitigate loss of wetlands in the development of the recreational field. New wetlands can be created as mitigation, integrated into the overall stormwater management system, and interpreted for environmental education in low impact development.

### *Views and Vistas*

- Add new features, such as the parking area and recreational field, in such a way as to be as unobtrusive as possible. Consider views from the historic core area in their design and siting.
- Minimize views from the main house to the new recreational elements on the site. Avoid a dramatic change in topography through the development of a berm to screen the recreational activities. A berm that is high enough to screen views (from second story windows of the main house that is sitting on a knoll eight feet higher than the field area) will have a negative impact on the historic/cultural landscape pattern and will create an intrusive vertical element into the landscape. Utilize native tree plantings as buffer screens for both views and noise. The natural height of the mature trees will screen the recreational elements better than a landform.
- Minimize heights of proposed vertical elements and screen where appropriate.
- Enhance screen plantings along the property boundary to limit views to adjacent development from the site and to Dolley Madison Boulevard
- Design strategic viewsheds through the plant buffers for views into the meadow.

### *Land Use*

- Avoid introducing new uses within this area beyond the Deed of Easement requirements for recreational field, parking, vehicular access, playground, picnic shelters, irrigation shed, and interpretation.

### *Topography*

- Minimize soil disturbance and grading when introducing new site developments such as parking, paths, and trails.
- Mitigate the impact of grading for new facilities by conducting archaeological investigations prior to construction.

### *Circulation*

- Provide visitor parking in conformance with minimum Fairfax County requirements.
- Provide a universally accessible route from the parking area to other park facilities.
- Utilize materials for paths and parking that satisfy both the Low Impact Development criteria and universally accessible requirements.
- Minimize the impermeable paved surface area of any parking and access routes. Whenever possible, utilize materials such as gravel, stabilized stone dust, and stabilized grass and turf that reduce stormwater by allowing at least modest infiltration. Utilize any other applicable Low Impact Development strategies wherever possible.
- Design curbs and other details to be understated, and like other new introductions, harmonious in materials and design with the site's historic character. For example, avoid using curbs on an entrance drive if possible; if curbs are required, consider constructing them from a soldier course of brick as that is a prevalent material already existing on the many of the historic buildings.
- Minimize cut and fill in the creation of a parking area.
- Consider using stabilized gravel, gravel pavers, or turf for vehicular access surfaces.
- Avoid damage to the trace entrance driveway remnant in the west hedgerow.

### *Vegetation*

- Remove dead and dying trees and shrubs when they are obstructing or interfering with visitor participation on the site or threaten the general health safety and welfare of the public. Otherwise, Park Authority policy is to leave dead trees in place for habitat purposes.
- Remove and control invasive alien plants. Establish an on-going monitoring program to identify invasives requiring removal.
- Remove all Bradford pear saplings in the meadows.
- Replace Bradford pears along Dolley Madison Boulevard with a hedgerow composed of native species found in the existing hedgerows on site.
- Assess the condition of trees within this zone in consultation with a certified arborist. Determine whether trees pose any threat or hazard to individuals or structures. Remove hazardous plants and those that may threaten the stability of structures.
- Retain as much of the east hedgerow as possible in accommodating the park facilities.
- Preserve, maintain and interpret the west hedgerow.
- Manage hedgerows for long term edge community health by planting native shrubs and over time planting new trees or encouraging natural regeneration for trees that will die naturally over time.
- Consider adding evergreen trees and shrubs along the property boundary to enhance screening of Dolley Madison Boulevard, Buchanan Street, and adjacent neighborhoods to the west and south.

### *Small Scale Features*

- Keep signage minimal and unified in style. Most of the signage in the park area will be directional or regulatory in nature; any waysides or interpretive material should follow the same guidelines as set forth for all the interpretive areas of the site.
- Consider placing benches at the trailhead. Benches should be inconspicuous and low in profile.
- Consider providing an outdoor drinking fountain at the trailhead for visitor use.

### Zone B: Domestic Core

To the south of the field complex and centrally located on the property lies the estate's domestic core. The main house sits on a gentle knoll, with a circular drive providing access to its front, or north side. The house is surrounded by several historic outbuildings including a smokehouse, outside kitchen/office, and privy/bathhouse, as well as a boxwood-edged brick patio, numerous garden beds, crushed stone and brick paths, and areas of mowed lawn. To the east of the house are the tennis court, swimming pool, and lawn surrounded by relatively new fencing and edged by historic farm buildings to the south. The farm buildings in the domestic core include the red hay barn, springhouse, corn crib and sites of former structures. They are part of the agricultural complex that extends into the successional woodlands. The primary goals within the historic core are to preserve the existing contributing features, interpret them from the trail system, and communicate the inaccessibility to these features that are located on private property.

The most appropriate landscape treatment approach for this zone is **preservation**, including protection, maintenance, and repair. This zone is private property and not under the care and management of the Park Authority at this time. It is included in the treatment plan for future reference. Should Fairfax County acquire the 7.8 acres currently occupied by the DuVal family, these historic buildings and structures would significantly enhance the interpretive plan for the entire property.

#### *Natural Resources*

- Locate, assess, and retain the spring associated with the property. Identify the direction, quantity and quality of flow on the property.

#### *Spatial Organization*

- Retain the existing spatial relationships formed by the cluster of buildings and structures in the historic core.
- Reinstate historic patterns of spatial organization that are associated with the views from the main house.
- Retain hedgerows and vegetative buffers to ensure screening from residential development and from the recreational facilities in the east field.

#### *Topography*

- Make every effort to avoid altering the landform of the knoll and the gently sloping landscape.
- Avoid planting trees or shrubs or undertaking other activities that involve digging in or altering the ground-plane.

- Avoid re-grading that will damage old road traces or disrupt the existing landscape pattern and spatial organization.
- Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. If they must be disturbed, undertake mitigation measures such as recovery, curation, and documentation. Incorporate the findings into the site interpretive program.

### *Circulation*

- Preserve and maintain the east-to-west farm lane.
- Preserve and maintain the circular drive at the main house.
- Avoid building permanent paths in the vicinity of the main house until archaeology has been completed and more is known about the location and character of the historic walkway system around the main house and outbuildings. Consider placing new paths along the same route as the historic paths, wherever feasible; if these routes do not accommodate the goals of accessibility and interpretation, or restoring them may damage other resources, consider establishing new paths to accommodate these needs, and interpreting knowledge of historic paths instead.
- Establish new trail or path segments, following completion of archaeological investigations, that provide access to the interpreted features of the historic landscape. The goals of path development are to provide an accessible walking or wheelchair surface, and to keep visitors from damaging the landscape. Access to interpreted resources should be carefully designed to not detract from the historic setting. Universal accessibility should be carefully considered. It will likely not be possible to provide accessible routes to all features and resources associated with Salona without damaging site integrity. Alternative interpretive experiences should be provided in cases where the establishment of accessible routes will diminish integrity.
- Avoid cutting to create level alignments for paths. Use distinguishable fill when necessary to affect appropriate grades for new circulation routes and to preserve archaeological resources.
- Use distinct, yet harmonious materials when building new paths to distinguish them as a 21<sup>st</sup> century addition to the Salona landscape.

### *Vegetation*

- Determine which dead trees and shrubs need to be removed for visitor participation on the site. Leave any others in place for habitat.
- Remove, control, and monitor invasive plants. The Park Authority *Invasive Management Area Program* is in place.

- Assess the condition of trees within twenty feet of the house in consultation with a certified arborist to determine whether they present a hazard to visitors or structures. Remove all trees within this area that are considered a hazard to humans or historic features, or that pose a threat to the structural stability of any cultural resources.
- Retain the Eastern red cedars marking the historic fence line.

### *Buildings and Structures*

- Retain, protect, maintain and interpret the main house, outside kitchen/office, privy/bathhouse, red frame outbuilding, smokehouse, springhouse, and hay barn.
- Avoid introducing new uses that involve material changes or additions to the buildings in the domestic historical core.
- Consider interpreting missing outbuildings through various means, including foundation outlines, wayside exhibits, ghost structures, or an artist's rendering of the former character of these structures. Avoid reconstructing of these features unless specific information about their appearance during the period of significance is acquired through documentary or archaeological research.

### *Utilities*

- Avoid extending new utility lines through the historic core whenever possible.

### *Interpretation*

- Interpret the springhouse.
- Interpret the domestic core at this time only from the trails located outside the domestic core property boundaries. Design viewsheds and waysides to interpret the domestic core from a distance.

### *Possibilities for the Future*

- Add new interpretive paths or trails only where necessary to guide visitors to interpreted features.
- Consider establishing interpretive nodes along the path system where groups can gather during guided tours to consider important features or portions of the interpretive experience.
- Consider using the more minimal methods of interpretation, such as the numbered posts or medallions accompanied by a brochure, until archaeological investigation and additional historic research has been completed.

- Consider placing low, unobtrusive signs in the ground in front of each building stating the building's name and date of origin.
- Consider preparing a well-designed interpretive brochure/map with images and narratives about the site's history, whether or not a post or medallion system is established.
- Incorporate waysides where possible into bases that are harmonious with the site, are removable, or serve a second function. Locate waysides in ways that fit in with the historic character of the site.
- Consider using a podcast as a tour guide.

### Zone C: Agricultural Complex

South and east of the domestic core zone, the property is dominated by successional woodland zone with a dense underlayer of brush and brambles. The forest exhibits a high degree of human disturbance, deer herbivory and extensive coverage of invasive plant species. The only perennial stream on the site flows south through Zone C from the driveway that provides access to Zone B. It is generally located on the eastern side of the property. This stream is part of the cultural landscape and was likely very important for past site activity.

Also, significant cultural resources are located in this treatment zone. They include the stone barn ruin, the slave cemetery, historic fence line, farm road trace, orchard remnant, old farm pond and the site of a former structure. The area that is now successional woodland was former pasture. There are also significant cultural and historic features and elements associated with the agricultural complex zone that are located in the domestic core which remains private property and not accessible to the public. The agricultural complex zone is also important as a visual buffer between the domestic core zone and neighboring residential developments.

An appropriate landscape treatment approach for this zone is **rehabilitation**, including: clearing underbrush and brambles for access and trails, archaeological investigation to the west in order to locate the slave cemetery, preservation of desirable woodland conditions, interpretation of cultural resources within the woodlands, introduction of an interpretive trail system that also includes views from the trail into the domestic core zone and interpretation of features not physically accessible, and enhancement of the visual buffering qualities of the woodlands cover.

### *Natural Systems and Features*

- Retain, and maintain the native components of the woodlands in this area.
- Preserve in particular specimen trees and unusual species indicative of the vegetative community type, e.g. Shagbark hickory and the massive northern red oak.
- Enhance screening along the property boundary through the additional planting of native evergreen trees and shrubs, particularly as replacements for removed invasive alien plants.
- Control non-native invasive plants within the zone using methods that re sensitive to cultural resource protection concerns.
- Assess impact of deer herbivory on forest health and implement deer herd management.

### *Views and Vistas*

- Retain and enhance existing woodland as a visual buffer to limit views of adjacent residential development.

### *Land Use*

- Avoid introducing new large scale uses within this area. Interpretive trails, with sensitivity to existing topography and minimal cut situations are appropriate for this area. The opportunity exists for interpretation of natural and cultural resources and for recreational walking and jogging.

### *Topography*

- Avoid re-grading in this area as much as possible.
- Assess the unique geology in the forested area and the potential of identification of a unique vegetative community that has been highly disturbed by human activity, non-native invasives and deer herbivory.
- Interpret geology, vegetation and water resources

### *Circulation*

- Avoid constructing vehicular circulation features within this area. Pedestrian circulation on trails will provide interpretation opportunities for natural resources, environmental education, and the cultural resources such as the stone barn ruin and slave cemetery that are currently in the woodland area.

