

Fairfax County Park Authority

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Don Lederer

Date: 8-27-82

From: David Jillson

Subject: Silas Burke Park

Recommendation:

That the Park Authority move to send the Silas Burke Park Preliminary Plan to public hearing.

Statement:

The preliminary master plan has been prepared by the Park Authority staff based upon a detailed analysis of off-site and on-site factors. Input from potential users was solicited through Park Authority sponsored questionnaires to citizens and through recommendations from special interest groups and other County agencies.

The preliminary plan shows tennis courts, physical fitness center, open play area, tot lot, play apparatus area, picnic area, multi-use court, history kiosk, trails, fencing, and landscape planting and screening.

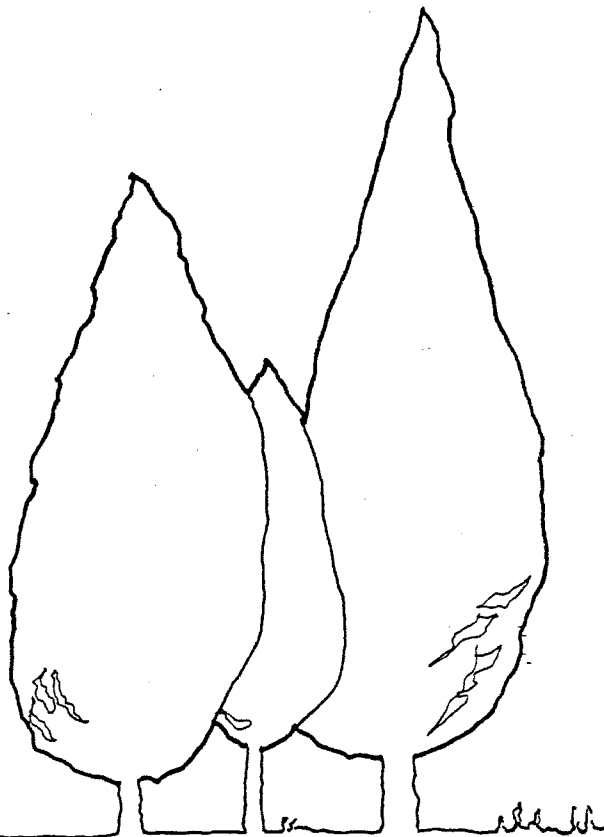
The public hearing has been set for Tuesday, Oct. 26, 1982 at 8:00 p.m. at Burke Elementary School.

DSJ/mlb

# **\*Note**

THE FAIRFAX COUNTY  
PARK AUTHORITY WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP,  
SO THIS IS AN OPEN INVITATION FOR  
ALL RESIDENTS TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC  
HEARING FOR SILAS BURKE PARK ON  
TUES. OCT. 26, 1982 AT 8:00 P.M. AT  
BURKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.  
TELL US YOUR IDEAS AND HELP  
US PLAN YOUR PARK.

## **Preliminary Master Plan Report**



**Fairfax  
County  
Park  
Authority**

**September  
1982**

**SILAS BURKE PARK**

PRELIMINARY  
MASTER PLAN REPORT

OF

SILAS BURKE PARK

PREPARED FOR;

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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SEPTEMBER 1982

## SILAS BURKE PARK

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## SILAS BURKE PARK

### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. OBJECTIVE

The objectives of this report are to plan the most appropriate use of the park and to supplement the plan prepared for Silas Burke Park by outlining the methodology and information base which was used.

#### B. MASTER PLAN DEFINITION

Master planning is the process of arranging man-made and natural objects on the land in an orderly fashion so as to create an orderly and functional park. A master plan is a guide and can be changed. Master plans are prepared for each park before any construction is done. Development of the facilities on the master plan may take place over an extended period of time, (five, ten or more years), depending on the size of the park and funds available for development.

#### C. PARK CATEGORIES

The existing and proposed system of Fairfax County parks attempts to establish full opportunity for all residents and visitors to make constructive use of their leisure time through the provision of recreational and cultural programs within safe, accessible and enjoyable parks. Additionally, the park system serves as the primary public mechanism for the preservation of environmentally sensitive land and water resources and areas of historic significance. Parklands to be acquired shall usually be classified in one of the following categories: community park, district park, county park, natural and passive park, stream valley park, and historical park. However, the list is not restrictive since citizen needs, both present and future, may require acquisition of combination park types or ones that differ from all of the categories listed above. All of these park categories are important in a well-rounded park system and must be provided if Fairfax County is to continue to provide a desirable living environment for its citizens.

#### D. COMMUNITY PARK DEFINITION

A community park, the most frequently occurring park category, is designed to provide for daily relief within an urban setting. Community parks are therefore oriented towards a few hours of activity for passive or active purposes. They are designed to emphasize short term visits and are convenient and often accessible by foot or bicycle for after school, after work or weekend activities with limited or no parking. Community parks are the smaller ones serving the County's numerous neighborhoods and generally range in size up to 25 acres.

Facilities often provided in fully developed community parks may include playgrounds, tot lots, athletic fields, open play areas, basketball courts, benches, walks, gardens, picnic areas, tennis courts, shelters with restroom/concession facilities, parking, trails, and lighting where necessary. Passive uses can often be accommodated in wooded areas.

#### E. PLANNING PROCESS

This park was planned by a process which included the following major phases:

1. Systematic analysis of on-site and off-site factors.
2. Solicitation and evaluation of citizen and County recommendations for development.
3. Production of a master plan.

#### F. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION (Figure 1)

Silas Burke Park is located in Springfield Magisterial District (tax map 78-2) on Burke Road about 1/8 mile southeast of Burke Lake Road. Its 10.2688 acres is within the size range typical for community parks. Bordering the park are Burke Manor to the northwest, the Southern Railroad to the northeast, Cardinal Estates to the southeast, and Burke Road to the southwest.

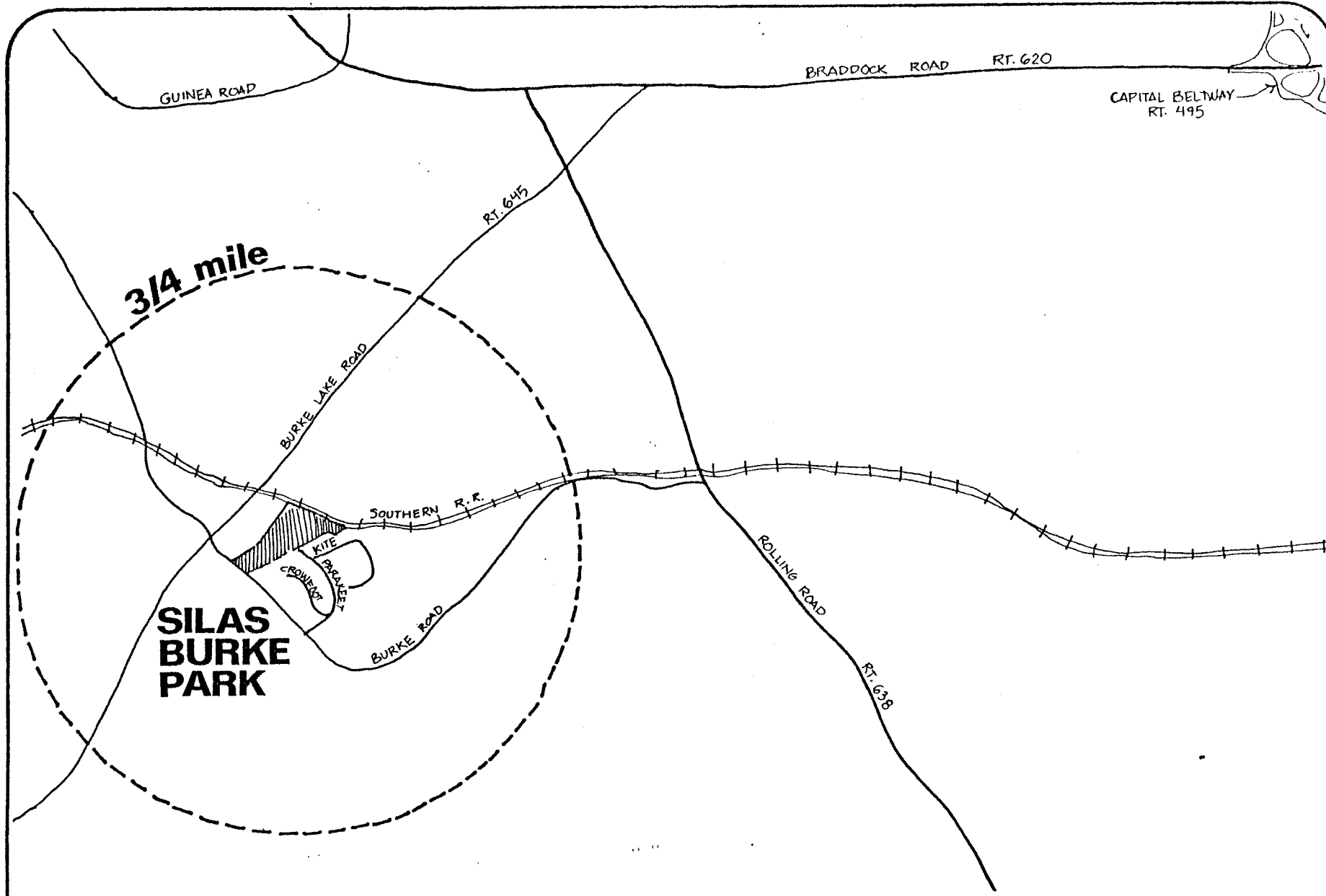
#### G. ACQUISITION

The park was acquired by the Park Authority in January 1976 through dedication by the developer of Burke Manor, as a result of recommendations made in 1973 by the Park Authority during a review of the site plan for Burke Manor.

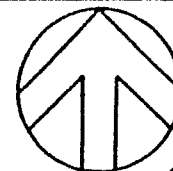
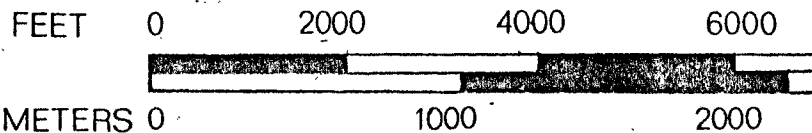
#### H. BURKE AREA

The area around Burke was settled in the early 1700's. The Burke Family moved to the area in 1798. Silas Burke was a businessman who married into the established Coffey family about 1820. He owned much of the land around Burke, and held several county governmental posts. Through his efforts at securing a right-of-way through the area, the Orange and Alexandria Railroad passed through what became known as Burke's Station. The railroad was the site of several raids and skirmishes during the Civil War.

By the early 1900's, the town's name had been shortened to "Burke's", and the town became a country resort for residents of Washington, D.C. and Alexandria, featuring a racetrack, baseball field, and hotel.



**Location Map**  
**SILAS BURKE PARK**



With Prohibition, tourism dropped-off and the town's population declined from 100 people in 1910 to 61 by 1920. During the next 30 years, the town became somewhat isolated from the rest of the County's activity.

Burke was proposed as the original site for a new international airport in the early 1950's. Due to local citizen pressure, the location was switched to Chantilly where Dulles International Airport was built.

Burke's 1960 population of 150 families grew enormously with new residential development in the 1970's. West of the park, about 1300 acres has been master planned as the new planned community of Burke Centre. Population growth in the Burke area will continue to place great pressures on the acquisition and development of recreational space.

## II. SITE ANALYSIS

### A. OFF-SITE FACTORS

#### 1. Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan (Figure 2)

The County's Comprehensive Plan for the Pohick Planning District, P2 (Main Branch Community) Planning Sector makes no specific mention of Silas Burke Park. It does recommend that park development attention be focussed on facilities for young children, particularly in parks closely surrounded by homes such as at Silas Burke Park. It further recommends improving access (particularly pedestrian) to parks in this Sector.

