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*"Fare Fac - Say Do"*

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# The Fare Facs Gazette

The Newsletter of Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

Volume 15, Issue 3

Summer 2018

## Andrew B. "Andy" Smith

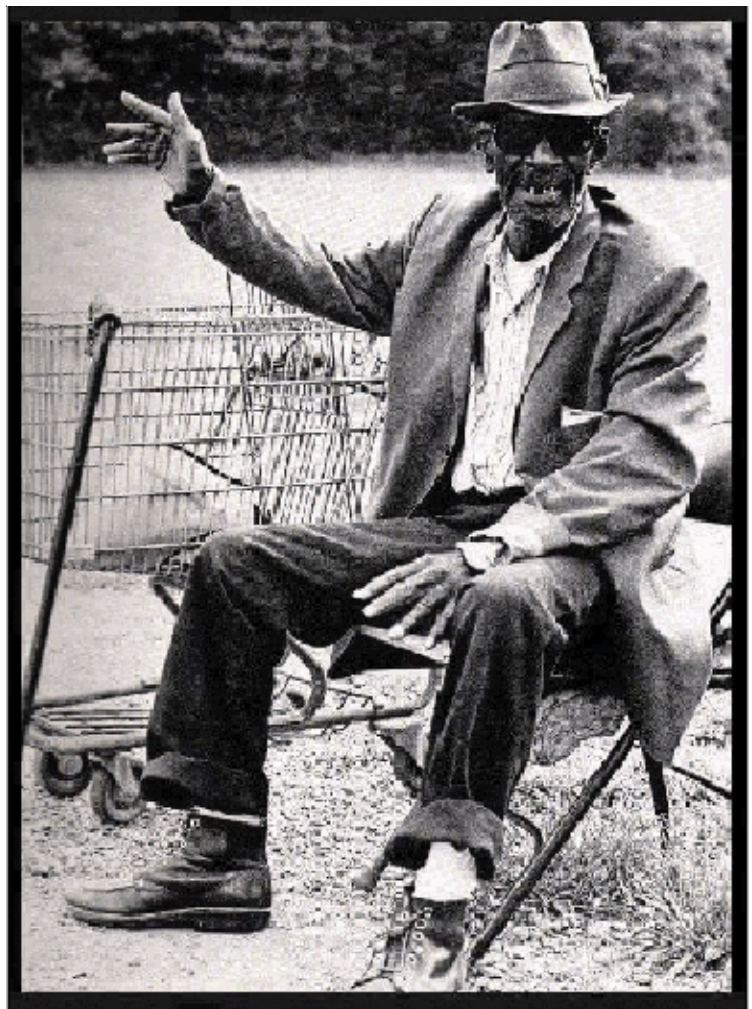
### A Legacy in a Gesture

by William Page Johnson, II



I feel so fortunate for having grown up in Fairfax. The experiences I have had and the people I have encountered in my life I would not trade for anything. Andy Smith was one of those people.

Andrew Beedel Smith was born May 23, 1911 in a small cabin in Fairfax Station, Virginia.<sup>1</sup> He was one of ten children born to Alfred Smith (1870-1916) and Margaret Ella Johnson (1869-1945).<sup>2</sup> Sadly, only six of the Smith children, all boys, survived to adulthood. Andy's father, Alfred Smith, was born in Warrenton, Fauquier County, Virginia in February 1870, the son of former Fauquier County slaves Jerry and Mary Smith.<sup>3</sup> Alfred worked for the



Andrew B. "Andy" Smith, 1976.

Photo courtesy of T. Wayne Gauthier

Southern Railway as a laborer.