- Further investigation may reveal the location of the historic trace of the farm road, which could then be interpreted and or used as an extension of Pimmit Run Trail into the site.
- Conduct archaeological investigations prior to any ground disturbing activities.

### *Vegetation*

- Retain existing native woodland cover.
- Preserve and enhance the greatest possible diversity of native species and focus on protecting the remaining tree diversity.
- Establish new plantings, using native woodland species and evergreens, as necessary to perpetuate the screening quality of this buffer area.
- Leave dead trees and shrubs in place for habitat purposes. If removal becomes necessary, use a method that minimizes impacts on known and potential archaeological resources. Undertake tree removal from areas with known or potential archaeological resources under the guidance of a historical landscape architect and an archaeologist.
- Remove and control invasive alien plants. Establish a monitoring program to identify invasive plants requiring removal.

### *Buildings and Structures*

- Avoid the addition of buildings or structures in this area.
- Preserve, stabilize, maintain and interpret the stone barn ruin and allow visitor access to the structure.
- Locate, document, and interpret the slave cemetery that is located in the woodland zone.
- Consider interpreting any missing contributing structures through brick outlines, “ghost structures” and other creative, non-destructive means. Avoid conjectural reconstruction of historic buildings and structures.



**Figure 5-1.** Meadow and hedgerow, located in Zone A. Source: JMA, 2007.



**Figure 5-1.** Main house, located in the Domestic Core. Source: JMA, 2007.



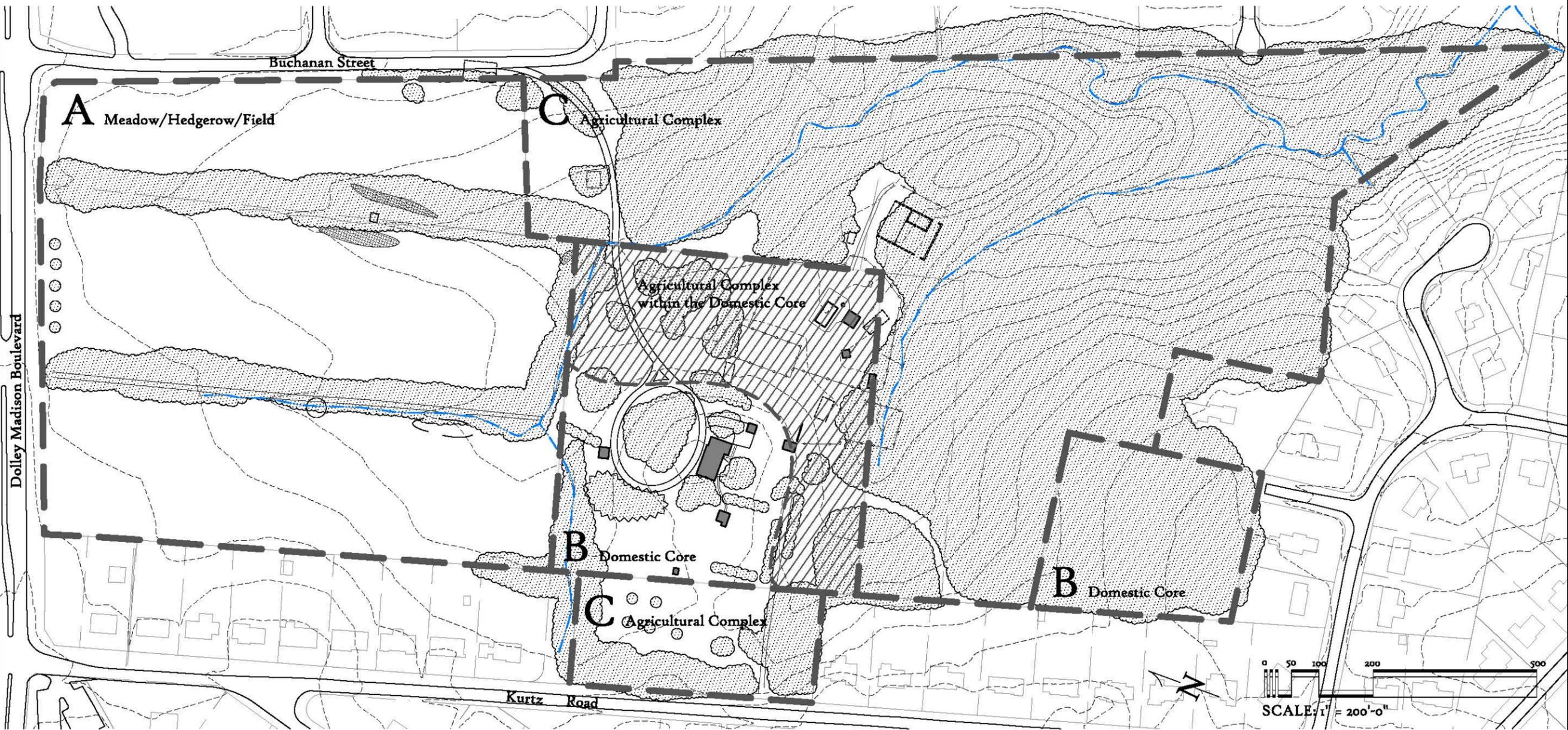
**Figure 5-3.** Spring house, located in the Agricultural Complex. Source: JMA, 2007.



**Figure 5-4.** Stone barn ruins, located in the Agricultural Complex Zone. Source: JMA, 2007.

## Management Zones

The selected approach for treatment of Salona is rehabilitation, with an emphasis on preservation of significant historic features. This treatment approach was selected based on the findings of this report and the management issues discussed, including the recognition and anticipation of the needs and desires of the property's future residents and owners. The Salona treatment plan is organized around a set of three identified management zones. These include the Meadow/Hedgerow/Field Zone, the Domestic Core Zone, and the Agricultural Complex Zone. These zones differ in how treatment is implemented based on the level of integrity in each, balanced with needs and goals for access, use, and interpretation.



**A. Meadow/Hedgerow/Field Zone:** This zone is comprised of the east and west fields, the central meadow, and the east and west hedgerows. The west field displays the highest level of disturbance, the eastern field is moderately disturbed, and the central meadow retains a high level of integrity and is extremely special and rare. The primary goals in this zone are: to preserve the central meadow as much as possible, integrate the park/recreational facilities and parking into the east field, preserve and restore as much of the hedgerow as possible, mitigate wetlands and interpret them as part of an integrated storm water management system, restore and enhance the west field, preserve the west hedgerow and driveway trace and interpret the entire zone through a trail system on the perimeter of the meadow and hedgerows.

**B. Domestic Core Zone:** This zone is centrally located on the property but also includes a parcel located to the southwest of the central core. This zone remains private property and is not under the care and management of the Park Authority. There is an entrance easement for access to the main house from Buchanan Road. There are features in the domestic core which are part of the historic agricultural complex. The main house is surrounded by historic outbuildings and facilities for the use of the Duval family including tennis courts and a swimming pool. This zone retains a moderate level of integrity and is highly sensitive to change. The goals within the historic domestic core are to preserve the existing contributing features, interpret features from trail nodes in the conservation easement, and communicate the inaccessibility of these features that are located on private property.

**C. Agricultural Complex Zone:** This zone comprises most of the southern portion of the property and includes the small land parcel with a remnant orchard directly west of the domestic core. Features that were integral to the historic agricultural complex (Former Farmyard) are now a part of the domestic core (private property) and not accessible to the public except by views and interpretation from the conservation easement on the remainder of the property. Features remaining in the conservation easement include the stone barn ruin, orchard remnants, the old slave cemetery, farm road trace, former pasture area, and historic fenceline. The agricultural complex features that are in the domestic core include orchard remnants, farm road trace, smokehouse, springhouse, historic fenceline, red hay barn, corn crib, and red wood frame outbuilding (possibly a dairy). This zone retains a moderate level of integrity and due to the cultural and natural resources is sensitive to change. The overall goal for this zone is rehabilitation including clearing underbrush for access, archaeological investigation, preservation of desirable woodland conditions, interpretation of cultural resources, introduction of an interpretive trail system, enhancement of the visual buffering qualities of the woodlands cover, and preservation of historic features and structures.

## Salona

Dolley Madison Boulevard  
McLean, Virginia

for the  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia

# JMA

John Milner Associates, Inc.

300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

johnmilnerassociates.com

FOR  
ANALYSIS  
ONLY  
NOT FOR  
CONSTRUCTION

project:	SALONA
drawn:	
checked:	
phase:	treatment
date:	July 2008
revised:	

## Map 5-1

## Management Zones

**Circulation**

- Consider, if improvements are desired to the driveway loop area, keeping a gravel surface, using dark brown or tan stone. If a hard paved surface is desired, consider using a stabilized aggregate resin pavement material such as NaturalPave resin, which can be used to bond aggregate matching the appearance of the gravel along the entry drive. Avoid use of hot mix blacktop asphalt.
- Minimize the visual and physical impacts of circulation system surfacing (walkways, paths, driveways) on the historic character of Salona. Material should be neutral in color and should not be overly decorative.



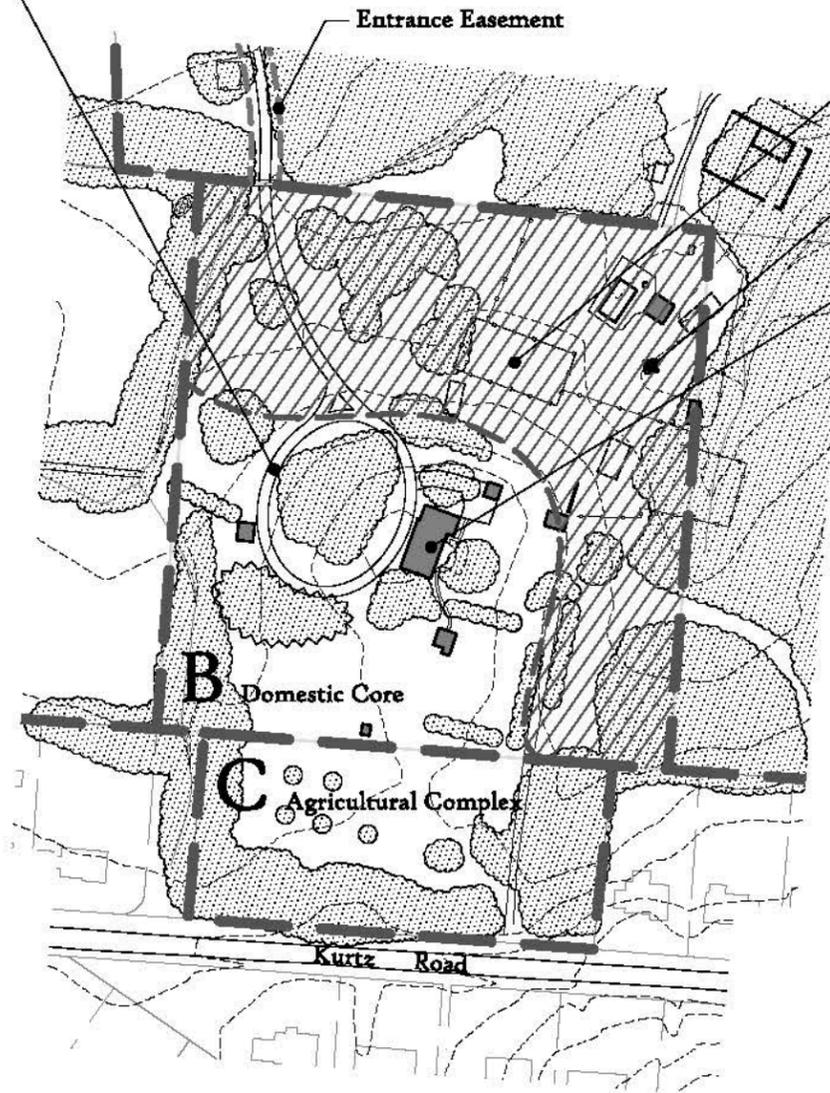
Entry Drive

**New Construction**

- Undertake the addition of any new structures or features involving ground disturbance, such as sheds, trellises, play equipment, outdoor lighting, or other features, under the supervision of an archaeologist. Use construction methods that minimize ground disturbance.
- Ensure that new features in this zone do not impede or infringe upon views from the conservation easement.
- Minimize the visual and physical impacts of changes in this area, such as improvements to the pool, tennis courts, patio, or paths.
- New construction should be a product of its time, and be compatible with the historic resources in materials, size, scale and proportion, and massing.