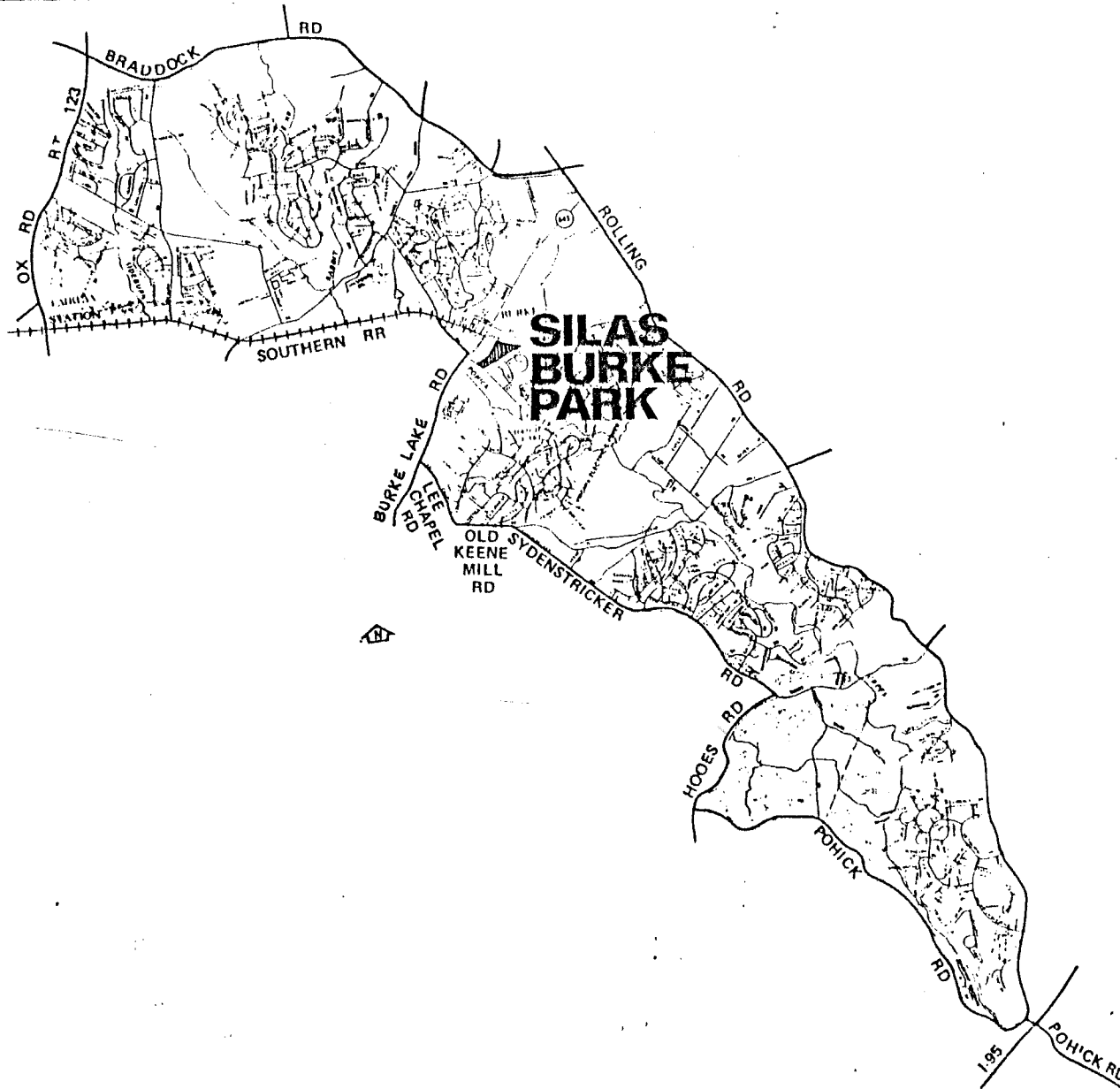
#### 2. Primary Service Area (Figure 1)

The primary service area is the general area where most of the park's frequent users live. For a community park, the radius distance is about 3/4 mile; this simply represents a distance that a child might reasonably ride a bike or a pedestrian might walk to reach the park.

The primary service radius is further defined by physical constraints or barriers preventing a person from conveniently reaching the park. For this park, the Southern Railroad tracks are considered a barrier that will probably deny easy access to the park for many area residents. No matter where the "line is drawn" for planning purposes, the park is open and available for all County residents.

#### 3. Existing Land Use (Figure 3)

Surrounding land use is primarily residential. The Southern Railroad tracks form the northeast border and separate the park from the single family homes to the north. Cardinal Estates (single family) lies adjacent to the southeast. Burke Road



**Comprehensive Plan**  
**SILAS BURKE PARK** NO SCALE



borders the park to the southwest; across the road are several large undeveloped residential lots. Burke Manor (townhouses) lie adjacent to the northwest; undeveloped open homeowner land adjoins the southwest portion of the park.

The small commercial center of Burke Village is 1/8 mile west at the intersection of Burke and Burke Lake Roads. Just west of Burke Lake Road is the Burke Complex Area, a 2500 acre area under intense development pressure. Approximately half of the complex is developed or under development as part of Burke Centre planned community.

#### 4. Zoning and Proposed Land Use (Figure 3)

Northeast and southwest of the park are lots zoned R-2 (half-acre residential). Burke Manor is zoned R-5 (5 du/Ac), and Cardinal Estates is zoned R-3 (1/3 acre residential).

The west, north, and east corners at the Burke Road/Burke Lake Road intersection are zoned C-5 (Neighborhood Retail); the south corner is the Burke Fire Station.

According to the Comprehensive Plan, future land use is based on the principal of compatible infill - established patterns shall be continued.

Much of the adjacent residential property is already developed; the undeveloped area south of Burke Road is expected to be developed according to its current zoning of R-2. The Comprehensive Plan for Burke Centre provides an appropriate mix of single-family, townhouse, low-rise and high-rise residential development, a small village center, a community level center, industrial uses, and park and open recreation uses.

#### 5. Population

Area III, within which lies Pohick Planning District, is growing far more rapidly than the rest of the County - more rapidly in fact, than the County as a whole has ever grown. It is very affluent, well educated area of the County as a whole, although there are significant differences between sections of the area. It is also a far more family oriented part of the County.

Within the service radius of Silas Burke, there are currently 3,989 people (estimate based on dwelling count). For the same area in the year 2,000, estimates project a population of 5,329 people.



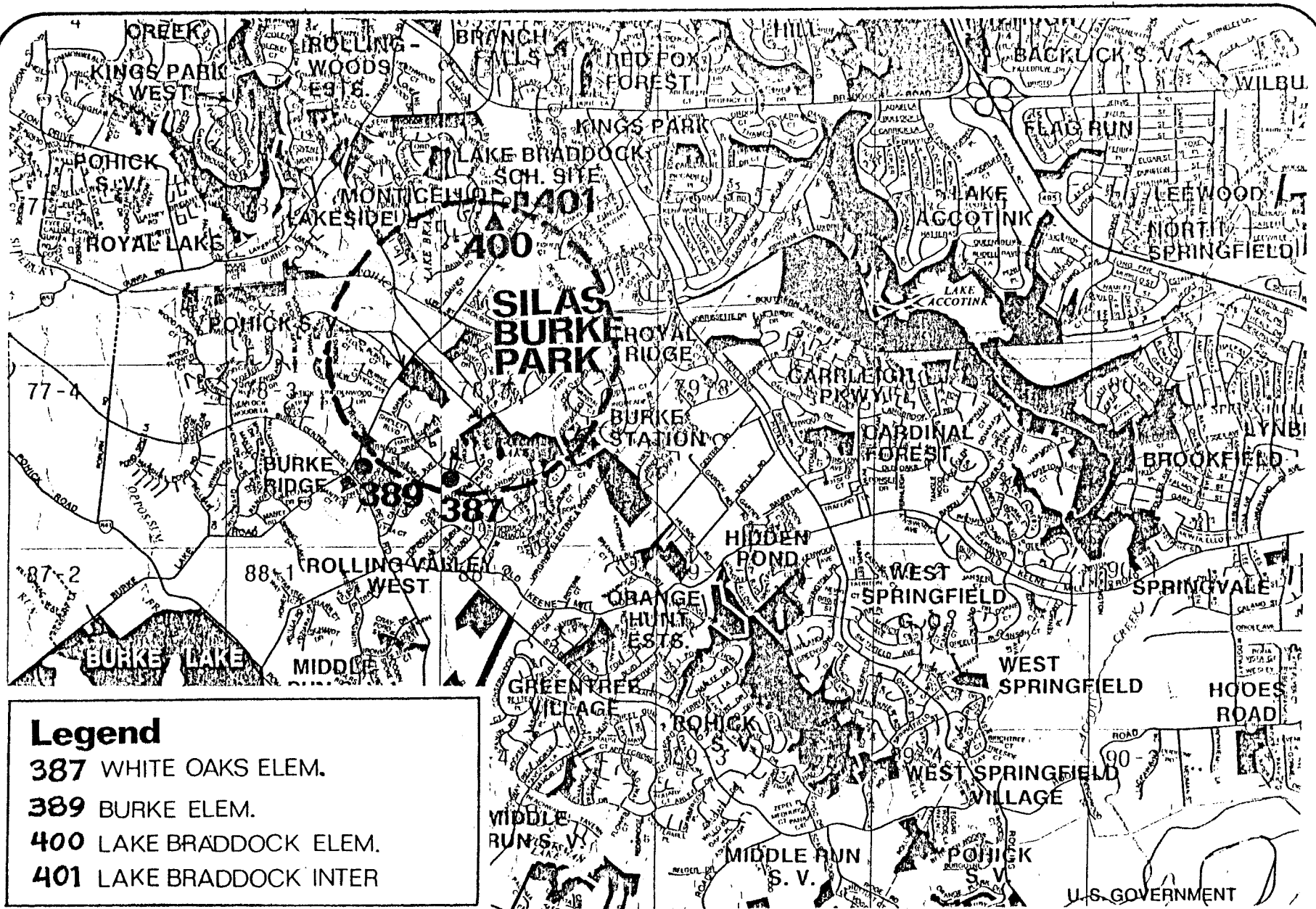
6. Nearby Parks and Schools (Figure 4)

- a. Parks - The only other park within the primary service area is a portion of Pohick Stream Valley Park..
- b. Schools - There are two schools within the primary service area: White Oaks and Burke Elementary Schools.
- c. A summary of available public recreational facilities within the primary service area follows:

NAME	FACILITY	Bike Trail	Conservation Area	Hiking Trail	Play Apparatus	Baseball/Softball	Basketball Court	Soccer/Football	Water Fountain
Pohick Stream Valley Park		x	x	x					
White Oaks Elementary School									
Burke Elementary School					1	2	4	1	1

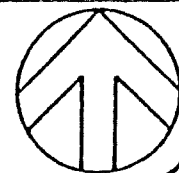
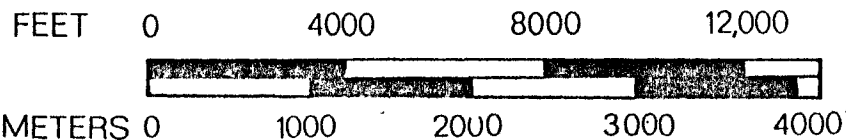
- d. According to FCPA facility standards based on the present and future population, the following surplusses or deficiencies within the primary service area become evident:

FACILITY	STANDARD	FACILITIES NEEDED		EXISTING FACILITIES	SURPLUS OR DEFICIENCY (-)	
		1982 (3,989 Pop.)	2000 (5,329 Pop.)		1982	2000
Tot lot	1 - 500	8	11	1	-7	-10
Baseball	1-6,000	1	1	1	0	0
Softball	1-3,000	1	2	1	0	-1
Tennis	1-1,200	3	4	0	-3	-4
Basketball/ Multi-Use	1 - 500	8	11	4	-4	-7
Swim Pool	1-15,000	-	-	0	0	0
Golf Course	1-25,000	-	-	0	0	0
Soccer	1-1,500	3	4	1	-2	-3



## Nearby Parks & Schools

### SILAS BURKE PARK



## 7. Access to the Park

- a. Vehicular access exists at Parakeet Drive and Burke Road.
- b. Pedestrian access exists at several locations. Public access exists from Parakeet Drive and Burke Road. With no existing walkway along Burke Road, however, access from the road is dangerous. The Countywide Trails Plan proposes a trail on the south side of Burke Road.

Access appears possible from either Packard Way or Burke Manor Court, but since these roads are owned by Burke Manor Homeowners Association they cannot be used for public access without consent from the Association.

There is an established trail beginning at Burke Road about 200' southeast of Burke Lake Road which crosses Burke Manor property before entering the park. This cannot be used for public access without Burke Manor Homeowner Association's consent.

- c. Metrobus service is available along Burke Lake Road between Burke Centre and Arlington.

## 8. Utilities

- a. Sewer service is available on site as part of the Pohick Creek sewer shed (see Site Factors: Utilities).
- b. Water service is available on site (see Site Factors: Utilities)
- c. Electric service (3 phase - overhead) is available from Burke Road.
- d. Gas service is available about 3/4 mile east along Burke Road.
- e. Telephone service is available from existing service at Cardinal Estates.

## 9. Hydrology

The park is located in the Pohick Creek Watershed which drains into Pohick Bay. Pohick Creek is about 500 feet to the southwest across Burke Road, and flows to the southeast.




