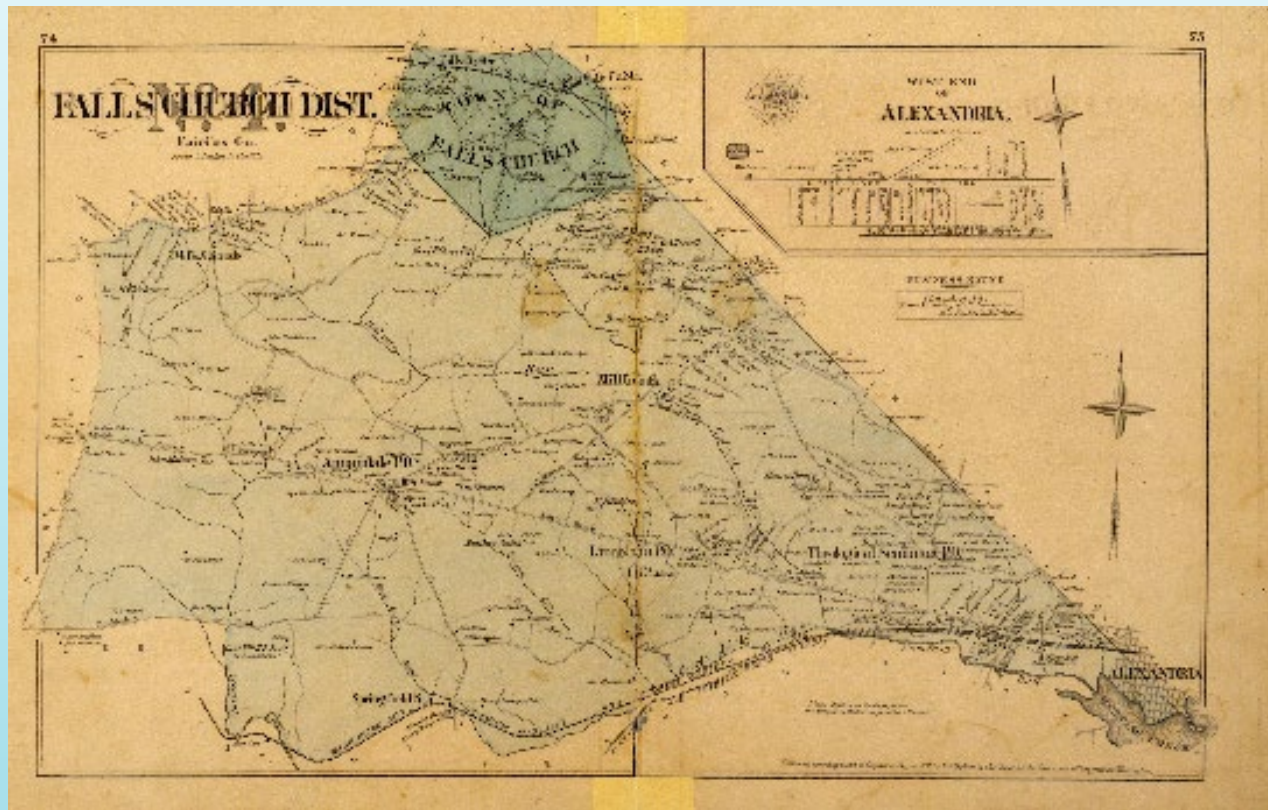


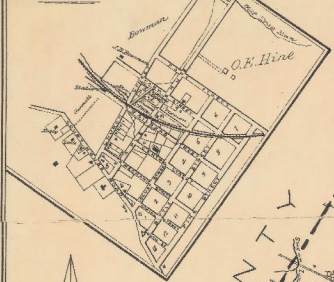


Fairfax County's Election Districts

1852-2021



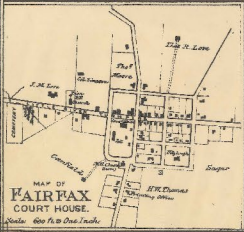
PLAN OF
VIENNA.
Scale: 600 Feet to One Inch



PLAN OF
FALLS CHURCH.
Scale: 500 Feet to One Inch



EXPLANATIONS.
All the Maps are drawn to the same Scale.
The signifier School House, the signifier Church



MAP
OF
FAIRFAX
COUNTY,
VIRGINIA.
Scale: 1 1/2 Miles to One Inch

Drawn for O.K. Hine by A.J. Stegmann
A.C. Volney, Lith.