Tennis Courts and Hot Tub



**Historic Features**

- If non-historic features within the Domestic Core zones are removed, consider restoring the site to more closely approximate its historic appearance. Avoid adding new non-historic features.
- Preserve and maintain historic features in this zone that relate to the agricultural complex such as the red frame outbuilding, the corn crib, the springhouse, the red hay bar, and the farm road trace.
- Preserve and maintain the main house, the privy/outhouse, the outside kitchen/office, and the smokehouse.



Main House



Spring House

**Domestic Core Zone**

This zone is centrally located on the Salona site and remains private property.

Recommendations in this area will guide any changes made by the new owners, such as planting or introduction of other new elements to the landscape.

**Salona**

Dolley Madison Boulevard  
McLean, Virginia

for the  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia



300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

johnmilnerassociates.com

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planned	treatment
date	July 2008
revised	

**Map 5-2**

Treatment Recommendations

**Domestic Core Zone**

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Map 5-3

Treatment Recommendations  
Natural Systems  
and Features

Control stormwater runoff from new parking areas. Consider utilizing grass swales, planted filter strips, rain gardens, and other environmentally preferable means for reducing runoff and pollution, and promoting stormwater infiltration on-site.

Mitigate loss of wetlands in the development of the recreational field. New wetlands can be created as mitigation, integrated into the overall stormwater management system, and interpreted for environmental education in low impact development.

Preserve, manage, and interpret the central field as the most ecologically diverse meadow in eastern Fairfax County

Preserve in particular specimen trees and unusual species indicative of the vegetative community type, e.g. the massive northern red oak

Protect streams and manage RPA Zones and monitor water quality

Locate, assess, retain, and maintain springs and seeps

Retain and maintain the native components of the woodlands in this area

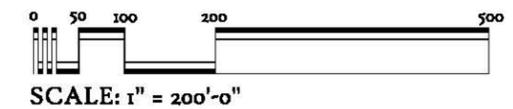
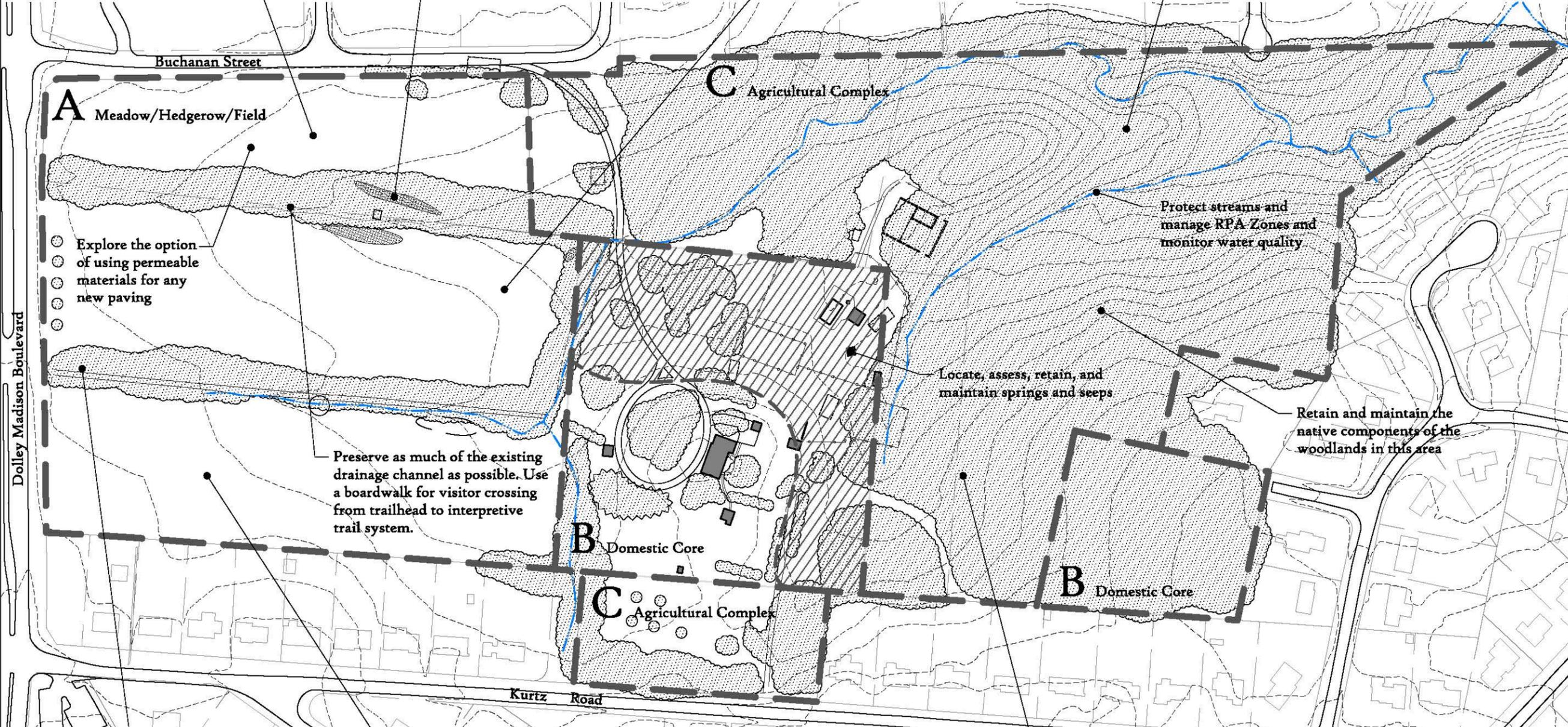
Retain and maintain the native components of the woodlands in this area

Improve the vegetation composition of the west field to bring it up to the high quality of the central meadow

Maintain hedgerows to retain favorable native species and eliminate non-native invasive species

Preserve as much of the existing drainage channel as possible. Use a boardwalk for visitor crossing from trailhead to interpretive trail system.

Explore the option of using permeable materials for any new paving

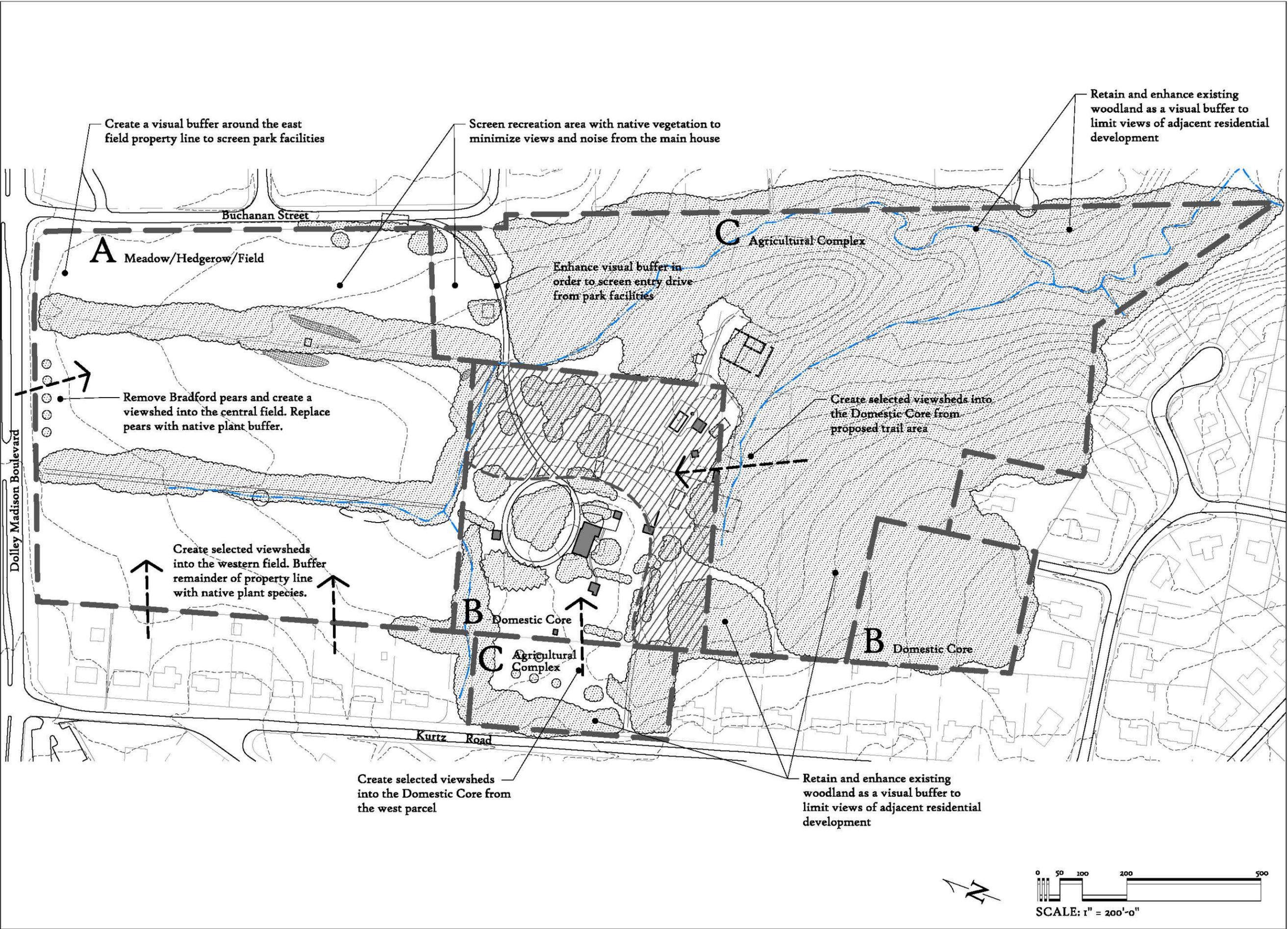


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phase: treatment  
date: July 2008  
revised:

Map 5-4

Treatment Recommendations  
Views and Vistas



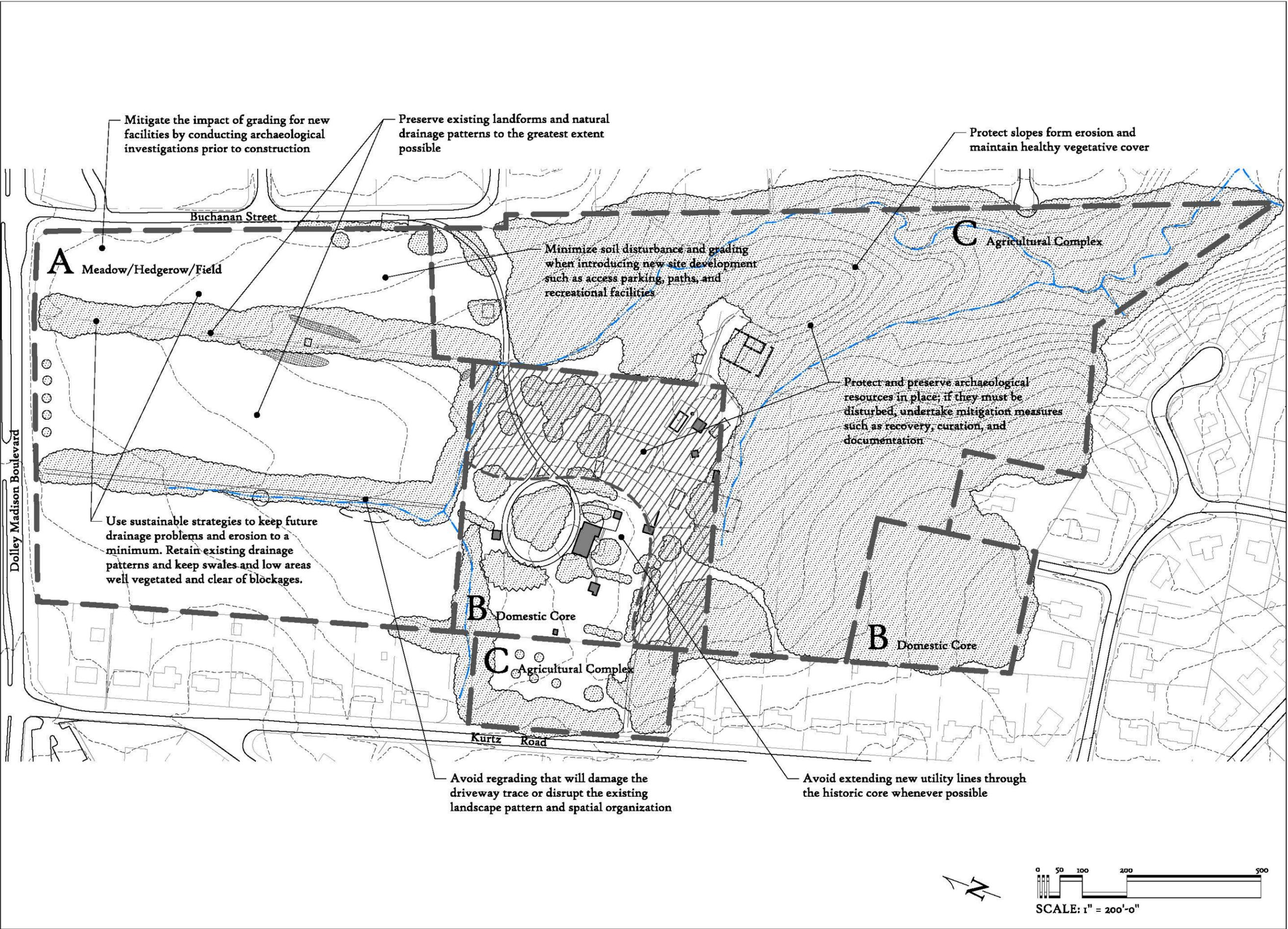
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checked:  
phase: treatment  
date: July 2008  
revised:

Map 5-5

Treatment Recommendations

Topography,  
Landform,  
Archaeology



Salona

Dolley Madison Boulevard  
McLean, Virginia

for the  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
Fairfax County, Virginia

**JMA**  
John Milner Associates, Inc.

300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

johnmilnerassociates.com

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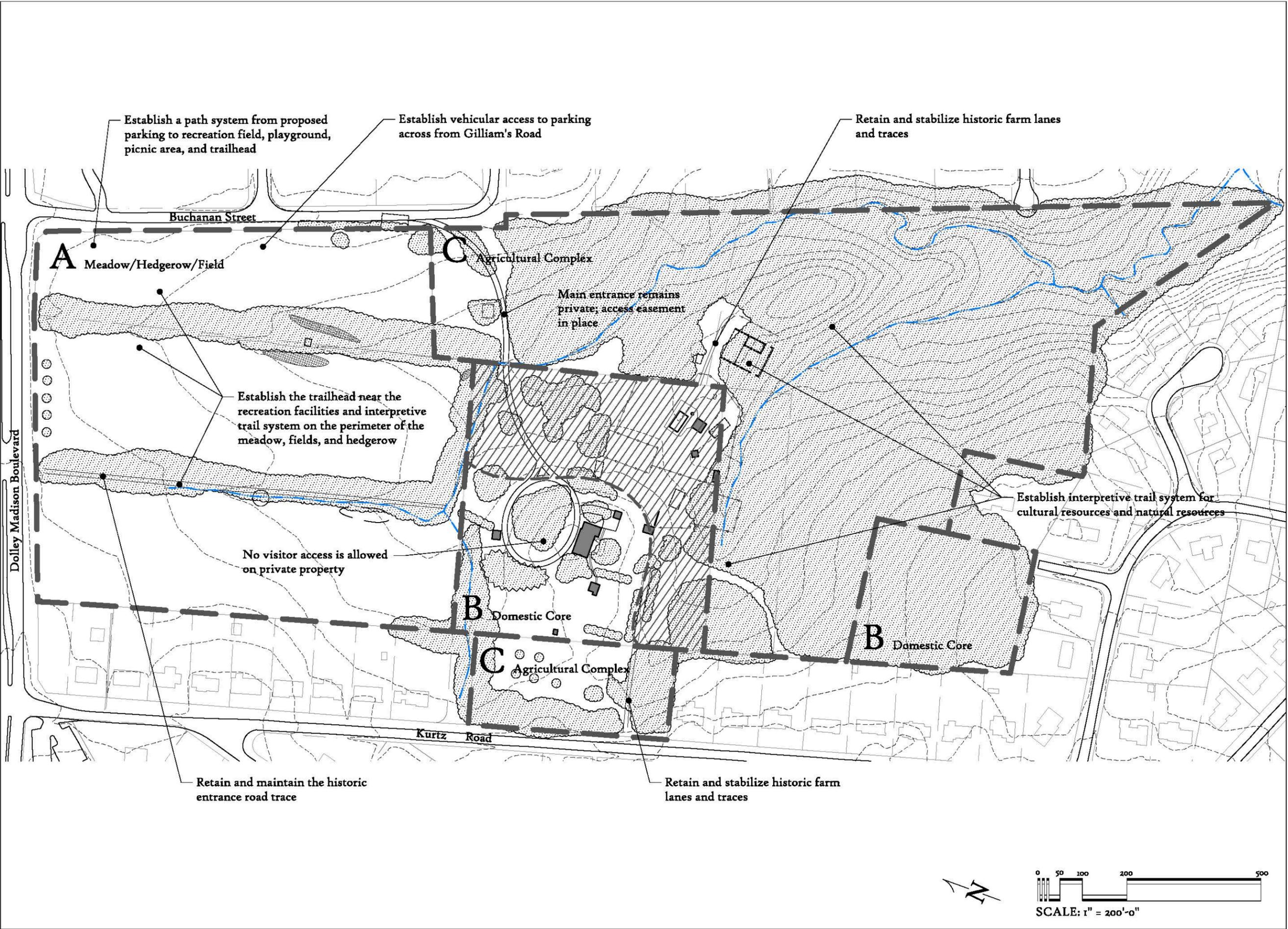
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phase:	treatment
date:	July 2008
revised:	

Map 5-6

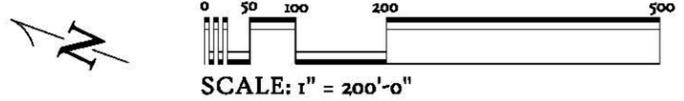
Treatment Recommendations

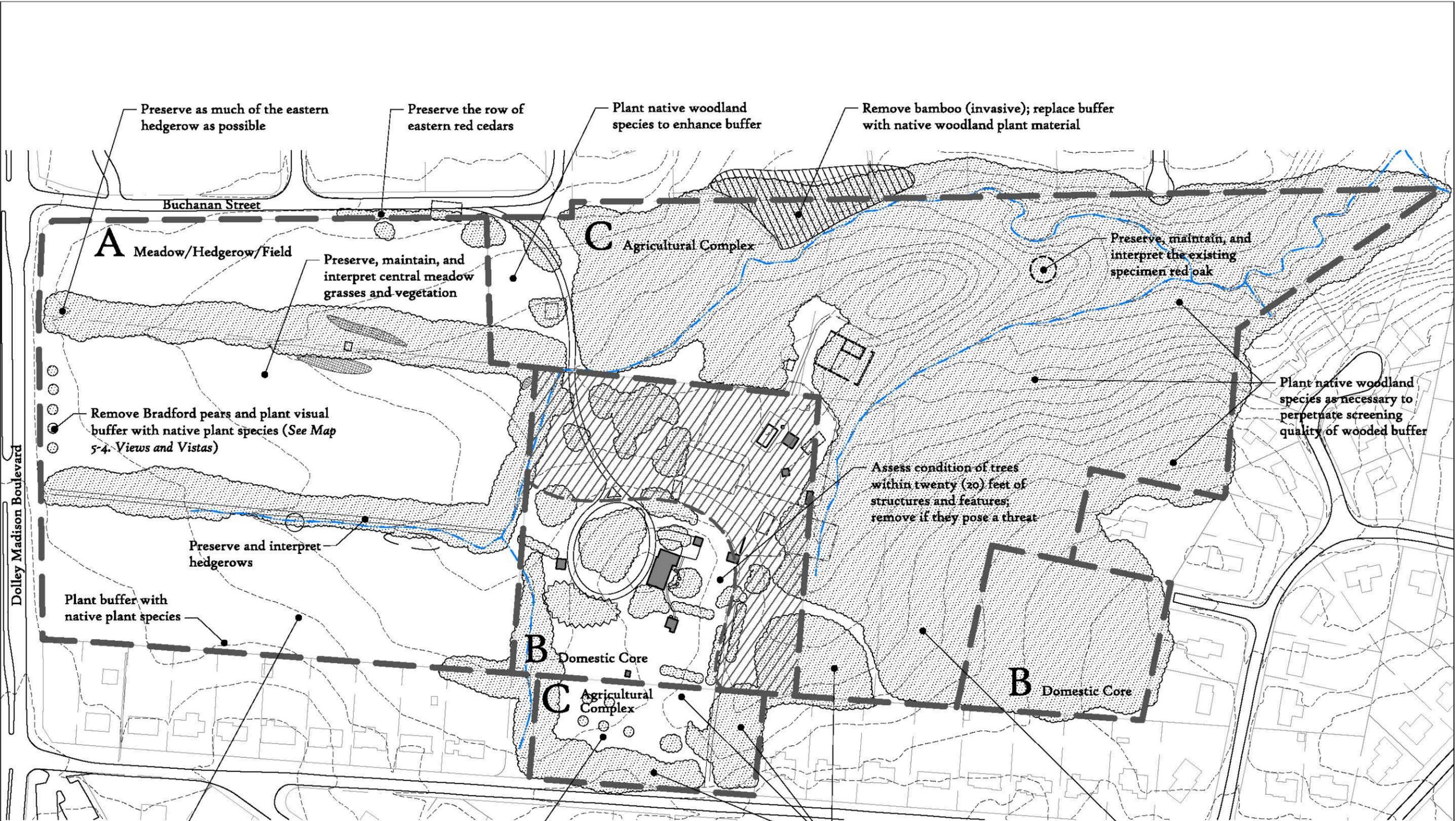
Circulation

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Restore, maintain, and interpret the western meadow

Clear area of invasive species; manage and interpret orchard remnant. Remove dead trees and shrubs and those identified as potentially hazardous to individuals or resources because of their health or condition.