## B. SITE FACTORS

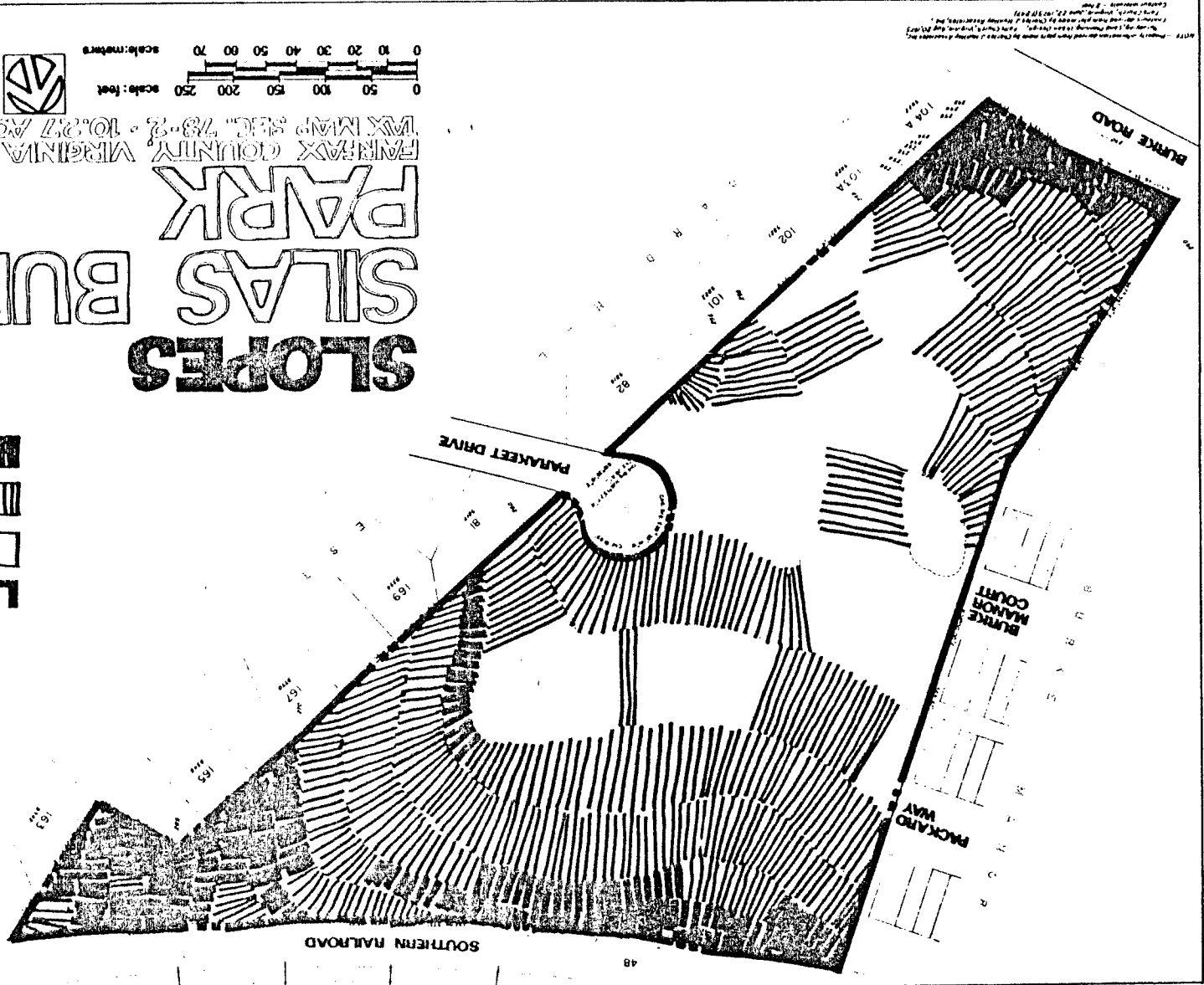
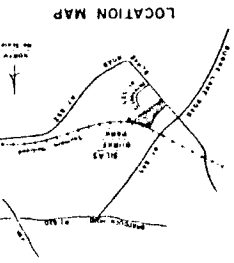
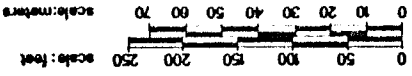
### 1. Slopes (Figure 5)

The park is basically flat, with slopes from 2% to 5% over most of the site. The ends of the park to the northeast and southwest are the only areas with slopes over 5%.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH  
NOV. 1954

# SLOPES SILAS BURKE PARK

- LEGEND**
- 0-2% 
  - 2-5% 
  - OVER 5% 



NOTES: This map is a reproduction of the original map made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and is not to be used for any other purpose without the written permission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The highest point is in the northeast corner (286+ feet); the low point is the base of an earth ridge in the southwest corner near Burke Road (250 feet).

## 2. Soils (Figure 6)

Two soil types are present on site. Both have silt and clay subsoil layers which restrict water infiltration. This results in seasonal high water tables and lengthy periods of saturation after heavy rains (Appendix A):

- a. Roanoke Silt Loam (68 A0) - Poorly drained silts and clays; the seasonal high water table is 6" or less below the surface with resultant poor conditions for use after heavy rains. It is poor material for subgrades. This covers about 75% of the site.
- b. Augusta Loam (110 B1) - The seasonal high water table is about 18" below the surface, but wetness problems should be expected after heavy rains. This soil has generally better drainage than the Roanoke soil. It is poor for subgrade material. This covers about 25% of the site.

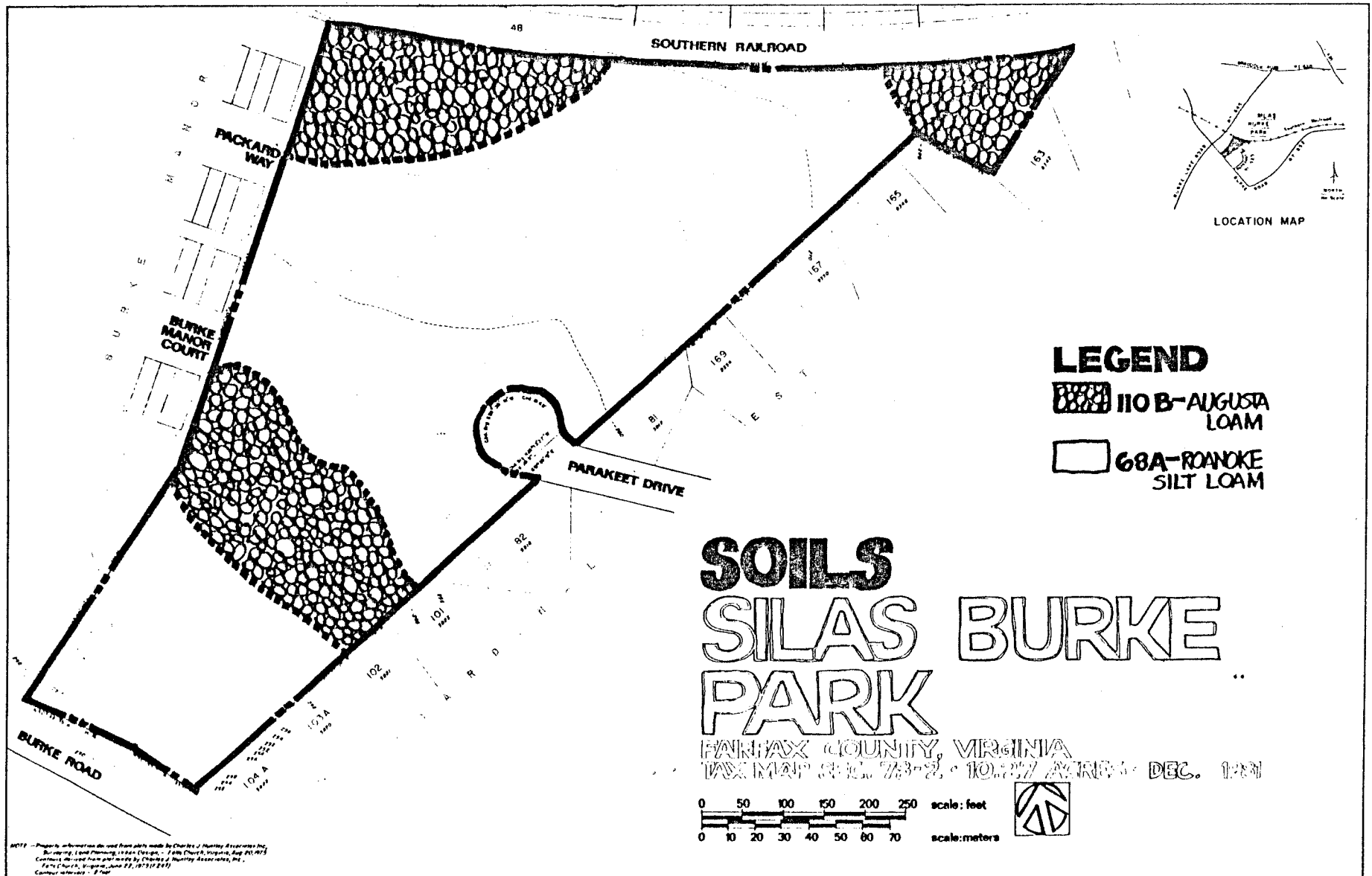
## 3. Existing Conditions/Visual Character (Figure 7)

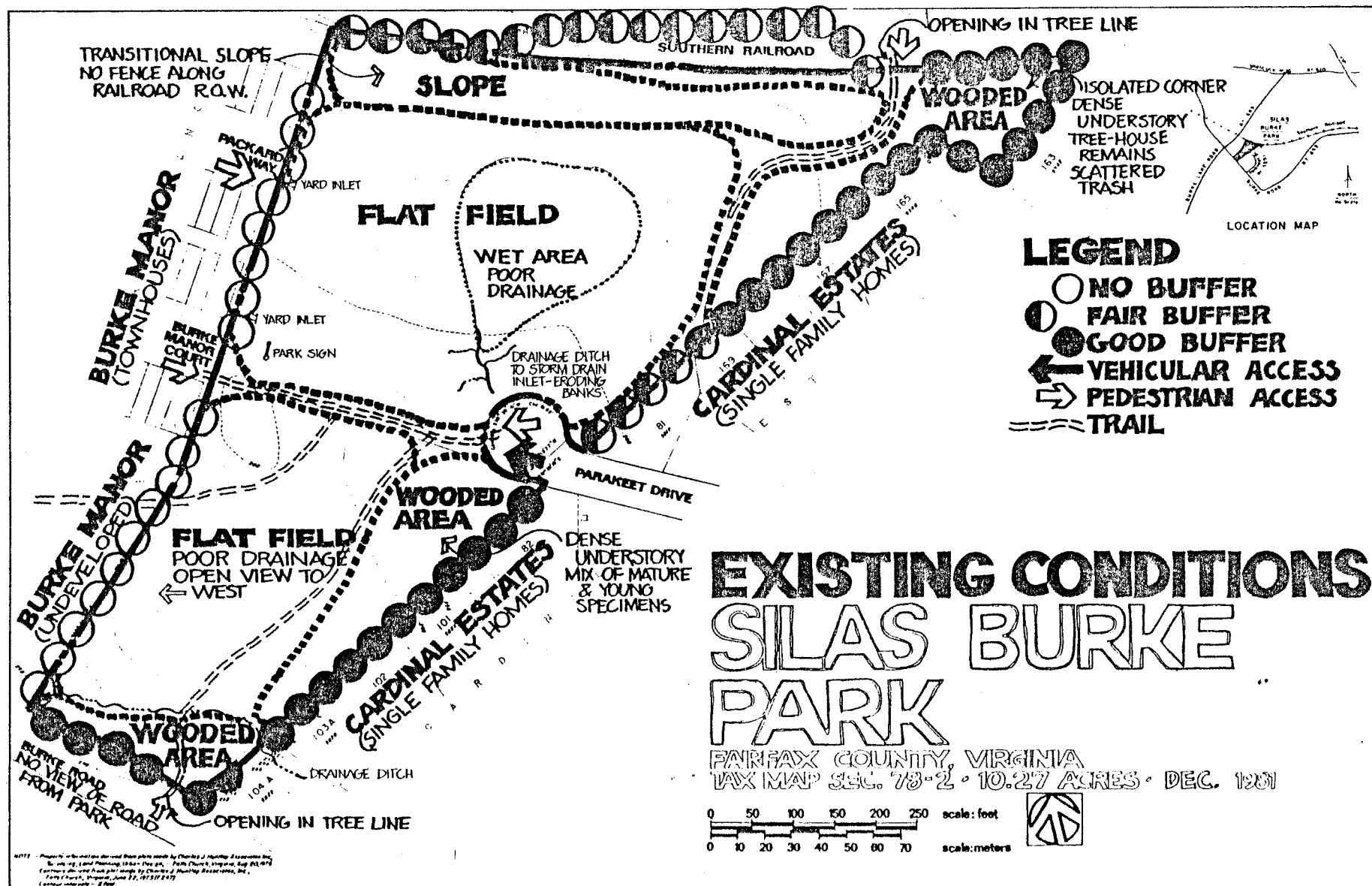
During the development of Burke Manor in the mid 1970's, the Park Authority granted the developer permission to "borrow" earth material, and regrade the disturbed areas. In addition, temporary storage of debris occurred on site. Some fill material from this period remains in the northwest portion of the park.

Several well-used trails cross the site - between Burke Manor Court and Parakeet Drive, between Burke Road and the Parakeet Drive trail just mentioned, and between the Burke Village area and the Parakeet Drive trail (part of which crosses Burke Manor property). An isolated trail leads to an area of scattered debris in the northeast corner.

Although the park is open visually with unobstructed views across the west edge to Burke Manor, the remaining three edges are well buffered by the existing trees to the north, southeast, and southwest. In addition, a 4-5' tall earth ridge at the park's south end blocks the view of Burke Road.

Soccer teams from Braddock Road Youth Club and Springfield Youth Club have practiced at the park for several years.





4. Drainage (See "Existing Conditions" figure 7)

The combination of a flat site and poorly drained soils has created one specific site feature - a wet area. On soil maps prepared in 1958 before urbanization of the Burke Area, there appears to be a small intermittent stream draining into Pohick Creek which passes through the present wet area. There may still be subsurface water seepage infiltrating the wet area which contributes to its permanent wetness.

The low end of the wet area is connected by open ditch to a storm drain at the Parakeet Drive cul-de-sac. This outlet appears to have negligible effect in draining the wet area.

Two yard inlets located on site next to Burke Manor were built to collect runoff from the development, but they appear to collect little runoff due to improper grading.