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COUNTY OF FAIRFAX
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



1991-92





**Board of Supervisors Redistricting Resolution and Federal
and State Legal Requirements**

Proportional Representation

- U.S. Constitution, 14th amendment – the Equal Protection Clause.
- Virginia Constitution, Article VII, § 5: “If the members are elected by district, the district shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory and shall be so constituted as to give, as nearly as is practicable, representation in proportion to the population of the district. When members are so elected by district, the governing body of any county, city, or town may, in a manner provided by law, increase or diminish the number, and change the boundaries, of districts, and shall in 1971 and every ten years thereafter, and also whenever the boundaries of such districts are changed, reapportion the representation in the governing body among the districts in a manner provided by law.”

- Fairfax County currently has nine election districts.
- State law allows as few as 5 election districts or as many as 11 in a County operating under the Urban County Executive form of government.
- Redistricting Resolution: “The Board will consider redistricting plans that maintain nine election districts as well as any other plans that propose a lawful number of election districts.”

- United States Supreme Court: Local districts with a maximum population deviation under 10% are presumed constitutional.
- Redistricting Resolution: “The Board will not consider redistricting plans that would result in a maximum population deviation (i.e., the sum of the percentage deviations from population equality of the most- and least-populated districts) that is ten percent or greater.”

Traditional Redistricting Principles and Requirements of Virginia Law

- Requirements in Virginia law:
 - Compactness.
 - Contiguity.
 - Clearly defined and observable boundaries.
 - “After the publication of the official results of each United States decennial census, the board shall make such changes in district boundaries as are required to meet the tests of equitable population distribution among the districts with a minimum disruption of the then existing district pattern of service.”

Traditional Redistricting Principles and Requirements of Virginia Law

Redistricting Resolution: The Board will consider

- Existing geographical and political boundaries, including but not limited to town boundaries.
- Existing districts and incumbent representation on local public bodies that may be affected by redistricting.
- Established communities of interest. “ A community of interest is defined as a neighborhood or geographically defined group of people living in an area who share similar social, cultural, and economic interests. Present and planned use of land and public facilities are relevant to defining communities of interest. A community of interest does not include a community based upon political affiliation or relationship with a political party.”

Race, Ethnicity, Language Minorities, and Redistricting

- Redistricting Resolution: “The Board will not consider redistricting plans that result in the denial or abridgement of the rights of any racial or language minority group to participate in the political process.”

- Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and Virginia Code § 24.2-126.
- Prohibit voting dilution – “packing” and “cracking” – the manipulation of district lines when the minority group is:
 - Sufficiently large and geographically compact;
 - Politically cohesive;
 - The majority votes sufficiently as a bloc to enable it to usually defeat the minority’s preferred candidate.

- Virginia Code § 24.2-129.
- Prohibits localities from making or administering certain changes in election practices (“covered practices”), including redistricting, unless the locality fulfills certain prerequisites.
- The adopted plan will be submitted to the Virginia Attorney General for review.
- The Attorney General will review to determine if the plan has the purpose or effect of denying or abridging the right to vote based on race or color or membership in a language minority group, or will result in the retrogression in the position of members of a racial or ethnic group with respect to their effective exercise of the electoral franchise.

Racial Gerrymandering

- Race can be considered, and must be considered, to comply with the requirements of federal and state law.
- However, if race is the predominant consideration, the district may be considered a “racial gerrymander” and the courts will give it additional scrutiny.

QUESTIONS?