Plant native woodland species as necessary to perpetuate screening quality of wooded buffer

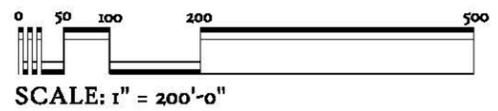
Remove dead trees and shrubs and those identified as potentially hazardous to individuals or resources because of their health or condition

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### Map 5-7

### Treatment Recommendations Vegetation



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phase: treatment  
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revised:

**Map 5-8**

Treatment Recommendations

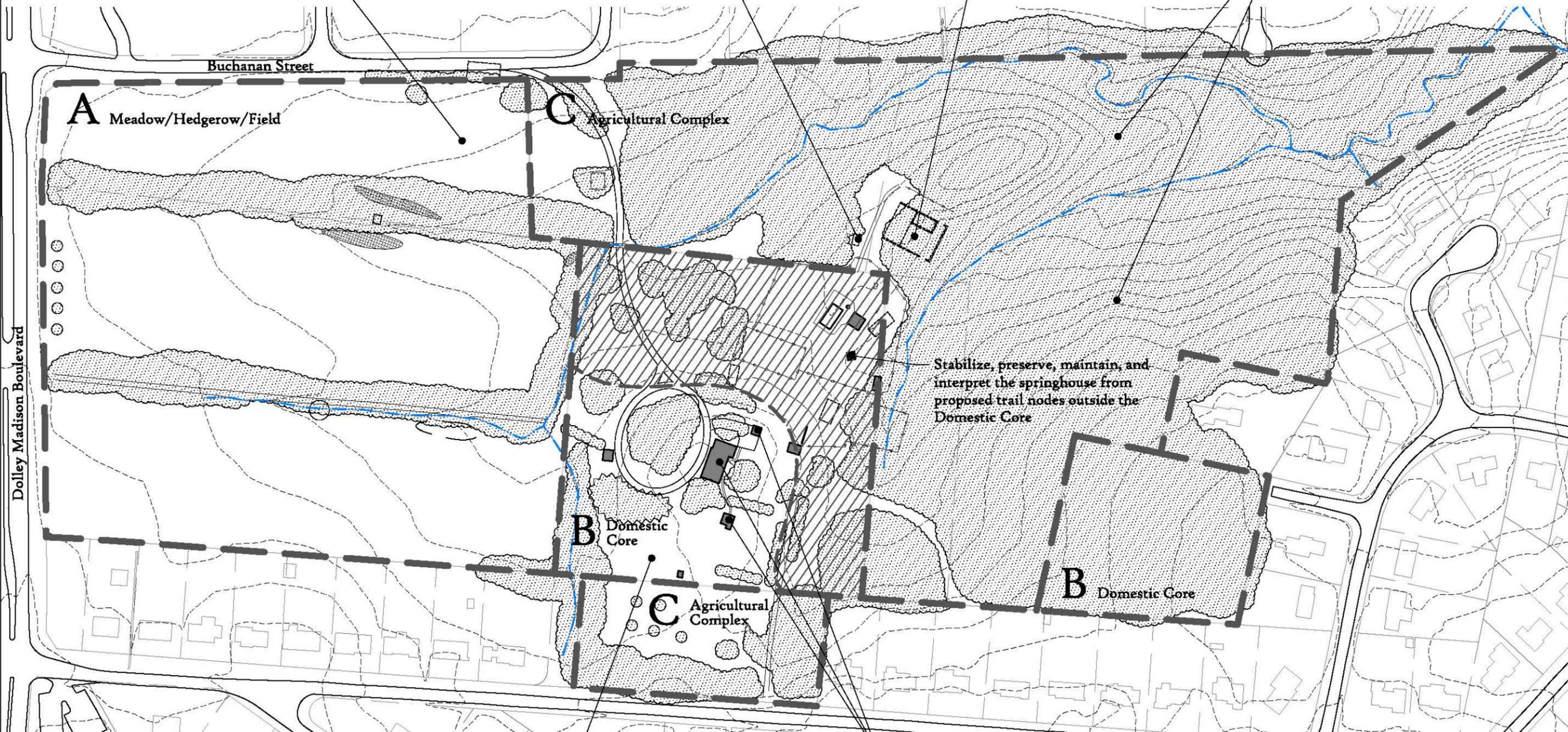
**Buildings and  
Structures**

Minimize scale of any structure associated with recreational fields; building mass should be minimized and screened from view of Domestic Core

Consider interpreting missing building through brick outlines, "ghost structures," and other creative, non-destructive means

Stabilize, preserve, maintain, and interpret stone barn ruins

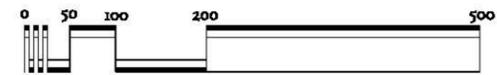
Avoid addition of buildings or structures in woodland Agricultural Complex zone



Stabilize, preserve, maintain, and interpret the springhouse from proposed trail nodes outside the Domestic Core

Stabilize, preserve, maintain, and interpret the main house, smokehouse, outside kitchen/office, privy/bathhouse, red from outbuilding (possibly a dairy), and the corn crib from trail nodes outside the Domestic Core

See Map 5-2 for Treatment Guidelines in the Domestic Core



SCALE: 1" = 200'-0"

Environmental education of wetlands and wetland mitigation as part of and integrate stormwater management system

Interpret period of significance of central meadow and east and west hedgerows

Interpret periods of significance of road trace, stone barn ruin, slave cemetery and remnant orchard

Interpretation of Natural Resources, woodland vegetation, and wildlife habitat

Interpretation of Natural Resources, streams, and water quality, Resource Protection Area

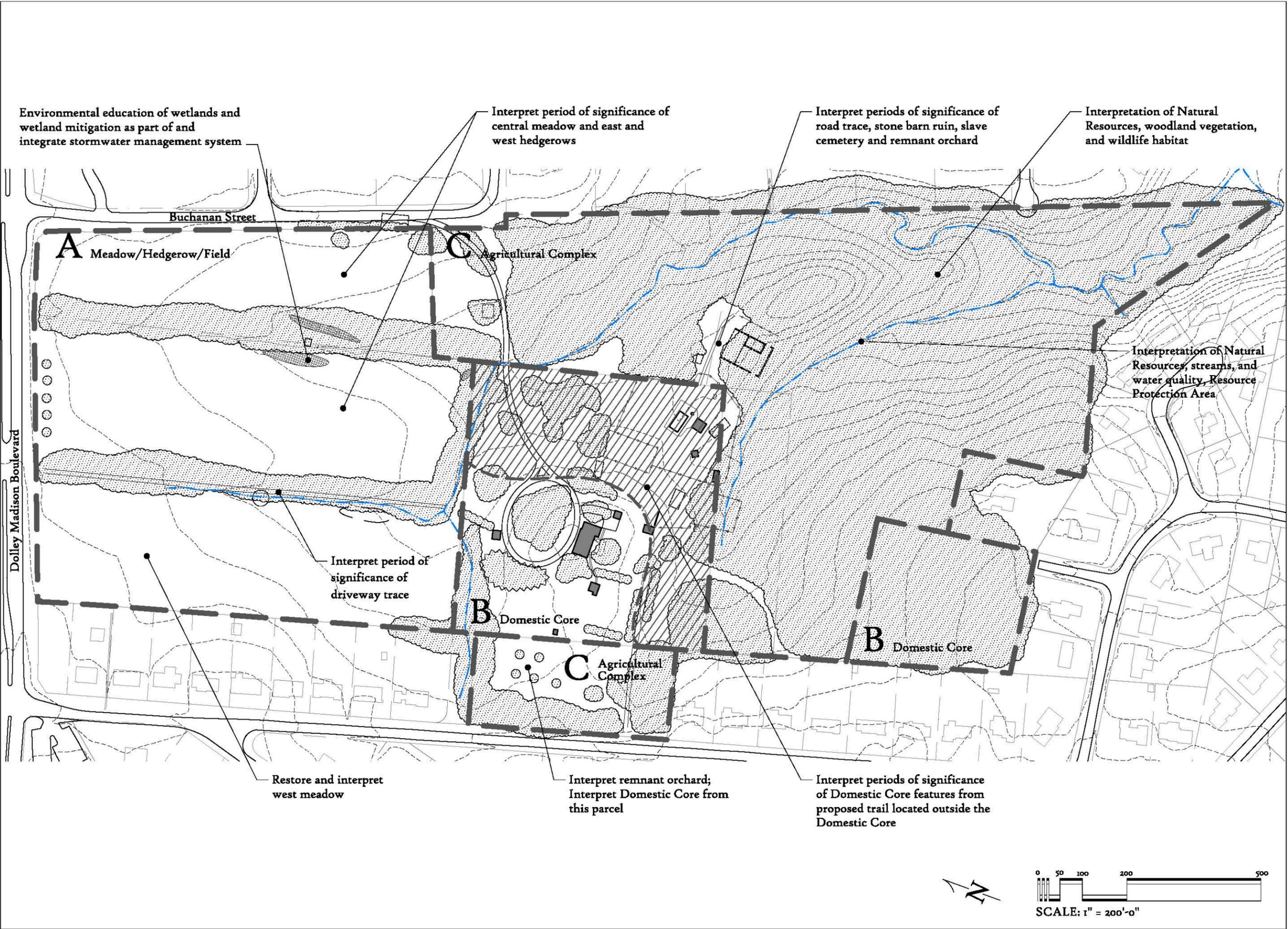
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project: SALONA  
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checked:  
phase: treatment  
date: July 2008  
revised:

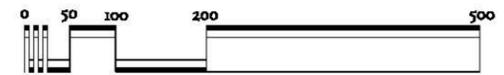
Map 5-9

Treatment Recommendations

Interpretive Opportunities



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SCALE: 1" = 200'-0"

# Chapter Six

## Schematic Design

### Introduction

Using the treatment plan conveyed in Chapter Five of this report as the basis for an approach to management and interpretation at Salona, this chapter illustrates schematic design ideas for implementing resource protection, visitor access and parking, active recreation and interpretation of cultural and natural resources. The schematic plan addresses implementation of treatment recommendations identified in Chapter Five, and accommodates the programmatic needs outlined by the Fairfax County Park Authority (Park Authority) and the Deed of Open Space and Easement Conservation. This chapter is organized into four sections.

- **Opportunities and Constraints:** Lays out the opportunities and challenges presented by the property in considering schematic design (*see Figure 6-1*).
- **Site Program:** Lists the programmatic elements that form the basis for the design.
- **Basis of Design Narrative:** Describes the conceptual design recommended by the CLR. It is supported by a conceptual plan developed to a schematic level of detail (*see Figure 6-3*).
- **Other Alternatives Considered:** Describes variations for accommodating the program requirements within the natural and cultural environment. The pros and cons of each alternative are described for the benefit of current and future site managers (*see Figures 6-4 and 6-5*).

### Opportunities and Constraints

The Salona site presents a remarkable opportunity for the public to experience open space and large meadows in the densely populated residential area of McLean, Virginia. Salona is one of the last, sizable open spaces in McLean. This site also presents a remarkable opportunity for interpretive and educational programs for the public and, as mandated by the deed easement, recreational facilities in a historic setting. The introduction of active recreation facilities to the site as well as the preservation of the historic core as private property combine to present a number of design issues and challenges for a site so rich in cultural and natural resources. One challenge is to locate the visitor contact and recreation area while preserving the historic and natural features of the site. A 50-foot buffer from

the property line as well as vehicular access and parking pose additional challenges to the location of park and recreational facilities. The central location of the private portion of the property also significantly limits options for the siting of the required program elements. Given the sensitive nature of the site's resources and the required program, the challenge is in designing the park facilities to minimize site disturbance and preserve the integrity and resources of as much of the property as possible (*see Figure 6-1 Opportunities and Constraints*).

## Site Program

The site program that follows lists the categories of features and uses that could occur at Salona as part of its development for recreational and park uses as well as natural and cultural resource preservation and interpretation.

### *Circulation – Vehicular*

- Access from Buchanan Street across from Gilliams Road (*see Figure 6-2*).
- Parking for 50 cars per field.

### *Circulation – Pedestrian*

- Access from parking to recreation fields, picnic shelters and play area.
- Access to trailhead for educational programs, interpretive tours, and recreational hiking and jogging.
- Universally accessible access paths.
- Trail system linking interpretive sites with universal accessibility where feasible.
- Orientation, interpretation and wayfinding signage, including signage and trail layout that prevents access to the private property.

### *Interpretation*

- Site interpretation addressing the following themes:
  - Physical history of the Salona property and the families who lived there.
  - Architectural significance of the main house and any outbuildings. Waysides should be strategically located with viewsheds into the historic core in order to interpret structures on private property.
  - The geology and geography of the site.
  - Significance of open meadows in Fairfax County with descriptions of natural resources and processes and identify significant and unique vegetation.