5. Vegetation and Wildlife (Figure 8)

About 60% of the park is open field; the larger north portion is mowed periodically but the south portion is a reverting field in the first stages of succession. Milkweed, clover, goldenrod, brambles, poison ivy, and young trees such as Staghorn Sumac, Red Maple, Virginia Pine, and Eastern Cedar populate the fields.

The wet area discussed earlier includes marsh grasses, sedges, cattails, and black willow.

Two wooded areas are located along the southeast side of the park. They comprise about 30% of the site. Tree species include Red Oak, Red Maple, and Virginia Pine. The ground cover includes poison ivy, Virginia creeper, Japanese and fly honeysuckles. These two wood lots are separated by Parakeet Drive; each extends along the perimeter at the north and south extremes of the park.

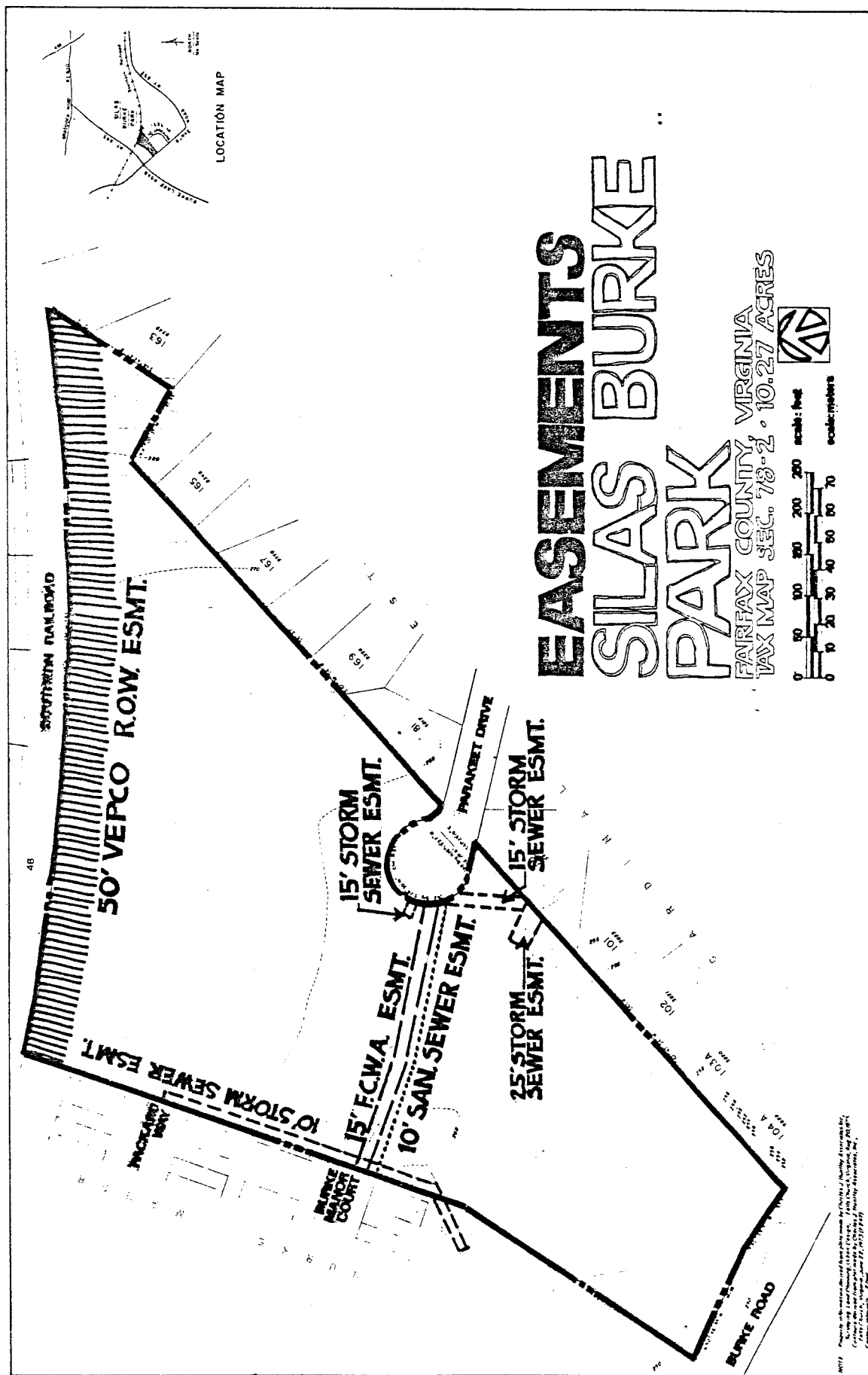
The wet area is attractive to local common wildlife (Appendix B).

6. Utilities (Figure 9)

A number of utilities and/or easements are present:

- a. Water - An 8" water line and 15' wide easement cross the park between Burke Manor Court and Parakeet Drive.
- b. Sewer - A sanitary sewer line and 10' wide easement cross the park parallel to and contiguous with the water line easement.
- c. Electric - A 50' wide VEPCO easement crosses the northern portion parallel to the railroad alignment. This is part of an





80' wide right-of-way to carry a proposed 230 KV power transmission line between the Ravensworth and Sideburn areas of the County. The proposed line will be supported by steel poles approximately 100' tall and spaced roughly 500' - 600' apart. VEPCO is studying the visual impact of the proposed transmission line on affected properties, including Silas Burke Park.

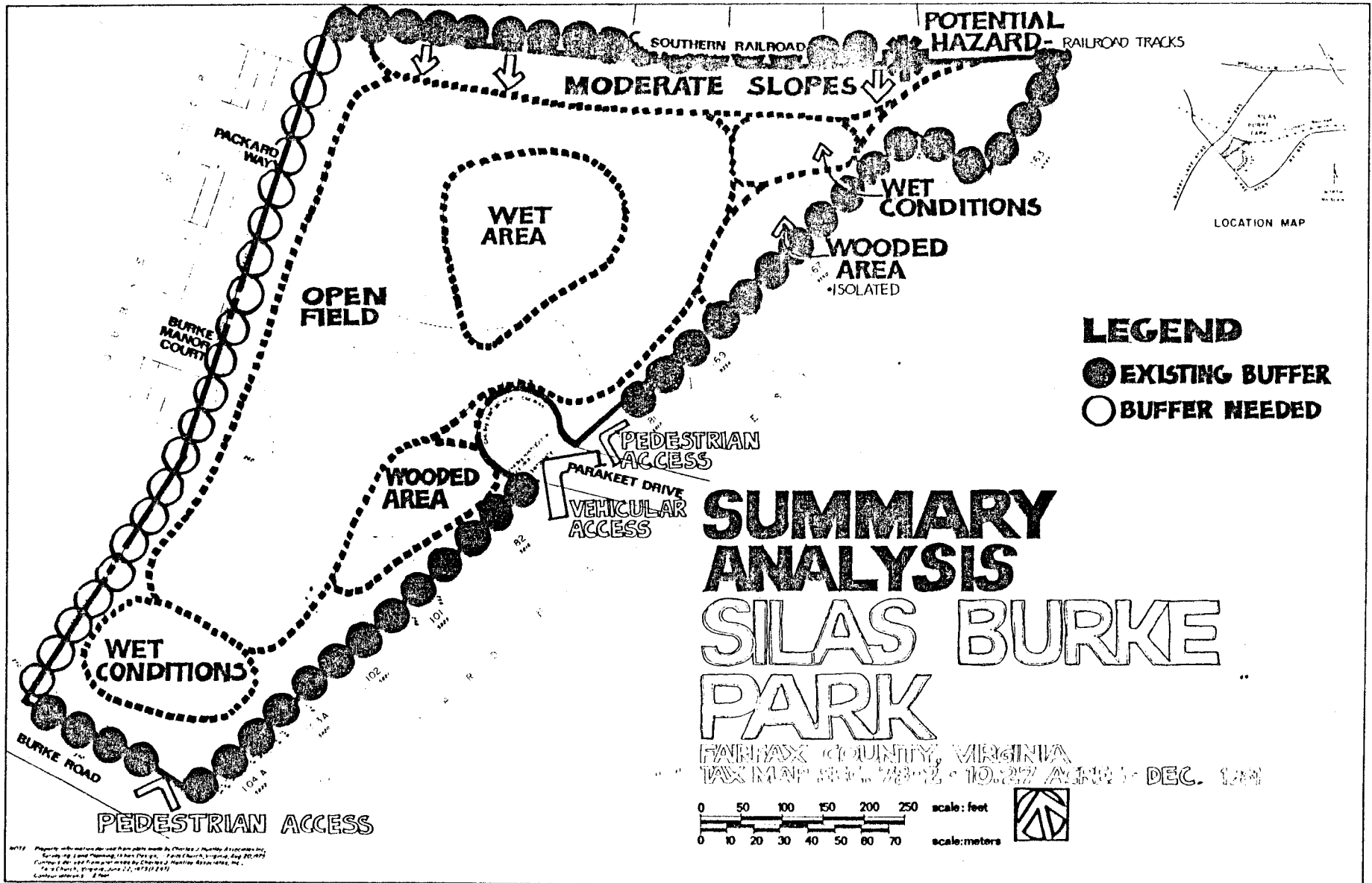
At the time of this report, VEPCO had not yet filed an application with the State Corporation Commission to build the proposed line. Once the application is made, the SCC will require VEPCO to announce the schedule for SCC hearings, normally held in Richmond. At this hearing, interested parties may express their views concerning VEPCO's proposed plans.

- d. Drainage - Three storm drain easements of varying widths and lengths exist near drainage structures on site. A 10' wide storm drain easement for the two yard inlets near Burke Manor is located parallel to the northwest border.

#### C. SUMMARY ANALYSIS (Figure 10)

In summarizing, the following existing facts should be considered:

1. The primary service area is within a 3/4 mile radius of the park south of the Southern Railway tracks.
2. Existing land use around the park is primarily residential with a small commercial center 1/4 mile away. Future land use is planned to be compatible with existing patterns.
3. The present population of 3,989 people within the primary service area is expected to reach 5,329 by the year 2000.
4. Within the primary service area, there are only three community-serving facilities (1 park, 2 schools). For the present and future populations around the park, there is a deficiency in the numbers of most facility types commonly found at community parks.
5. Vehicular access exists at Parakeet Drive and Burke Road. Public pedestrian access exists at Parakeet Drive and Burke Road, but the Burke Road route is dangerous. Private pedestrian access exists from Burke Manor. The Countywide Trail Plan proposes a trail on the south side of Burke Road.
6. All major utilities and services are available either on-site or nearby. A 230 KV transmission line is proposed by VEPCO to cross the park along an existing 50' wide easement. State Corporation Commission hearings have not been scheduled yet.



7. The site is basically flat with some slopes near the railroad tracks and Burke Road.
8. The two soil types at the site are poorly drained and contribute to a prominent wet area on site.
9. Most of the park is open field. There are wooded areas along the north, southeast, and southwest edges of the park which provide buffer zones in their respective areas.

#### D. CONCLUSIONS

##### 1. Development Constraints

###### a. Off-Site Factors

- (1) With residential areas surrounding the park, possible facilities should be limited to those compatible with a residential community.
- (2) There is a lack of adequate public pedestrian access points for the community at-large.
- (3) The railroad presents a potential hazard to park users, especially children.

###### b. Site Factors

- (1) Possible facilities may need fill material and/or underdrains due to the poor soil and drainage conditions.
- (2) Unless filled in, the wet area precludes use of a large portion of the park for intensive recreational use.
- (3) Presence of easements may restrict placement of some facilities, especially those under a proposed 230 KV transmission line.

The Park Authority will review the proposed plan and will take the opportunity to comment on the plan at the scheduled public hearings.

##### 2. Development Potentials

###### a. Off-Site Factors

- (1) The parks' closeness to surrounding residential areas makes it convenient for the community it will serve.
- (2) Silas Burke Park fills a need in an area with a demonstrable lack of public recreational facilities.

- (3) There is a potential vehicular access from Burke Road, as well as from Parakeet Drive.
- (4) There is potential public pedestrian access from Burke Manor. At a meeting with Park Authority staff, representatives of the Burke Manor Homeowner Association reviewed a concept plan which proposed two trail easements across Homeowner property allowing public trail access to the park. The representatives will act upon the issue of whether to grant a trail easement (and, if so, which one of the two proposed) pending further details which would be forthcoming at the scheduled public hearing.
- (5) Utility services are available close-by.

b. Site Factors

- (1) Steep slopes are not a construction problem.
- (2) The wet area is an attraction to local wildlife.
- (3) The site's open conditions will minimize construction costs and difficulties.
- (4) Existing wooded areas act as buffers.
- (5) Water and sewer are available on site; electric service is available from Burke Road.
- (6) Existing trails indicate actual traffic patterns.