- Wetlands and wetlands mitigation as part of an integrated stormwater management strategy for the site.
- Self- guided interpretive trail and path system.
- Interpretive waysides or a marker system tied to a printed brochure.

#### *Recreational Facilities*

- Recreational field and irrigation pump house. If pump house is a requirement it should be located outside of major viewsheds and screened with native shrubs or trees. It should be a small scale structure with appropriate color and character for the historic site
- Play area
- Picnic area
- Trailhead
- Connecting pathways

#### *Land Use*

- Zones
  - Visitor Contact/Recreational Facilities
  - Native Meadows and Hedgerows
  - Agricultural Complex
  - Domestic Core
- Interpretation / Site-wide trail system
- Viewshed protection

## **Basis of Design Narrative**

### *Schematic Design Plan (see Figure 6-3)*

The following pages outline a design concept for Salona that includes visitor access to the property, recreational facilities and parking, and interpretation of its historic and natural resources through the establishment of a trail system with high-quality exhibits and signage. The primary concept for the site is the provision of much-needed recreational facilities in the least intrusive manner possible, as well as rewarding and educational interpretive experiences. The concept for Salona also takes into consideration the safety, comfort and security of the visitor; protects and preserves historic and cultural resources; works to establish an appropriate location for the recreational facilities in a historic

setting; provides for functional and operational needs; and preserves and enhances the historic core of the site.

#### *Arrival Area and Recreational Program Elements*

- Vehicular access and parking including emergency vehicles
- Pedestrian access to playing field, play area and picnic area and trail head.
- Orientation and wayfinding signage system for both vehicular and pedestrian circulation
- Interpretation at the trailhead of natural systems in this area of the project site.

Access to the recreation site is from Buchanan Street at the intersection of Gilliams Road (*see Figure 6-2*) and parking is provided for 50 cars which is the required amount per recreation field. From the parking area, universally accessible paths provide visitor access to the recreation field, playground, picnic shelters and trailhead. Low-impact development is critical in this area. Low impact development techniques such as porous pavers, rain gardens and bio - filtration should be incorporated into the design and construction of the park facilities. Wetlands and required wetland mitigation can provide storm water management solutions, as well as environmental resource interpretation. Visitors using the recreational field, playground, or picnic areas can go directly to those places after parking. Pedestrian paths link parking to the park facilities.

The pedestrian paths in the arrival area would be 6-8 feet wide and universally accessible. The design also allows visitors to go directly to the trail head for jogging or walking the interpretive trail loops. The trailhead should be used for educational programs in conjunction with the interpretive trail tour and picnic lunches.

Informal wayfinding and regulatory signs on the property will be minimal. Most will be placed in the vicinity of the parking area and the trailhead. The park identity signs will be designed as part of a property-wide sign system that maintains a consistent character, use of materials, and graphic design component throughout.

#### *Interpretive Trails*

Interpretive trails would include loops along the edge of the meadow area of the site as well as the woodlands and perimeter of the historic area of the site. There is no access to the private property and historic features in the domestic core area, but the domestic core can be interpreted from specific vantage points and waysides which can tell the story from a distance. Methods to discourage public use of the private property include vegetative screening, fencing appropriate in character for a historic site and unobtrusive signage in particularly vulnerable areas. The waysides could be supplemented with brochures or other graphics, keyed to the inaccessible yet visible parts of the historic core. The historic core could also be interpreted using podcasts. From the trailhead, the visitor will have the choice of taking the trails along the meadows, hedgerows, and old road trace; or crossing the drive and entering the woodlands trail that skirts the perimeter

of the historic core. This part of the trail takes the visitor to the stone barn ruins and potentially to the old slave cemetery, which still needs to be located, cleared of invasive vegetation and documented. Strategic viewsheds into the historic core from the trail could provide interpretation opportunities of features and structures such as:

- Main house
- Smokehouse
- Outside kitchen/office
- Springhouse
- Historic fence line
- Red hay barn
- Red wood frame outbuilding
- Corn crib

The trail will be 4-6 feet wide and will widen slightly to form nodes at points of interest and at the strategic viewsheds that allow groups of visitors to pause and relate what they see to the interpretive wayside. The trail will be universally accessible where possible and not limited by topography constraints or historic/cultural resource constraints.

The trail through the native meadow area of the site offers significant opportunities for natural resource interpretation as well as historical and cultural interpretation. The central native meadow will be interpreted at various waysides emphasizing vegetation, wildlife habitat, historical uses and development of the meadow, and the existing cultural landscape pattern. The trail also provides interpretive opportunities for the west field, the hedgerows, and the driveway trace in the west hedgerow.

There is existing public access to the land parcel west of the domestic core/private property. The public access easement can be easily utilized by the adjacent neighborhood. However, access from this small parcel to the rest of the trail system as well as the larger conservation easement is only possible by crossing the private property line (*Figure 6-3*). Treatment recommendations for this parcel include: exploring measures to secure an access easement on the Domestic Core property, providing picnic areas for public use, providing waysides for interpretation of the historic orchard located on the parcel and interpretation of the features in the Domestic Core through selected viewsheds. The west property line of the DuVal parcel will be protected by vegetative screening and appropriate fencing in order to discourage public access onto their private property.

### *Viewsheds*

Buffer plantings are added to the west and north of the meadows to screen views to neighborhood development to the west and traffic on Dolley Madison Boulevard. The

existing Bradford pears along Dolley Madison Boulevard are invasive and should be removed and native species planted to provide selected buffering. Selected viewsheds are designed to allow views into the meadows from the neighborhoods and from the road. Glimpses into these open fields in such a densely developed context are rare in Fairfax County and enhance the value and potential use of Salona as a park and a major historical site. Buffer planting is also added to the north and east of the recreation/park facilities in order to screen the facilities from Buchanan Street and from the intersection of Dolley Madison and Buchanan. The isolated parcel to the west, retains some orchard remnants but also invasives along the boundary with Kurtz road. These invasives will be removed to open up views from Kurtz Road and the neighborhood. This will enhance potential use of this parcel.

#### *Agricultural Complex and Successional Woodland (including Trail Loops)*

The margins of the property abutting residential areas will be maintained in woodland to limit incompatible views. New development will not occur within this area; rather, the program will be limited to urban forest management with some potential for limited interpretation. In order to provide viewshed protection and promote woodland health, invasive species will be identified, removed, and controlled. Additional plantings will be installed as necessary to enhance the buffering qualities of the woodland using native woodland species that are drought-tolerant, can tolerate some shade, and include both evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs, and other plants.

Trails are of various lengths, and all are not universally accessible due to topographic constraints. Waysides along the trail in this area can interpret cultural and natural features including: the former farmyard, specimen red oak, ice pond, unique geology, wildlife habitat, and unique vegetation. Visitors will be informed of trail lengths and degree of accessibility in order to plan their route ahead of time. Trails in the wooded areas will avoid impacts to specimen trees, utilize existing sanitary sewer corridors wherever possible and be located, constructed and maintained so as to avoid and minimize impacts to natural and cultural resources. Trails will include interpretive nodes with selected viewsheds into the Domestic Core to interpret the historic features from outside the private property.

## **Other Alternatives Considered**

Due to sensitive natural resources and cultural landscapes, the Salona property presents particular challenges for the accommodation of park facilities such as vehicular access and parking, recreational fields, play area, picnic shelters, and trailheads. To address these challenges, the CLR team pursued a series of alternative options for the location of vehicular entry and parking and the recreational facilities. It has been clear throughout the project that accommodating the proposed site program at Salona will entail at least some compromise of the tenets presented in the treatment plan, and will likely have some impact on the site's integrity. The challenge is and will continue to be how to minimize the impact of site access and parking, of recreational facilities and of visitor use of the facilities on historic and natural features. The schematic design (*Figure 6-3*) reflects the

alternative preferred by the majority of the project team including the Park Authority representatives. Other options were also considered by the group and are indicated on the following pages through graphic depictions and written descriptions numerating the reasons each particular option was not further pursued.

### **Schematic Alternative “B”** (*see Figure 6-4*)

Alternative B was considered due to the documented need for additional recreational fields in Fairfax County. Alternative B located one recreational field (190' x 380') in the east meadow and a second field in the central meadow. Also located in the east meadow are the parking lot (100 vehicles), playground, picnic shelters and trailhead. Vehicular access is from Buchanan Street at Gilliams Road intersection. The second recreational field is rotated to an east/west orientation and is in the northern most portion of the central meadow. Due to its size, this field encroaches into the northwest portion of the eastern meadow and the northeast portion of the west meadow and breeches both hedgerows, which include a drainage channel in the east hedgerow and a historic road trace in the west hedgerow. Also, a significant portion of the east hedgerow would have to be removed in order to accommodate vehicular access and parking and the second field. The location of the second field in the central meadow is a major intrusion on this stable, native meadow. This very healthy native meadow contrasts sharply with almost every other field in the region and, according to naturalist Charles Smith, “is the best meadow in eastern Fairfax County.” Drainage will become an issue for the recreational field where it breeches the drainage channel and artificial drainage structures will have to be installed to alleviate problems. New drainage infrastructure will further disturb the landscape of the meadow affecting both vegetation and wildlife habitat. Location of facilities in the eastern meadow is less problematic, as this meadow is already moderately disturbed and would require significant work for restoration. However, this alternative was ultimately not pursued due to negative impacts on the historical landscape pattern, on vegetation and wildlife in the rare and sensitive central meadow, on the existing drainage patterns, and on the road trace in the west hedgerow.

### **Schematic Alternative “C”** (*see Figure 6-5*)

This alternative incorporates one full size recreational field in the east meadow and a practice field in the central meadow. The practice field is oriented north/south. Due to the diminished size of the practice field, there is no breach of the drainage channel or road trace. The east hedgerow requires a small clearing for access to the practice field. A boardwalk or small bridge would be necessary for visitors to walk over the drainage channel to preserve the drainage process and keep their feet dry. The size and location of the practice field, though smaller than the full sized field, has a negative impact on the central meadow. It also affects the integrity of the historical landscape pattern and form as well as vegetation and habitat. The impact to the east meadow remains essentially the same as in Alternative B. This alternative was not ultimately pursued due to negative impacts on the central meadow and the amount of parking required when there are two fields and other additional amenities on the site.

## Guidelines for Trail Design and Surfaces

*Citation: National Center on Accessibility. (Fall 2001, revised October 2007). Trail surfaces: what do I need to know now? Bloomington, IN: National Center on Accessibility, Indiana University-Bloomington Retrieved from [www.ncaonline.org](http://www.ncaonline.org).*

“There are two main aspects for consideration regarding accessible trail surfaces. First, the surface must be firm and stable so that the users with disabilities do not expend unnecessary energy that could be used enjoying the trail. Second, there are a variety of surface materials available to enhance accessibility, therefore, the functionality and aesthetics of each product should be considered.

Guidelines require the trail to be firm and stable.

When deciding on a trail surface material, a site manager should ask the following questions:

- What is the goal of the trail experience?
- Who is the primary user group?
- What are my budget and maintenance constraints?
- What are the geological characteristics of the trail site?

It is important to ask the surface supplier for references regarding the use of their product in a region similar to your own. Then talk to the trail personnel that have experience with the surface application.

There are a variety of materials available for firming and stabilizing trails. A common type of material is a soil stabilizer; a product that binds different surfaces together. Stabilizers can be applied directly to the native soil or be mixed with other products. As a trail surface material, however, it is more common, and possible less costly in the long run to prepare a base surface for application. The soil stabilization product is mixed with quarter-minus stone and fines, compacted and then smoothed and shaped according to trail drainage requirements

Through research and case law, several surfaces have been determined to be inaccessible. Sand particles are too fine to give support, therefore retreating under pressure. Pea gravel, mulch and woodchips are pushed aside by crutches and wheelchairs, thereby creating an unstable surface to traverse. Large gravel rocks are an extremely difficult surface to traverse for not only challenged visitors, but able body visitors as well. Soil indigenous to the area may be accessible if properly compacted and maintained, however, weather conditions can later the accessibility of such a surface in a matter of minutes. A thorough evaluation of your needs and comprehensive research into the materials and their suppliers should ensure an accessible trail surface that can be enjoyed by all visitors.”