### III. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

#### A. DEVELOPMENT PREFERENCE SURVEY (Questionnaire) :

##### 1. Response

In June 1981, 1,770 questionnaires were distributed to civic associations and homes in Cardinal Estates, Heritage Square North, Burke Manor, Burke Centre-Lincolnwood Cluster, Burke Village, Rolling Valley West, Burke Station Square, Burke Station Townhouse, Isle of Wyght, Meadow Brook, Cardinal Glen, and Burke Hills, and to homes apparently not part of a subdivision. The results of the survey are as follows:

Total Questionnaires Distributed	1,770
Questionnaires Returned to FCPA	93
Percent Returned	5.3%

##### Age Distribution:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
0-5	33	11.5
6-12	52	18.1
13-20	30	10.4
21-45	160	55.5
46-60	10	3.5
Over 60	3	1.0

Number of responses requesting no development -	3 = 3.2%
Number of responses requesting minimal development -	13 = 14.0%
Number of responses requesting facility development -	77 = 82.8%

##### 2. Requests

a. Facilities requested most often were:

Facility	No. of Requests	Percent
(1) Play Apparatus	41	53%
(2) Tennis Court	41	53
(3) Physical Fitness Trail	34	44
(4) Multi-Use Court	34	44
(5) Tot Lot	32	42
(6) Picnic Area	31	40
(7) Open Play Area	23	30
(8) Shelter	22	29
(9) Softball/Baseball Area	20	26
(10) Soccer/Football	17	22
(11) Horseshoe Area	10	13
(12) Planting (write-in)	8	10
(13) Lighting for Tennis (write-in)	5	6
(14) Shuffleboard	4	5
(15) Parking Area (write-in)	4	5
(16) Swimming Poole, Water Fountain, Benches (all write-ins)	3 ea.	4
(17) Fill Swamp, Railroad Theme, Paddleball/Raquet Court, Nature Trail, Historical Marker, Restrooms, Site Lighting, Game Tables, Ice Skating	1 ea.	1

## b. Preferences for Access:

	From Burke Rd.	From Parakeet Dr.	From Burke Manor Ct.
Hiker/Biker Access	29 (31%)	26 (28%)	10 (11)%
Vehicular Access	26 (28%)	18 (19%)	

## c. Homeowner Association Response (requested facilities):

Burke Manor HOA Board of Directors (June 1981)

Multi-Use Court  
 Open Play Area  
 Play Apparatus (heavy wood timber)  
 Hiker/Biker Access from Burke Road  
 No Vehicular Access or Parking

Cardinal Estates HOA (June 1981)

Multi-Use Court  
 Play Apparatus  
 Soccer/Football Field  
 Tennis Court  
 Tot Lot  
 Emergency Vehicular Access from Burke Road  
 Pedestrian Access from Parakeet and Burke Manor

## B. COMMENTS FROM COUNTY AGENCIES

The Police Department, Department of Recreation and Community Services, Office of Comprehensive Planning, and Department of Environmental Management, were contacted and asked to review the preliminary stake-out plan. The summaries of written responses are as follows:

### 1. Department of Recreation and Community Services (Appendix C & D)

Citing the shortage of soccer and football fields, the Department requests a minimum of two regulation soccer fields, two tennis courts, adequate parking, multi-use court, hiking trails, picnic area, and play apparatus area. If room exists, there should also be a softball/little league field. It is recommended that the wet area be drained and filled to accomplish this.

### 2. Office of Comprehensive Planning (Appendix E)

An archaeological survey was conducted at the park which found indications of a prehistoric site. Although the find does not appear to be significant, the archaeologist requests notification when construction begins in order to collect any uncovered artifacts.

## C. SPECIAL INTERESTS

Several groups or associations requested consideration on a number of items:

### 1. Cardinal Estates Civic Association (Appendix F)

Offered to FCPA (Feb. 1982) the opportunity to acquire 12+ acres of homeowner land (78-2 ((11)) A1, 78-4 ((9)) A). With the community's recreational needs expected to be accommodated at Silas Burke Park, the offer was respectfully declined (June 1982).

### 2. Burke Manor Homeowner's Association (Appendix G)

At FCPA's request, the Association indicated (Dec. 1981) they have no immediate or long range plans to develop any recreational facilities on open Association land adjacent to Silas Burke's southwest portion.

## D. GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Twelve undergraduate students, enrolled in "Park, Recreation and Leisure Studies, PRLS 305" for the Fall 1981 semester at the University, studied Silas Burke Park as a class project. Using available resources and researching other information, the students analyzed both off and on-site conditions, community needs, and population patterns. Using planning and design principles, the students prepared a plan for the park (Appendix H). A written report was produced, parts of which were used for this report.

The Park Authority extends its appreciation and thanks to Lynn Masterson and her students for their work in helping us plan the park as well as to George Mason University for permitting this collaboration.

#### IV. PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN

##### A. CONCEPT

The concept for facility design at the park is based on the off-site and site evaluation, and upon program recommendations from citizens and County agencies:

##### 1. North Portion

The large open area is best suited for active-oriented facilities. The wet area can separate activity areas on the east and west ends of this portion. Adequate buffers exist on the north and east edges but the west edge will require a buffer.

##### 2. South Portion

Passive activities are best located in the shade cast by existing trees located in this portion. Soggy areas are best suited to a natural state. For security reasons, all facilities need to be visible from Parakeet Drive.

##### 3. Circulation

Vehicle parking is not appropriate for a community park this size with community-oriented facilities.

Pedestrian circulation is based on existing foot traffic patterns, and includes a perimeter exercise trail.

##### 4. Character

The park will retain its open, spacious quality. Areas not needed for various facilities shall remain in a "natural" condition. A buffer zone approximating 50' wide around the perimeter will exclude active facilities.

##### B. PLAN DESCRIPTION (Figure 11)

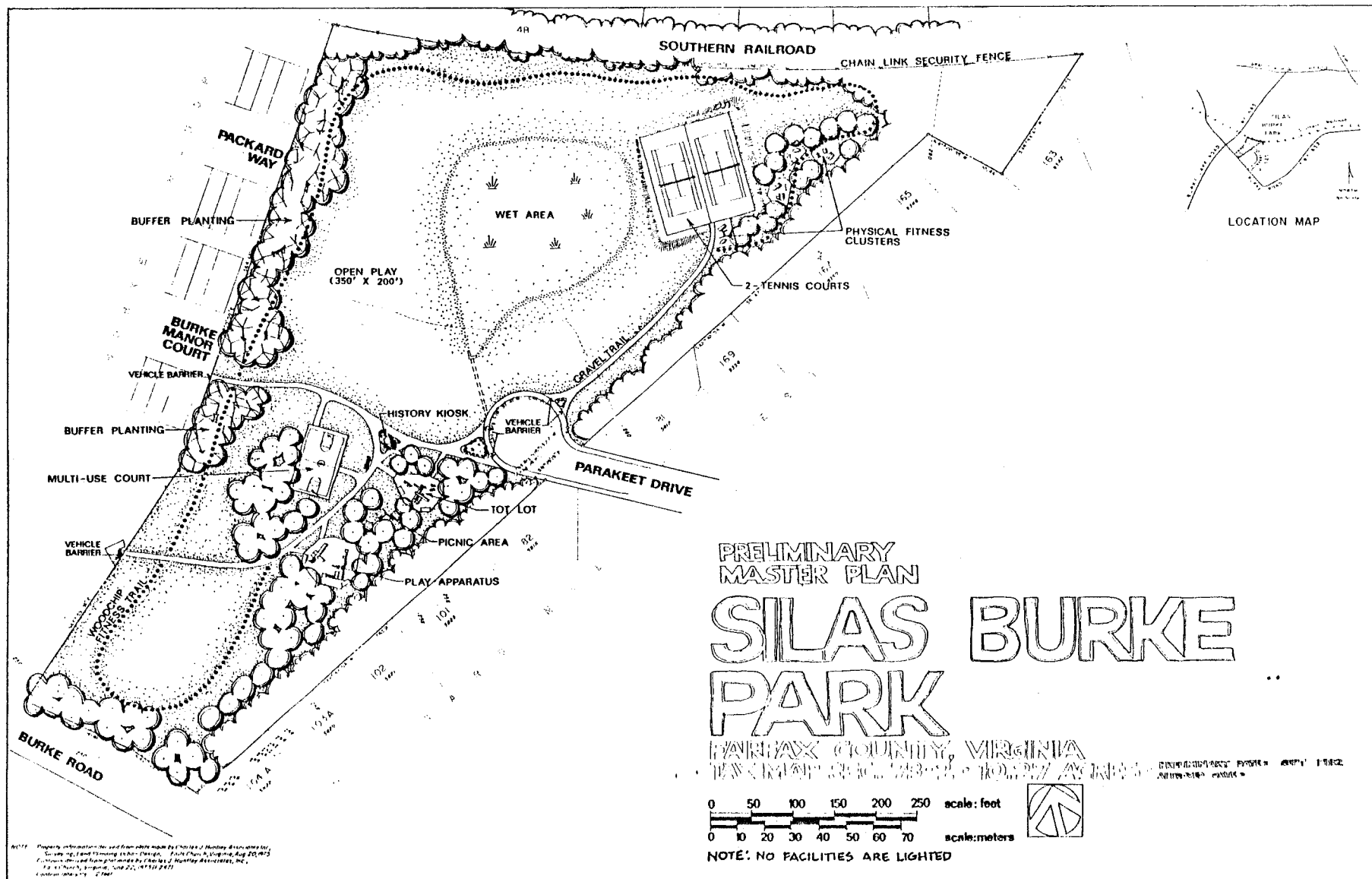
##### 1. North Portion (No facilities are lighted)

##### a. Entrance

The pedestrian trail from Parakeet Drive leads to the two major use areas in the park. No motorized vehicles, except emergency and maintenance, are allowed in the park.

##### b. Tennis Courts

Two tennis courts are located just east of the



wet area. They will require a built-up subgrade and perhaps underdrains. Existing trees in the vicinity should provide an adequate visual backdrop for play. The north end will be out of the VEPCO right-of-way.

c. Physical Fitness Center

A 12-station clustered exercise area is located east of the tennis courts inside the treeline. The understory will be cleared. One exercise cluster is located near the tennis court entrance to enable players to "loosen up" before play.

d. Wet Area

Although not a major feature, this area is attractive for local wildlife. The open drain ditch is to be replaced by a piped storm drain connecting to the existing system at the cul-de-sac.

e. Open Play

The open play area is west of the wet area. It is intended for community use and is not planned as an athletic field, but it can be used for practice useage by groups currently doing so. Within the 50' buffer zone is a new deciduous/evergreen buffer planting.

f. Security Fence

A 6' high chain link fence is located on the north property line parallel to the railroad tracks. This should reduce the possibility of a child wandering onto the tracks from the park.

The Park Authority requested assistance (June 1982, Appendix I) from the Southern Railway System in providing for the fence; this request was denied (Aug. 1982).

g. Natural Area

The land surrounding the wet area will be left in its natural state, except for around the tennis courts, physical fitness clusters, and trail, which will receive periodic maintenance.

2. South Portion (No facilities are lighted.)

a. Tot Lot

A small fenced tot lot is located about 100' west of Parakeet Drive under some existing deciduous and evergreen trees. Play equipment for pre-schoolers is featured.

b. Play Apparatus

Play apparatus for grade school age children is located about 100' southwest of the tot lot. It will be within a shaded area.

c. Picnic Area

A small area with three tables and one grill is located between the tot lot and play apparatus area.

d. Multi-Use Court

A single court for basketball/volleyball is located 200' west of Parakeet Drive. It is nestled among the existing larger trees, and includes a bike rack.

e. History Kiosk

A free-standing kiosk relates some of the historical and cultural background of the Burke Area to interested park visitors. The display will present a short history of Burke in the context of its place in Fairfax County's earlier history, and will offer brief biographical notes about Silas Burke and other notables from Burke's past. A map will identify local points of interest within a short distance from the park that the user might wish to visit.

f. Circulation

A 6' wide gravel trail connects all facilities together. A gravel cross-park trail may provide access from Burke Manor Court to the park; an alternate route proposes a gravel trail starting at Burke Road near Burke Lake Road, crossing Burke Manor open space (via a 10' wide easement) and linking up to Silas Burke. As an alternate, all gravel trails may be asphalt paved.

The fitness trail from the physical fitness cluster completes its woodchip circuit near the play apparatus area where users will continue on the gravel trail.

g. Natural Area

The field between the multi-use court and Burke Road will be left in its natural state.

h. Site Security

Small understory plants will be cleared from the tot lot, play apparatus, picnic, multi-use court, and wooded area near Burke Road to maximize visibility of activities.

C. USER LEVELS

The number of users is based on an examination of similar facilities in the region and from past experiences in planning recreational facilities. A user day is one person taking part in one activity on a given day; peak time is considered to be 2:00 p.m. on a summer Sunday.

Activity	No. of Days/Year
Tennis	5,250
Physical Fitness Cluster/Exercise Trail	4,000
Open Play	13,525
Tot Lot	1,500
Play Apparatus	1,500
Picnic Area	3,240
Multi-Use Court	<u>2,750</u>
Total Potential User Days/Year	31,765
Total Estimated Persons/Year (1 person = 1.5 user days)	21,177

1. Tennis

Based on 15 players per court per day for 175 day season (3 persons/court x 5 hours/day): 15 persons x 2 courts x 175 days = 5,250

2. Physical Fitness Cluster/Fitness Trail

Some use will be related to tennis court use (assume half of tennis players will use all or part of cluster -  $5,250 \div 2 = 2,625$ ). Due to randomness of use, accurate figures are difficult to determine (assume 5 persons/day x 275 days = 1375)  
 $2625 \text{ (tennis)} + 1375 = 4,000$

3. Open Play

Some use will be related to soccer practice; based on a 6 month season, field used 15 sessions per week, 30 persons per session: 30 persons x 15 sessions/week x 26 weeks = 11,700.