*Citation: Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, (DNR) – Trails and Waterways Division*

Primary goal of this section is to provide a set of practical guidelines for planning and designing sustainable trails that will meet the needs of visitors for generations to come.

Specific goals include:

- Promoting best practices to help ensure that all trail experiences are enjoyable, safe, and sustainable, with minimal impacts to natural resources
- Promoting a high level of access to trails serving the many needs and physical capabilities of trail visitors.
- Reducing costs through the use of practical, time tested methods for developing and maintaining trails

The process for developing high-quality natural surface trails centers around two important considerations:

1. **Defining the user group(s).** Each type of user group brings with it trail development nuances that must be considered if the trail is to be sustainable with minimal maintenance.
2. **Planning a route that is sustainable and enjoyable.** An interesting, exciting, and rewarding route is critical to trail success and sustainability. If trails do not meet user expectations, the likelihood of bypassing and creating new routes increases.

Process for developing natural surface trail.

1. Confirm property limits
2. Confirm trail users – to understand the exact trail requirements and the design parameters that must be applied.
3. Layout the trail – including control points and desired nodes of interpretation. Loop configurations, trail flow, and rolling grade character are all important factors in creating an appealing trail.
4. Flag the trail corridor – incorporating all of the desired features and creating a sequence of events that will make the trail interesting and meet the desired level of challenge.
5. Prepare a construction plan
6. Construct the trail.
7. Formalize a management and maintenance

## Low Impact Development Methods

### Pervious Paving

Pervious or porous pavement is permeable or perforated material or pavers with spaces that allow transmission of water to an aggregate or subsoil base beneath. Runoff is temporarily stored in the base for infiltration into subsoils or for slow release into a storm drain system. Pervious pavements can also filter some pollutants from stormwater.

Benefits of pervious pavements:

- 1) Pervious pavements reduce runoff rates and volumes.
- 2) Pervious pavements recharge groundwater and sustain base flow.
- 3) Pervious pavements can reduce site detention needs.
- 4) Pervious pavements can improve water quality while protecting water resources.

Design considerations:

- 1) Base and subbase materials should be coarse aggregate with no fines to allow adequate drainage.
- 2) Subgrade needs to be graded at a minimum slope of 1 percent to allow drainage when the entry rate of stormwater exceeds the capacity of the subsoils to handle it.
- 3) Subsoils should be compacted to the least level necessary to achieve structural stability in order to encourage infiltration.
- 4) Geotextiles should be used between the base and the subgrade to improve structural stability and separate these two layers.
- 5) Underdrains should be placed at the edge of paved areas to provide drainage when the entry rate is too high for the system to infiltrate the stormwater within 24 hours.



Source: <http://www.resourceventure.org/green-your-business>



Source: <http://www.lrc.usace.army.mil/co-rImage28>

## Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are landscaped areas designed to retain and detain stormwater runoff from paved surfaces, roofs, and planted surfaces that may be subject to erosion. These gardens are ornamental features that serve a sustainable function, and help infiltrate stormwater into the ground. By minimizing the amount of stormwater going into local storm drains, streams, and rivers, rain gardens help to reduce the potential for local flooding, as well as bank and shoreline damage.

The benefits of rain gardens:

- 1) Rain gardens reduce runoff volumes and rates from circulation systems, lawns, and cultivated areas.
- 2) Rain gardens recharge groundwater and sustain base flows.
- 3) Rain gardens reduce sediment and nutrient runoff.
- 4) Rain gardens reduce pollution in nearby streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes.
- 5) Rain gardens can reduce other detention basin needs.
- 6) Rain gardens can enhance the aesthetic value of a site.
- 7) Rain gardens can provide wildlife habitat.
- 8) Rain gardens can reduce the need for costly municipal water treatment facilities.

Design considerations:

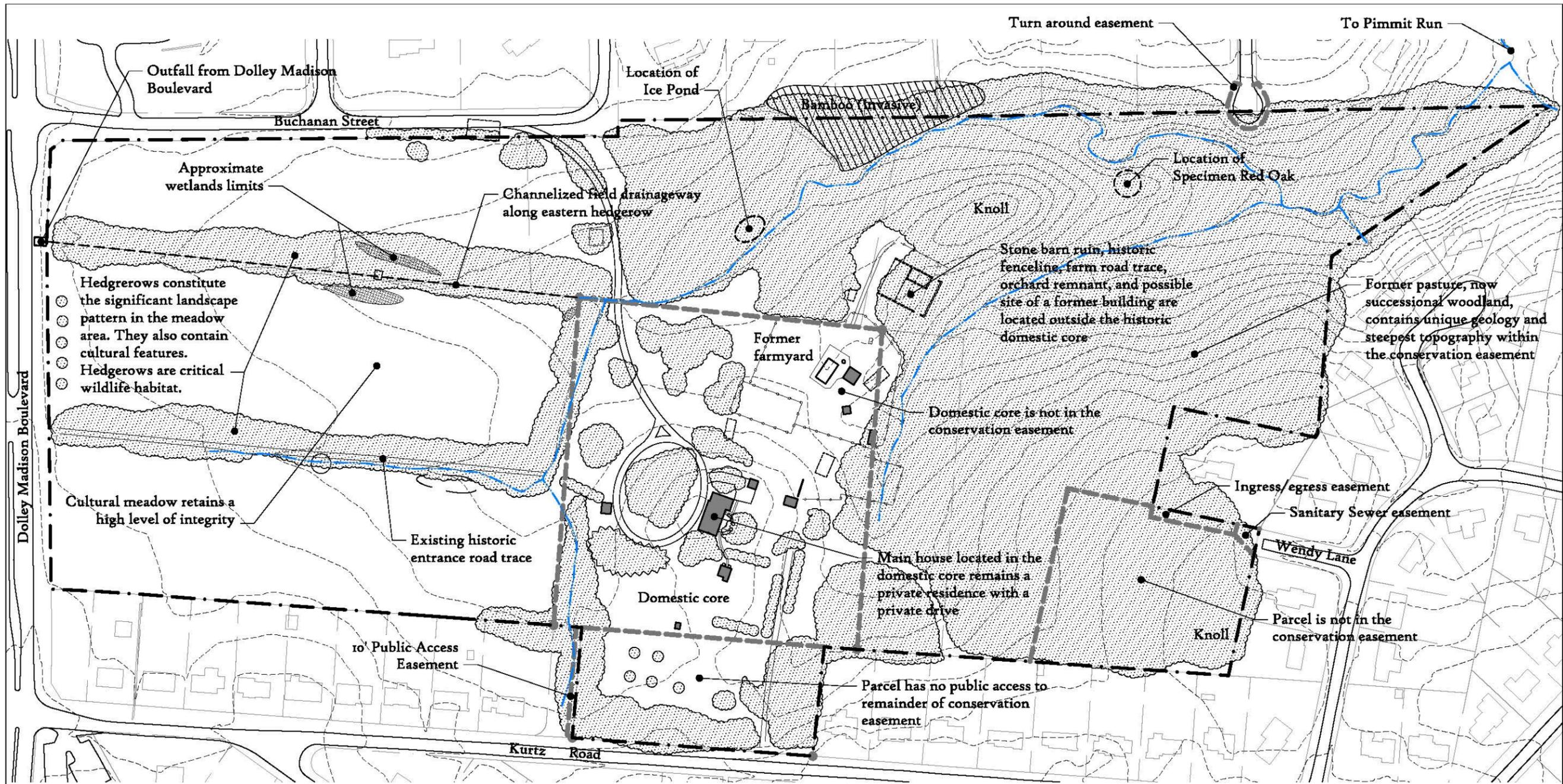
- 1) Rain gardens should be sized and designed based on drainage area, soils, and desired runoff volume reduction.
- 2) Filtration and nutrient control benefits can be improved by planting native vegetation.
- 3) The soils in the top 18” to 24” should be amended with leaf compost and coarse sand to enhance organic content and improve permeability.



Source: <http://www.urbanwaterquality.org/Raingardens/LIDRGI>.



Source: <http://www.metrocouncil.org/Directions/waterimag>



**Opportunities**

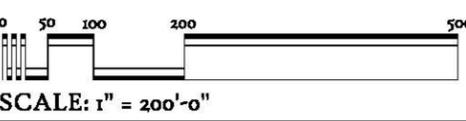
- For public to experience open space, historical site interpretation, and recreation facilities in the densely populated residential area
- For interpretive and educational programs for the public
- For interpretation of historical features and structures in the conservation easement and with views into the domestic core
- For natural resource interpretation, including: unique geology, vegetation, wetlands, and wildlife habitat
- For cultural resource interpretation, including: land use patterns, vegetation patterns, orchard remnants, historic structures, farmyard structures, and road traces
- For site-wide trail systems to link field/meadow area to the successional woodlands and eventually to the small parcel to the west of the domestic core

**Constraints**

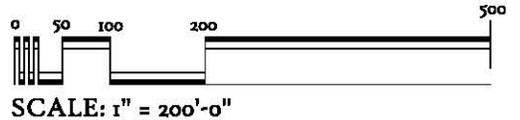
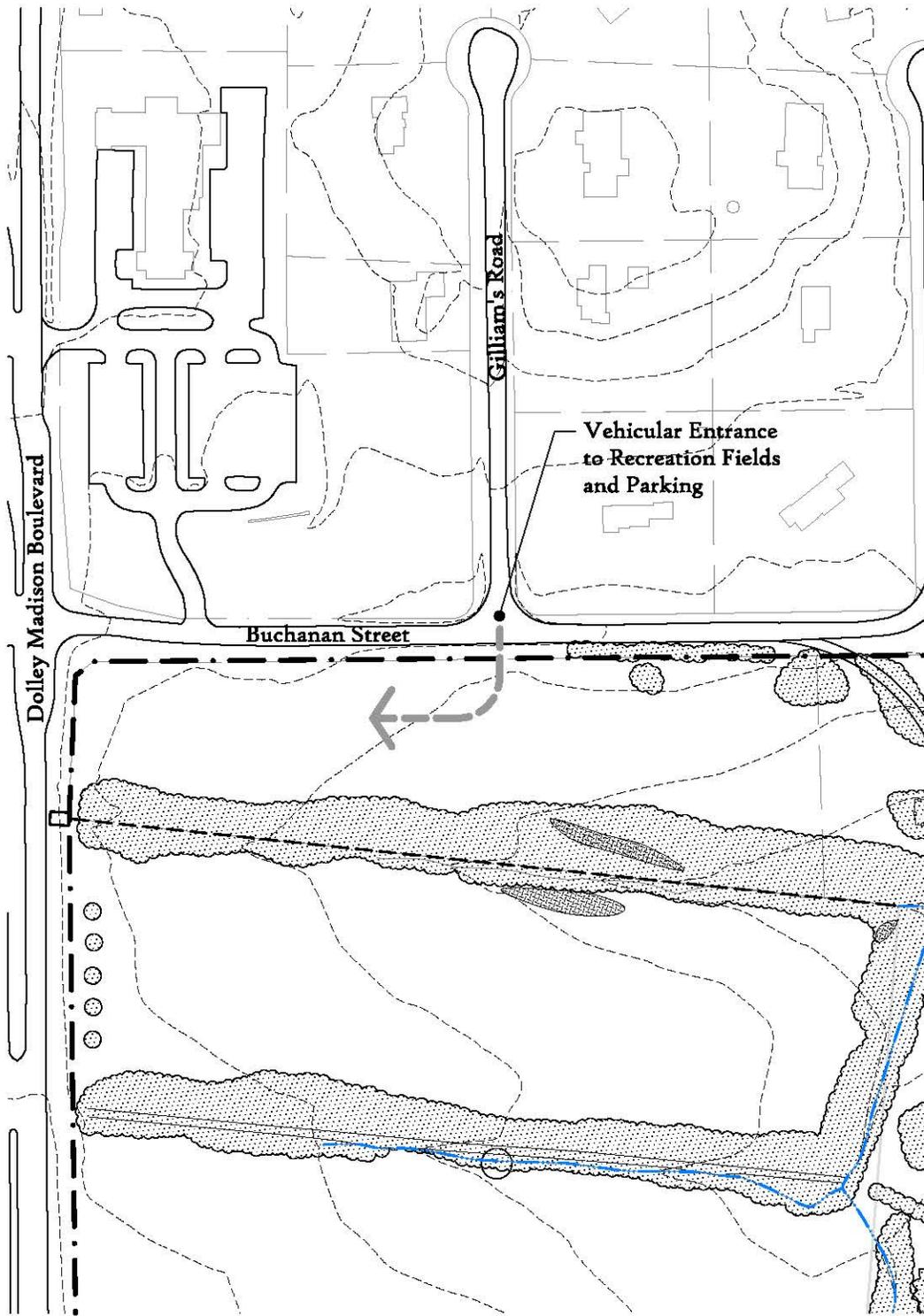
- Landscape patterns and cultural features limit availability of open space suitable to accommodate recreational program elements
- Natural features such as wetlands, stream channels, hedgerows, and native meadows limit availability of open space suitable to accommodate recreational program elements
- A number of historic structures are in the domestic core and must be interpreted from nodes in the conservation easement, with views into the domestic core
- Small parcel to the west of the domestic core is isolated from the larger conservation easement by the boundary of the domestic core
- Steep topography in the former pasture/successional woodland area prohibits universal accessibility for trails

**Legend**

- Property Line
- Sub-parcels
- 2' Topographic Contour
- Waterway
- Road
- Driveway
- Road Trace
- New Fence
- Historic Fence
- Building Structure
- Site
- Woodland
- Cedar row
- Tree
- Shrub
- Wetland



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John Milner Associates, Inc.

300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

johnmilnerassociates.com

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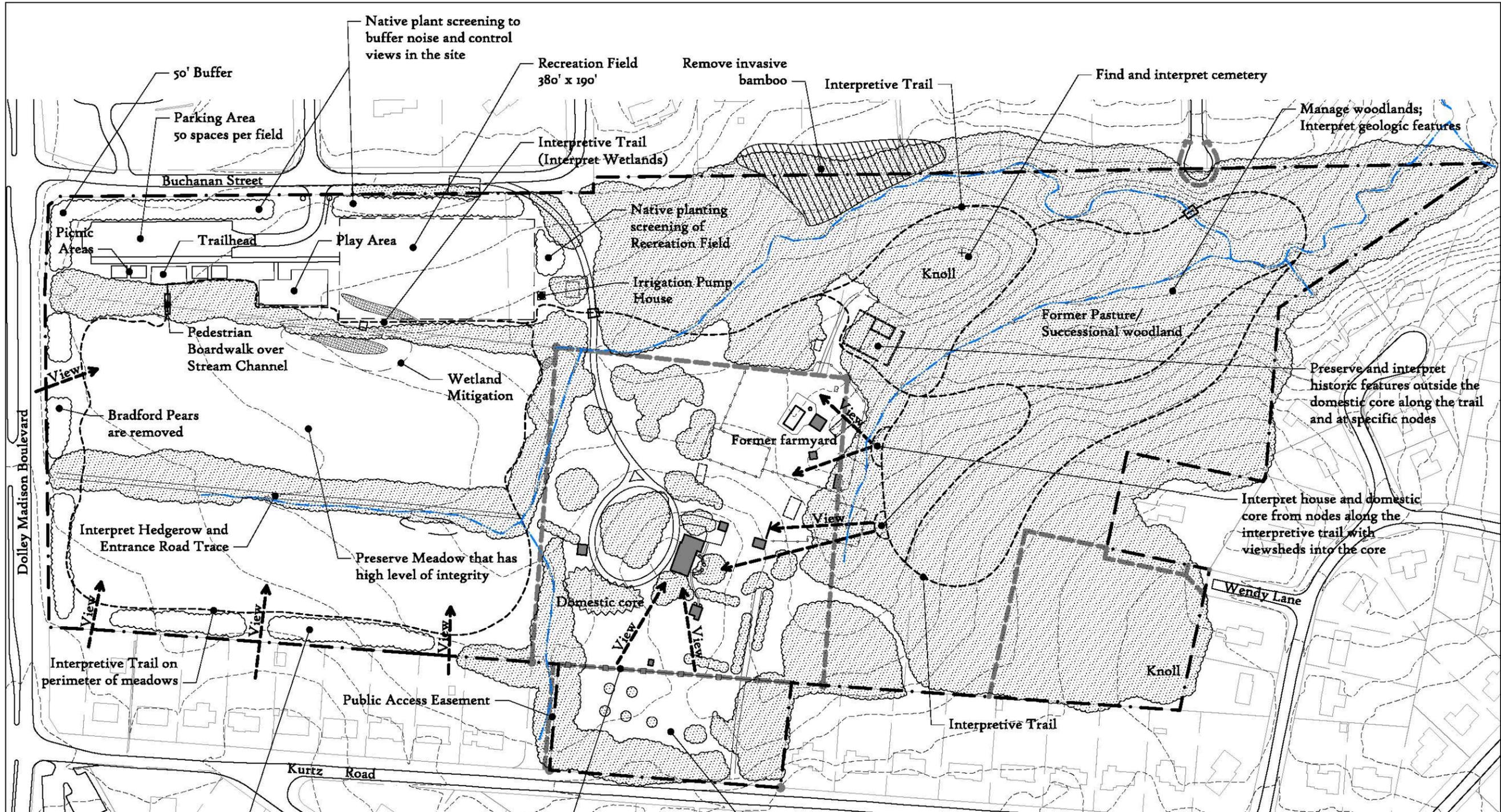
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ONLY**  
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phase:	treatment
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revised:	

**Figure 6-2**

**Vehicular  
Access  
Recreation Fields**

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Native plant screening of site with controlled views from the adjacent neighborhood

Restrict access from this isolated parcel by use of period fencing, and native vegetation. Use signage to interpret house from direct views into the domestic core. Provide picnic facilities and interpret the remnant orchard.

Explore measures to secure an easement on the Domestic Core so public has access to the site from this parcel

Manage woodlands; Interpret geologic features

Preserve and interpret historic features outside the domestic core along the trail and at specific nodes

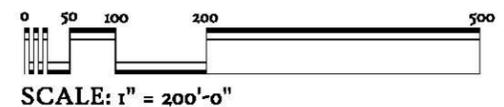
Interpret house and domestic core from nodes along the interpretive trail with viewsheds into the core

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Figure 6-3

Schematic Design  
Alternative A



Overflow Parking  
35-40 spaces

Parking  
100 spaces  
(50 per field)

Entrance

Recreation Field #1  
380' x 190'

Buchanan Street

50' Buffer

Dolley Madison Boulevard

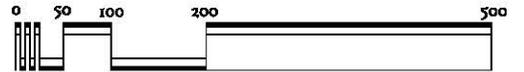
Picnic Area  
Play Area

Trailhead

Interpretive Trail

Recreation Field #2  
380' x 190'

Interpretive Trail



SCALE: 1" = 200'-0"

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John Milner Associates, Inc.

300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

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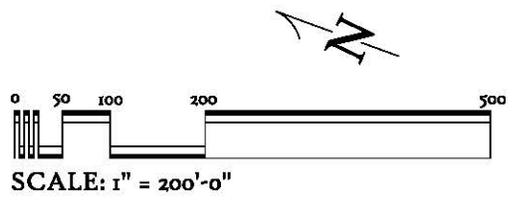
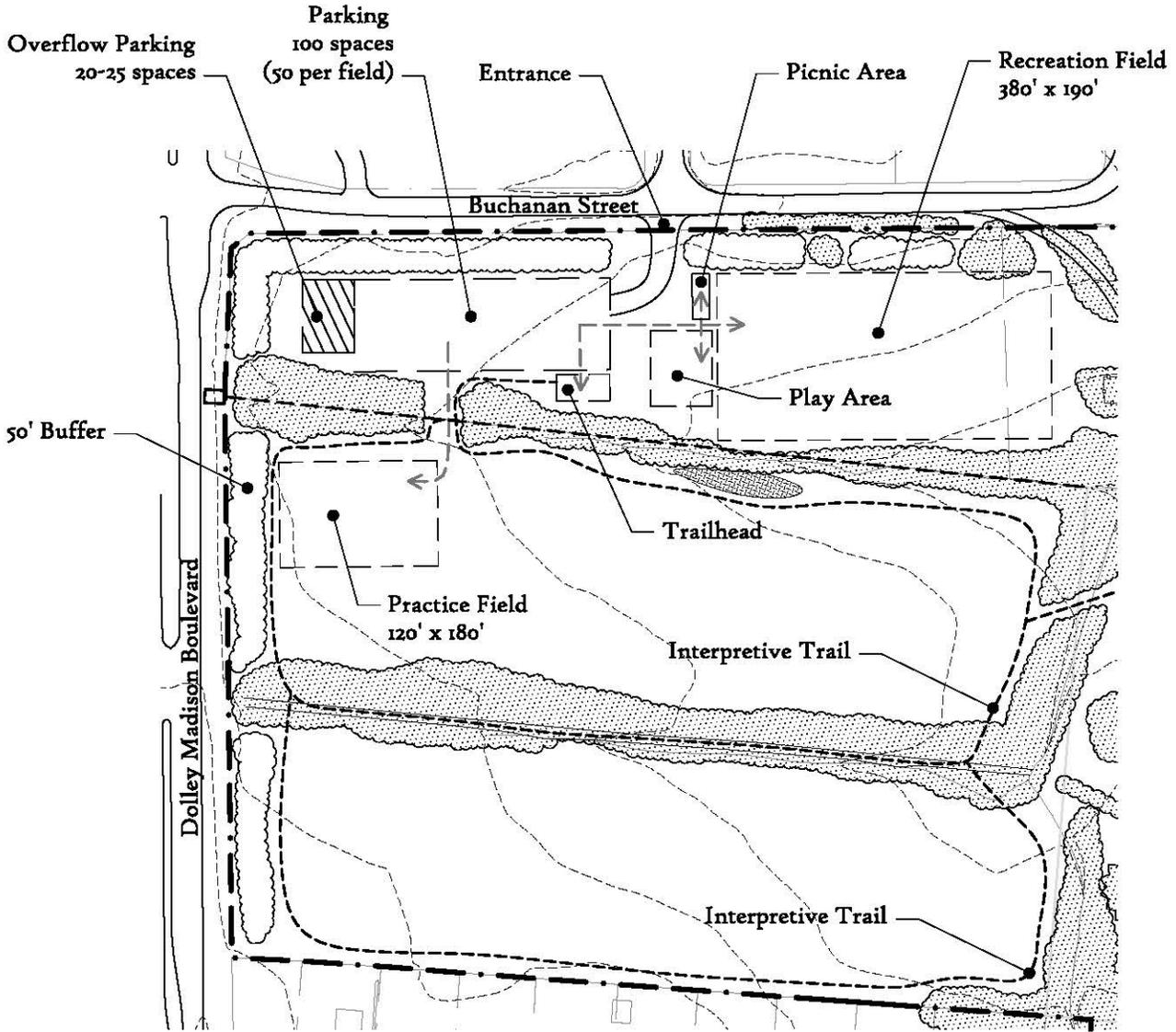
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Figure 6-4

Schematic  
Design  
Alternative B

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300 West Main Street, Suite 201  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

t: 434 979 1617  
f: 434 979 3645

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**Figure 6-5**

**Schematic  
Design  
Alternative C**

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