Some use will be related to open play; due to randomness of use, accurate figures are difficult to determine: Assume - 5 persons x 365 days = 1,825

Total = 11,700 + 1,825 = 13,525

4. Tot Lot

Due to randomness of use, accurate figures are difficult to determine: assume 1500 children/year.

5. Play Apparatus

Due to randomness of use, accurate figures are difficult to determine: assume 1500 children/year.

## 6. Picnic Area

Picnicking is estimated at three persons per table with heaviest use on weekends between April and October. The turnover is estimated at two per day per table. Three tables are assumed: three tables x three persons/table x 2 turnovers x 180 days = 3,240

## 7. Multi-Use Court

Primary use is for non-organized play and is based on a nine month period with ten persons per day: 10 persons x 275 days = 2,750.

### D. PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE (September 1982)

#### 1. Facility Costs

##### a. Tennis Courts (2; 112' x 124')

(1) Strip topsoil (2843 SY @ \$2.37)	\$ 6,738
(2) Grading (505 CY @ \$3.85)	\$ 1,944
(3) Playing court (1543 SY @ \$13.76)	\$21,232
(4) Nets, 8' bench, 10' fencing (LS)	\$14,252
(5) Underdrain (440 LF @ \$13.00)	\$ 5,720
(6) Spread topsoil & seed (1300 SY @ 3.14)	\$ 4,082

Subtotal	\$53,968
20% contingency	<u>\$10,794</u>

Total Tennis Courts \$ 64,762

##### b. Physical Fitness Clusters (4 @ 20' x 30')

(1) Select clearing (1/3 ac. @ 2,400)	\$ 800
(2) Grading (46 CY @ \$3.85)	\$ 177
(3) R.R. tie edge (450 LF @ \$3.85)	\$ 1,733
(4) Base; woodchip surface (278 SY @ \$5.83)	\$ 1,621
(5) 12 exercise stations (LS)	\$10,000
(6) Seeding (750 SY @ \$.77)	\$ 578

Subtotal	\$14,909
20% contingency	<u>\$ 2,982</u>

Total Physical Fitness Clusters \$ 17,891

##### c. Wet Area ( $\frac{1}{2}$ acre)

(1) Grading (210 CY @ \$3.85)	\$ 809
(2) Storm drain pipe (80 LF @ 10.00)	\$ 800
(3) Headwall (LS)	\$ 550
(4) Seeding (500 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 385</u>

Subtotal	\$ 2,544
20% contingency	<u>\$ 509</u>

Total Wet Area \$ 3,053

## d. Open Play (3/4 acre)

(1) Seeding (4000 SY @ .77)	\$ 3,080	
20% contingency	<u>\$ 616</u>	
Total Open Play		\$ 3,696

## e. Security Fence

(1) 6' chain link (905 LF @ 13.75)	\$12,444	
20% contingency	<u>\$ 2,489</u>	
Total Security Fence		\$ 14,933

## f. Tot Lot

(1) Select clearing ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ac @ 2,400)	\$ 600	
(2) Grading (50 CY @ 3.85)	\$ 193	
(3) R.R. tie edge (220 LF @ 3.85)	\$ 847	
(4) Base; woodchip surf. (333 SY @ 5.83)	\$ 1,941	
(5) Tot swing (LS)	\$ 2,000	
(6) Tot climber (LS)	\$ 2,500	
(7) Tot slide (LS)	\$ 2,000	
(8) Spring animals (3 @ 400)	\$ 1,200	
(9) 6' bench - 2; 3' pickett fence - 220 LF (LS)	\$ 3,485	
(10) Seeding (800 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 616</u>	
Subtotal	\$15,382	
20% contingency	<u>\$ 3,076</u>	
Total Tot Lot		\$ 18,458

## g. Play Apparatus (60' x 70')

(1) Select clearing ( $\frac{1}{5}$ ac. @ 2,400)	\$ 480	
(2) Grading (77 CY @ 3.85)	\$ 296	
(3) R.R. tie edge (260 LF @ \$3.85)	\$ 1,001	
(4) Base/woodchip surf. (466 SY @ 5.83)	\$ 2,717	
(5) Playstructure; 6' bench - 2 (LS)	\$16,408	
(6) Seeding (500 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 385</u>	
Subtotal	\$21,287	
20% contingency	<u>\$ 4,257</u>	
Total Play Apparatus		\$ 25,544

## h. Picnic Area (60' x 60')

(1) Select clearing (1/8 ac. @ 2,400	\$ 300
(2) 6' picnic tables (3 @ 250)	\$ 750
(3) Cook grill (LS)	\$ 200
(4) Trash receptacle (LS)	\$ 100
(5) Seeding (750 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 578</u>

Subtotal	\$ 1,928
20% contingency	<u>\$ 386</u>

Total Picnic Area \$ 2,314

## i. Multi-Use Court (50' x 85')

(1) Select clearing (1/2 ac. @ 2,400)	\$ 1,200
(2) Strip topsoil (817 SY @ 2.37)	\$ 1,936
(3) Grading (75 CY @ 3.85)	\$ 289
(4) Playing court (456 SY @ 13.88)	\$ 6,329
(5) Goals - 2; volleyball posts - 2 (LS)	\$ 2,230
(6) Bike rack - 1 (LS)	\$ 345
(7) Spread topsoil (361 SY @ 2.37)	\$ 856
(8) Seeding (1644 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 1,266</u>

Subtotal	\$14,451
20% contingency	<u>\$ 2,890</u>

Total Multi-Use Court \$ 17,341

## j. History Kiosk (7' ht.)

(1) Grading (6 CY @ 3.85)	\$ 23
(2) Sand; brick pavers (300 SF @ 6.16)	\$ 1,848
(3) Kiosk display (LS)	<u>\$ 2,500</u>

Subtotal	\$ 4,371
20% contingency	<u>\$ 874</u>

Total History Kiosk \$ 5,245

## k. Trails

(1) 6' gravel trail (1475* LF @ 7.15)	\$10,546
(2) ALTERNATE: 6' asphalt trail (1475* LF @ 9.35)	(\$13,791)
(3) 6' woodchip trail (2050 LF @ 3.56)	\$ 7,298
(4) Seeding (1900 SY @ .77)	<u>\$ 1,463</u>

Subtotal (not incl. alternate)	\$19,307
20% contingency	<u>\$ 3,861</u>

Total trails (not incl. alternate) \$ 23,168

\*Does not include 450+ LF of possible trail and easement across Burke Manor Homeowner Association property.

## 1. Landscape Planting/Sitework

(1) Buffer planting (LS)	\$10,000
(2) Miscellaneous planting (LS)	\$ 3,000
(3) Miscellaneous seeding (LS)	\$ 750
(4) Select clearing ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ac. @ 2,400)	\$ 1,200
(5) Erosion control (LS)	<u>\$ 4,000</u>

Subtotal	\$18,950
20% contingency	<u>\$ 3,790</u>

Total Landscape Planting/Sitework \$ 22,740

Total All Facilities \$219,145

2. Utility Fees, Payments, and Permits \$ 0

3. Design/Engineering (@ 10% facility cost) \$ 21,915

4. Contract Administration

a. Plan review (@ 1% facility cost)	\$ 2,192
b. Inspection (@ 8% facility cost)	\$17,532
c. Site plan review	\$ 5,000
d. Contract administration (@ 10% facility cost)	\$21,915
e. As-built survey	<u>\$ 1,000</u>

Total Contract Administration \$ 47,639

TOTAL COST ESTIMATE . . . . . \$288,699

Cost Estimate Legend

SY = square yards  
CY = cubic yards  
LF = linear feet  
SF = square feet  
LS = lump sum  
AC = acre

E. COST VS. BENEFIT

With 3,989 people living within the primary service radius, and with the estimated development cost of \$288,699, the total cost amounts to \$72.37 per person. Taking into account the projected population of 5,329 for year 2000, the total cost will amount to \$54.17 per person.

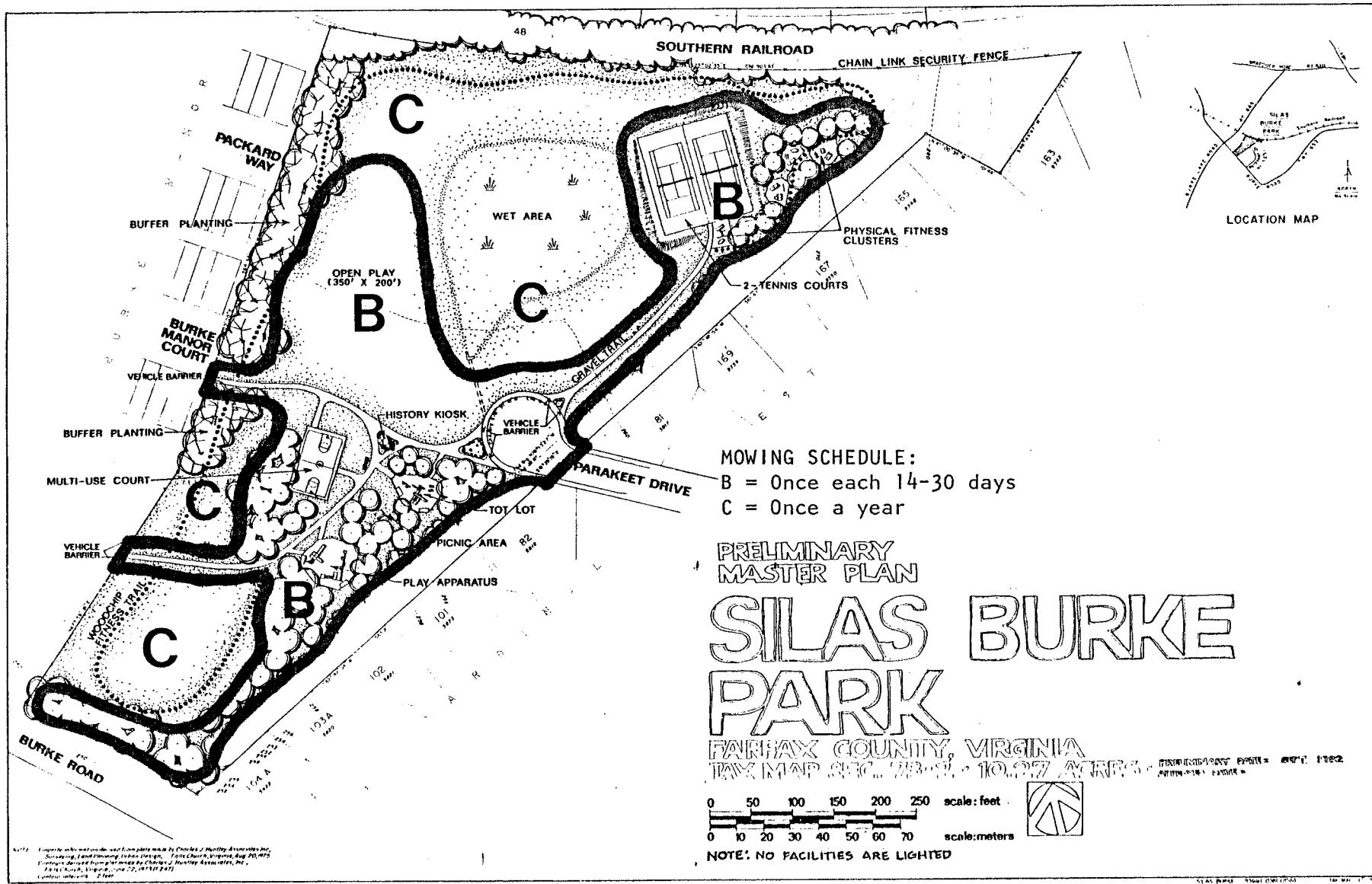
With an estimated 21,177 persons using the park per year, there would be an estimated potential of 423,540 persons using the park during the first 20 years after its completion. This translates into a cost of 68¢ per person per visit.

## F. PRELIMINARY ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING COSTS\* (Figure 12)

Facility	Size	** Class	Qty.	Unit	Unit Cost	Cost
Trash receptacle	-	A	1	recept.	<sup>35</sup>	<sup>35</sup>
Tennis courts	.3 AC	B	1	2 court	\$1,321	\$1,321
Physical fitness cluster	.25 AC	A B	4	cluster	\$234	\$ 936
Open play	.75 AC	B	.75	acre	\$439	\$ 329
Tot lot	.25 AC	B	1	each	\$934	\$ 934
Play apparatus	.2 AC	B	1	each	\$934	\$ 934
Picnic area	.15 AC	B	.15	acre	\$990	\$ 149
Multi-use court	.5 AC	B	1	court	\$480	\$ 480
Storm drain	80 LF	C	1	inlet	\$15	\$ 15
History kiosk	105 SF	C	1	each	\$181	\$ 181
Gravel trail	1475 LF	C	1475	LF	\$.54	\$ 797
Woodchip trail	2050 LF	C	2050	LF	\$.95	\$1,948
Landscaping	1 AC	C	1	acre	\$279	\$ 279
Natural areas	6 AC	C	6	acre	\$279	<u>\$1,674</u>
Total						\$10,012

\*Prepared from Productivity Report #11-1975 (10/75, Rev. 6/77),  
by Office of Research & Statistics and FCPA. Figures updated to 6/82

\*\*Mowing/Maintenance Schedule: A=once each 7-14 days; B=once each  
14-30 days; C=once a year.



## G. RECOMMENDED PHASING

There is \$6,000 of Trust Fund 45 reserved for development of facilities at the park. No additional funds are currently available. The proposed 1983-89 Park Bond Plan includes \$50,000 in Fiscal Year 1987 for Silas Burke Park. The park has been assigned priority 3 out of 14 projects in Springfield Magisterial District under the proposed park bond plan.

Development will have to occur through several phases. The recommended development priorities (in order) are as follows:

Phase I

Tot lot (partial: select clearing, grading,  
woodchip surface, tot swing, bench)

Total Facilities	\$ 4,597
Design/Contract Admin.	<u>\$ 1,403</u>

Total Phase I	\$ 6,000
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Phase II

Tot lot (finish)	\$13,861
Play apparatus	<u>\$25,544</u>

Total Facilities	\$39,405
Design/Contract Admin.	<u>\$10,595</u>

Total Phase II	\$ 50,000
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Phase III

Multi-use court	\$ 17,341
Picnic area	\$ 2,314
Wet area	\$ 3,053
Security fence	\$ 14,033
Trail (1125 LF)	\$ 10,212
Tennis court	\$ 64,762
Physical fitness clusters	\$ 17,891
Fitness trail	\$ 9,779
Open play area	\$ 3,696
Trail (finish)	\$ 3,177
Planting/site work	\$ 22,740
History kiosk	<u>\$ 5,245</u>

Total Facilities	\$175,143
Design/Contract Admin.	<u>\$ 57,556</u>

Total Phase III	\$232,699
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GRAND TOTAL	\$288,699
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APPENDIX A  
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Jillson  
Fairfax County Park Authority

DATE: March 31, 1982

FROM: Larry K. Johnson  
Fairfax County Soil Scientist *LKJ*

FILE NO:

SUBJECT: Soil Survey of Silas Burke Park  
Tax Reference No. 78-2-0013-B.

REFERENCE:

In accordance with our discussion concerning the subject property I am providing the attached soil survey.

The soils on the site have developed from alluvial river terrace materials that overlie weathered rocks of the Piedmont Upland. The subsoils have dense to very stiff silty and clayey layers that restrict surface water infiltration. The soils have seasonally high water tables within 0.5 to 1.5 feet of the ground surface during wet periods of the year. The surface soils remain saturated for extended periods after heavy rains restricting some park uses.

Roanoke Series (68A0)

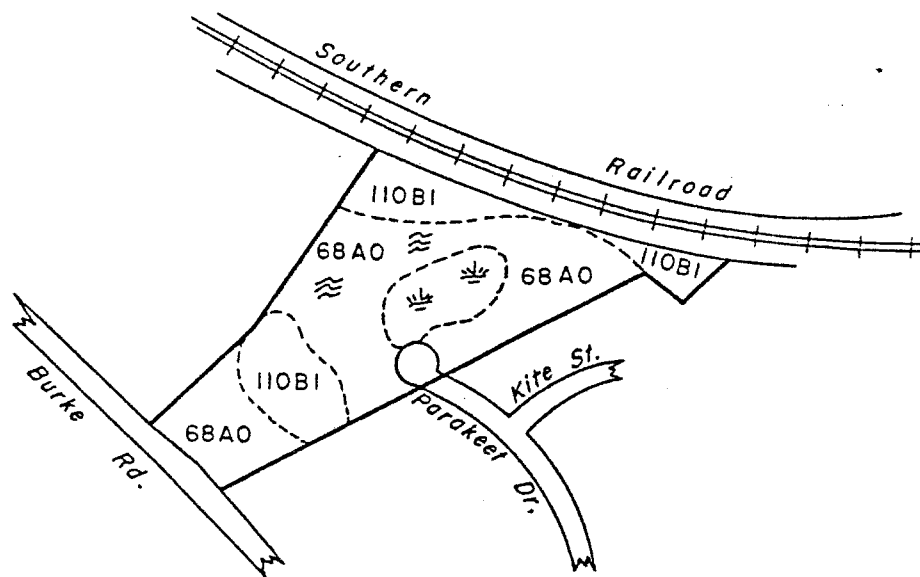
The soils within this unit are gray poorly drained silts and clays with seasonally high water tables at 0.5 feet or less below ground surface. Trafficability is generally poor during wet periods of the year. Any intensive uses of this area will require fills or subsurface drainage systems. The area shown with marsh symbols is a ponded depression.

Augusta Series 110B1

The soils within this unit have seasonally high water tables at about 1.5 feet below ground surface. Some wetness problems should be anticipated during the wettest periods of the year. The areas of Augusta soils generally have better drainage than other areas of the park and are more suitable for intensive park uses.

APPENDIX A

SPECIAL STUDY OF LAS BURKE PARK. STUDY REQUESTED BY DAVID JILLSON,  
FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY.  
TAX REFERENCE NO: 78-2-0013-B



LEGEND

Soil Symbol

68A0

110B1



Soil Name

Roanoke

Augusts

Marsh area

Fill area

Soil Boundary

Soil Study By:

L. K. Johnson

Soil Scientist

Scale:

1" = 500 feet

Date:

March 30, 1982



Fairfax

County

Park

Authority

## M E M O R A N D U M

To: Dave Jillson

Date: 5/27/81

From: Gene Biglin, District Naturalist

Subject: Silas Burke Park - Site Survey

Silas Burke Park consists of approximately 10 acres and is located at 5815 Parakeet Drive in Burke. The park is bordered on the north by the Southern Railroad, the south by Burke Road, the east by single family homes and the west by townhouses.

The topography is basically flat with a slight general incline from Burke Road towards the Southern Railroad.

There are presently no facilities on the site but some of the grass areas appear to be mowed.

Most of the site (approximately 60%) is open field. Conditions vary from periodically mowed grassy areas to reverting field habitat in the initial stages of succession. Flowering plants such as milkweed, clover and goldenrod are accompanied by brambles, poison ivy and young tree species including Staghorn Sumac, Red Maple and Virginia Pine.

There is one wet area located in the northern half of the site. It appears to remain wet all year and its flora includes marsh grasses, sedges, cattails and Black Willow. The area is approximately 50 yards in length and 30 yards wide at its extremes. This wet area is drained by a small stream which empties into a storm drain at Parakeet Drive.

Two woodlots, separated by Parakeet Drive, line the southeastern edge of the park. They are small in scale and make up approximately 30% of the site. The trees are not large and most have a DBH of less than 8 inches. Species include: Red Oak, Red Maple and Virginia Pine. The ground cover varies widely from sparse to dense and species present include Poison Ivy, Virginia Creeper, Japanese and Fly Honeysuckles.

There are no outstanding natural features at the site but the existing wet area makes the park very attractive to wildlife.

Considering the proximity of the single family homes and townhouses, a buffer zone should be created between any development and the western property line and at least some of the existing woodlot should be maintained on the opposite side.

Dave Jillson  
Page 2.

If development is to be low keyed and small in scale, facilities should be kept to the southern and western end of the site. This could possibly allow us to save the wet area and a section of meadow above it. If it is possible to have any of the site remain undeveloped, this section just described would be the most productive to the local wildlife.

cc. District I Files  
Aldridge/Beckner

The following information is to be obtained by assigned personnel in the preparation of requested reports from the Conservation Division for inclusion in the Master Planning process. A copy of this information will be forwarded with any such reports.

# I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Site Name Silas Burke Tax Map # 78-2 Acres 10.2 Mag. District Springfield  
 Street Location/Access 5815 Parakeet Drive Burke  
 Naturalist District I Planner Assigned Jillson

# II. NATURAL FEATURES

A. Rate on the following chart with a scale of 0-4 the dominance of natural features (vegetation type) and using the same scale, the potential of public use.

Features	Scale	Potential Use			
		Aesthetic	Wildlife	Interpretive	Recreation
Conifer Forest					
Hardwood Forest					
Mixed Forest	30%	1	3	1	1
Open Field	35%	2	3	2	4
Managed Field					
Reverting Field	25%	2	3	3	3
Stream Valley					
Marsh					
Swamp					
Pond/Lake					
Other Wet	10%	2	3	3	1

Note any particular items deemed important regarding IIA.

II. Cont.

B. Using established soils data, provide a listing of dominant soil series on the site and a brief description of characteristics.

Soil Series: 1 not known; 2                     ; 3                       
4                     ; 5                     ; 6                     

Description:

C. Topography: Provide a brief description of the topography of the site.

Basically flat - slight incline from Burke Road to Southern R.R.

III. Environmental Problems

On a scale of 0-4 (4 indicating major problem), rate the following environmental conditions (problems).

Condition	Known	Suspected	Unknown
Erosion			
Water Quality		X	
Impact (Human)	X		
Litter	X		
Vandalism			
Illegal Use			
Other			

Note any particular information deemed important regarding III.

Some dumping has gone on in the past near Burke Road - including old tires, aluminum gutters.  
Recent grass and leaf dumpings on small scale.

IV. OTHER: Indicate by checkmark those items which apply to the site/area

<u>On-site features</u>	<u>Adjacent lands</u>	<u>Nearby Parkland Facilities (1 mile)</u>	
Roads _____	Open space _____	Tennis _____ <u>X</u>	Trails _____ <u>X</u>
* Trails _____ <u>X</u>	Sing. Fam. Homes _____ <u>X</u>	Ballfields _____	Walkways _____
Public Easement _____	Townhouses _____ <u>X</u>	Playground _____ <u>X</u>	Swimming _____
Houses _____	Apartments _____	Tot Lot _____ <u>X</u>	Nature Trails _____
Other Buildings _____	Business _____	Picnic _____	Cons. Area _____
Private Dump _____	School _____	Multi-Use Ct. _____ <u>X</u>	Other _____
		Shelter _____	_____
		Restrooms _____	_____
		Parking Lot _____	_____
		Fishing _____	_____
		Boating _____	_____

\*Rough trail has been established due to use by residents crossing the width of the park.

Briefly describe initial impressions of the site:

Mostly open field, generally flat

Briefly describe any special features of the site:

Small (50 yds x 30 yds) permanent wet area

Recommended public use (recreational/interpretive):

Small scale active recreation - tennis, multi-use courts

Recommended further actions (Conservation Division):

None	_____ <u>X</u>
Baseline Survey	_____
Interpretive Plan	_____
Managed Cons. Area	_____

This report will be filed with a cover memorandum by the senior staff member assigned to the site survey. Copies of the report/memorandum will be furnished the Division Superintendent, Chief Naturalist, Naturalist District files. Original report/memorandum will be forwarded to the Planner assigned to the project (by name).

Site Survey Completed

DATE

5/18/81

BY

*Carmel*

5/77

## FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## MEMORANDUM

TO: David Jillson, Landscape Architect  
Fairfax County Park Authority

DATE June 10, 1981

FROM: Leonard B. Gunsior, Assistant Director  
Recreation & Community Services

FILE NO:

SUBJECT: Silas Burke Park - Master Plan

REFERENCE: Your memo, same subject, dated 4/21/81.

The major public demand and athletic facility shortage throughout Fairfax County at this time concerns soccer and softball fields, as well as tennis courts, with lighted facilities providing the greater utility. Relative to specific recommendations for development of subject park, the following is provided:

Relatively clear and level, this site has been used by community organizations for soccer play. It seems suitable to plan a minimum of two (2) regulation soccer fields along with a pair of tennis courts and essential parking in future planning. A multi-purpose court (for basketball and volleyball), walking and hiking trails as well as a picnic and apparatus area would be desirable. If sufficient area remains, a softball/little league ballfield should be included.

LBG:gr  
cc: J. Larry Fones, Dir., FCRD  
Donald F. Lederer, FCPA

## FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (DRCS)

## MEMORANDUM

TO: David Jillson, Landscape Architect, FCPA DATE July 30, 1982

FROM: Leonard B. Gunsior, Assistant Director, DRCS

FILE NO:

SUBJECT: Silas Burke Park - Master Plan Stake-Out, Comments Thereto

## REFERENCE

In affirming DRCS recommendations of June 10, 1981 relevant to development of subject site, I wish to share some additional information for consideration in the master planning process. With approval of the FCPA, and in response to demonstrated community needs, we have scheduled the existing open areas at Silas Burke Park for soccer practice. It has been utilized by teams from Braaddock Road Youth Club and Springfield Youth Club for several years. During a recent meeting of the Fairfax County Athletic Council, representatives from sports organizations have advised that there are approximately 3,500 youth from the Burke area playing soccer. The availability of fields in this area is woefully inadequate to support this participation, thereby causing family hardships due to the traveling distances required to reach playing fields.

Furthermore, at the June Athletic Council Meeting, the representative from the baseball/softball council stated that "the expansion of the youth baseball program in the Burke area was being restrained due to the lack of baseball fields to support said program."

It is recommended that the small man-made "swamp" located in the north central portion of the property be filled in to provide space for active recreation facilities.

LBG:br

cc: Louis Cable, Assistant Director, FCPA

## FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Don Lederer, Superintendent  
Design Division  
DATE November 11, 1981

FROM: Ed Chatelain, Historical Archaeologist  
Office of Comprehensive Planning

FILE NO:

SUBJECT: Archaeological Survey of Silas Burke Park

## REFERENCE:

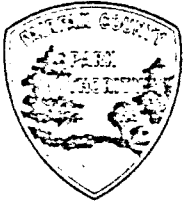
In response to the Stake-Out announcement of November 3, 1981, an archaeological survey was conducted of Silas Burke Park on November 10, 1981. During the survey, indications of a prehistoric site were located on the park. This site does not appear significant, therefore, no revisions in park development plans or timetable are recommended. However, it is requested that our office be notified when ground disturbance begins so that any artifacts uncovered can be collected. These artifacts will be maintained at the Fairfax County Archaeological Survey Headquarters and be available for study or use in Park Authority displays.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

ERC:aca

## Fairfax County Park Authority

4030 Hummer Road, Annandale, Virginia 22003  
Telephone (703) 941-5000



Director  
Joseph P. Downs

Assistant Directors  
Louis A. Cable  
James A. Heberlein

Authority Members  
James F. Wild  
Chairman  
Robert D. Moss  
Vice Chairman  
Nancy K. Cuddy  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Rod K. Brandstedter  
Barbara B. Clark  
Frederick M. Crabtree  
Lorraine F. Foulds  
Calvin Hill  
John Mastenbrook  
Dorothy S. Norpel

June 17, 1982

John Dent, President  
Cardinal Estates Civic Assoc.  
5916 Aplomado Drive  
Burke, VA 22015

Re: Silas Burke Park -  
Homeowner Land

Dear Mr. Dent:

Please pardon my delay in responding to your recent inquiry concerning your 12+ acres of homeowner land.

On behalf of Springfield's Park Authority Board member Bob Moss, I thank you for the opportunity to acquire your parkland, but I would like to respectfully decline the offer.

As you may know, the land in question was proffered to us in 1970 by the developer of Cardinal Estates. At that time, the Park Authority declined title to the open space due to its limited potential as a community park. With the planning of Silas Burke Park underway, we feel most of the community's recreational needs will be accommodated there without need for additional parkland.

I appreciate your interest expressed in Silas Burke, and I encourage you and your neighbors to participate in the planning process by attending the public hearing, targeted for Fall 1982, and help plan your park.

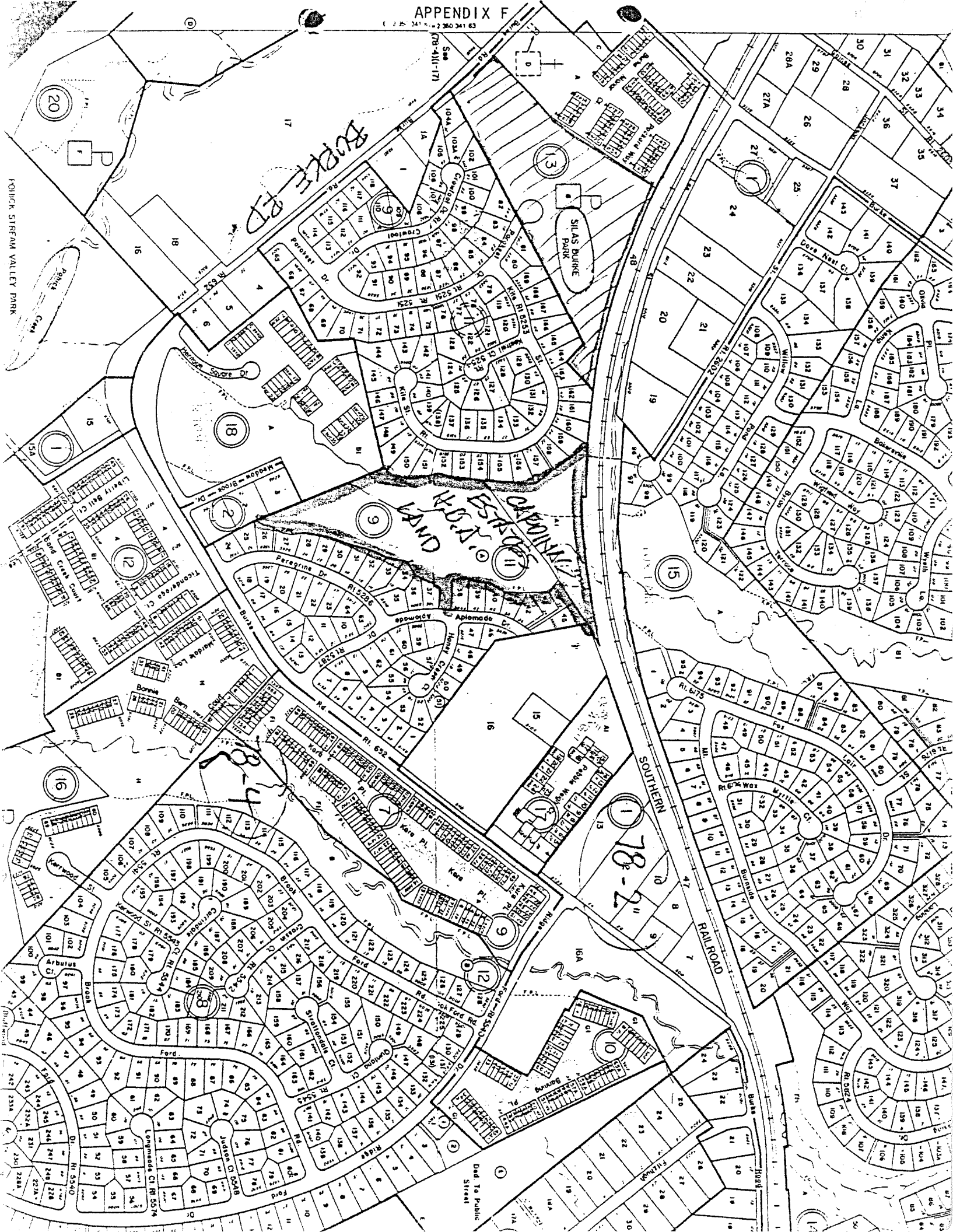
Sincerely yours

Louis A. Cable  
Assistant Director

LAC/sh

Attachment

cc: Dr. Robert Moss, FCPA Board Member  
Joseph P. Downs, Director  
Jim Heberlein, Assistant Director  
Richard Jones, Supt. of Land Acquisition  
Donald F. Lederer, Supt. of Design



PONCH STREAM VALLEY PARK

2-16-82

Dear Dave,

Sorry for the poor copy of our property. I searched our documents, and all we have that gives some spatial ~~dimensions~~ dimensions is this top page of our plot plan. The other pages are only specific diagrams of streets etc.

I've excluded page #5 from county - maybe you in your capacity can find something that will help you.

The 4-X marks represent your Elias Burke Park area and the horizontal lined area our park land.

Our park land has stream bed improvements lowbridge access asphalt pathways, large, asphalt 4 basketball net pad, 2 sand boxes 2 swing sets, ~~set~~ teeter totter and low climbing gym equipment. you might have to make a site visit to determine whether it is available for your purposes.

Let me know if I  
can assist you.

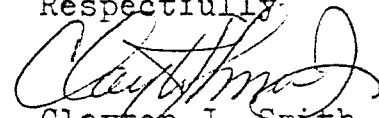
John Dent  
Cardinal Estates Home Assoc

Fairfax County Park Authority  
Mr. David Jillson

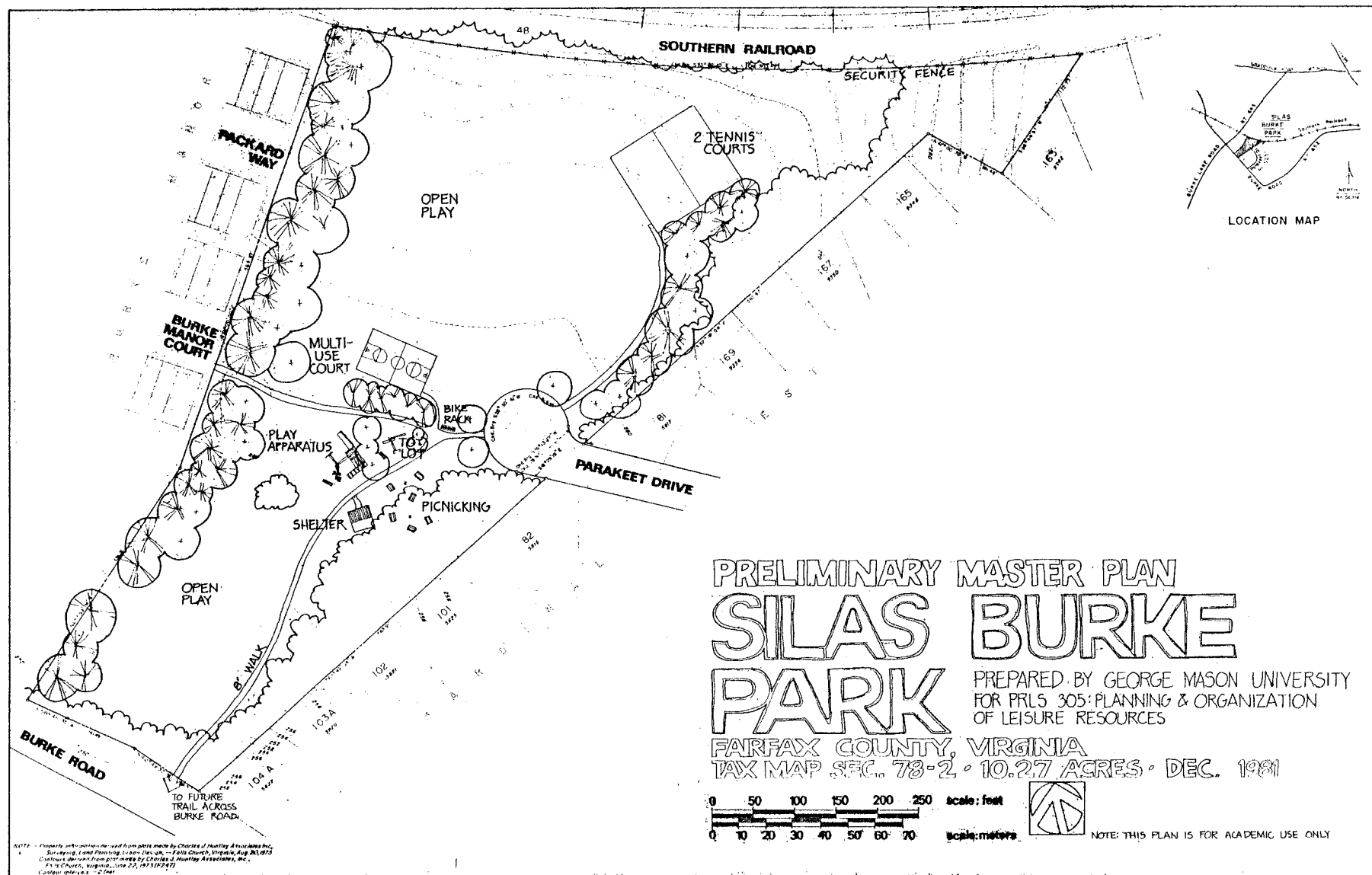
Dec. 4, 1981

As per your request, I am submitting this letter of intent on behalf of the Burke Manor Homeowners Assoc. As of the above date, the board of directors of Burke Manor have no immediate or long range plans to build, install, or develop any recreational facilities on the property of Burke Manor that borders Park Authority property. The above mentioned homeowner property is located at the SouthWest boundries of Silas Burke Park and to the rear of the Burke Commons shopping center.

Respectfully,



Clayton J. Smith jr.  
- President



# *Southern Railway System*

*Post Office Box 1808  
Washington, D.C. 20013*

E. B. BURWELL  
PRESIDENT

August 27, 1982 \*

920 15TH STREET, N.W.  
TEL: (202) 383-4520

77-Silas Burke

Mr. David Jillson  
Landscape Architect  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
4030 Hummer Road  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

Dear Mr. Jillson:

Please refer to your letter of June 23 regarding plans for Silas Burke Park east of the intersection of Burke and Burke Lake Roads in Fairfax County.

After giving this matter careful consideration, I regret to advise that we will not be able to contribute to cost of erecting chain link fence desired.

Yours very truly,

*E. B. Burwell*

June 23, 1982

Mr. E.B. Burwell, President  
Southern Railway System  
P.O. Box 1808  
Washington, D.C. 20013

Re: Silas Burke Park

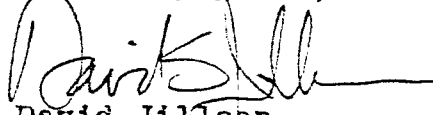
Dear Mr. Burwell:

We are currently preparing a master plan for Silas Burke Park, a 10 acre community park located just east of the intersection of Burke and Burke Lake Roads in Fairfax County. The north property line of the park is shared by approximately 903 feet of Southern Railroad right-of-way (see attached map).

With development of future recreational facilities will come an increase in the number of park users (particularly children). We can be sure that some children will want to walk up to the tracks, unaware of the potential danger. Recognizing this possibility, we request that a 6' high chain link fence be installed on the shared property line to discourage access to the tracks from the park.

Please call me if you have any questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,



David Jillson  
Landscape Architect

DSJ/sh

cc: Louis Cable, Assistant Director  
Donald Lederer, Superintendent of Design