Andy's mother, Ella, was the daughter of Benjamin "Ben" Johnson, Jr. (1841-1915) and Virginia Jane Catherine "Jennie" Gaskins (1838-1923).<sup>4</sup> Ben Johnson, Jr., Andy's maternal grandfather, was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, August 19, 1841, the son of former Prince William County slave Benjamin Johnson, Sr. (1789-1879) and Bessie Harris.<sup>56</sup> Ben and Jennie Johnson lived in a small cabin south of the railroad tracks near the intersection of what is now the Fairfax County Parkway and the Burke Center Parkway. The exact location is believed to be 5960 & 5967 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station, Virginia.<sup>7</sup> Ben, Jr. died of stomach cancer at his home, December 7, 1915 and was buried near Clifton, Virginia.<sup>8</sup> Andy's maternal grandmother, Jennie Gaskins, was born in Loudoun County, March 26, 1838. She died in Fairfax County, May 18, 1923, of

## From the Desk of the President-

Late Summer 2018

Historic Fairfax City, Inc. is indeed fortunate to have regular access to our splendid Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center. We have our monthly Board meetings there, and it is the scene of our annual Taste of the Vine event, which is coming up on **Friday, September 28, 2018**. It is hard to believe that the Civil War Interpretive Center opened 10 years ago; so this year we will celebrate its 10th anniversary! When you visit the Interpretive Center, you are likely to run into Dr. Chris Martin, the City's Director of Historic Resources. Dr. Martin is constantly engaged in the ongoing renovation of historic Blenheim and does a fantastic job bringing the house back to its original glory and at the same time making it accessible to visitors.

So this year there are lots of reasons to celebrate at the Taste of the Vine event! The wine selections will be provided by Slater Run Vineyards of Upperville. Chris Patuskey, the co-proprietor of the vineyard will be present to describe their wines and tell some stories about the Slater family (his wife and co-proprietor, Kiernan, is a Slater). Food will be provided by one of our newest Fairfax City restaurants, Pampa Sazone, which serves Argentine and Latin fusion food that will please your palate!

Taste of the Vine is a good time to get together with friends and neighbors and at the same time to support HFCI and its mission of encouraging interest in our local history and supporting the preservation of our considerable historic resources. I look forward to seeing you there.

John A. C. Keith

Visit us on the web:  
**HFCI Website!**

<http://www.historicfairfax.org>

## At the Fairfax Museum and Historic Blenheim...

### Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center

*The Fairfax Story* - Hamill Gallery. Permanent Fairfax history exhibition.

*"Chalkboards to Smartboards: Public Schools in the County of Fairfax and Fairfax City"* - Gano Gallery. This exhibition explores the history of County and City public schools from their creation, massive development and growth periods; from segregated schools to integration; changing technologies; new structures and notable and everyday students. Through mid-July 2017.

### Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center "Second Sunday" Programs

Programs are held at **2 p.m.** on the second Sunday of each month. Unless otherwise noted, programs are held at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street. Free (unless noted). Check back to find out about additional programs planned throughout the year. Information: **703-385-8414**.

Sunday, October 14, 2 p.m.

*"The Asian-American Experience in Northern Virginia"*

A roundtable discussion highlighting stories of the Asian-American community in Fairfax County.

Sunday, November 11 2 p.m.

*"Women of Resilience: Daughters of the American Revolution Service in World War I"*

Join Tracy Elizabeth Robinson, CA, Director of Archives and History at the DAR Headquarters in Washington, D.C., for a talk on the different roles and services DAR members performed during World War I.

Sunday, December 6, 2 p.m.

*"Holiday cheer, music, and refreshments"*

Stop by Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center for some holiday cheer. Enjoy free seasonal music and refreshments

while shopping for those special Fairfax and Virginia gifts, including the 2018 White House Christmas Ornament, honoring President Harry S. Truman.



### Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim

#### PERMANENT EXHIBITION

***“Blenheim’s Civil War Soldier Signatures: A Diary on Walls”***. Explores the local Fairfax Court House history and the experiences of soldiers who wrote on the walls of the Willcoxon home (Historic Blenheim.) The replica attic is a life-sized replica of the house attic that shows the clearest graffiti in the house.

Historic Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center Program Series Programs are free and held at 2 p.m. on Saturdays (unless otherwise noted) at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. Information: 703-591-0560.

Saturday, September 22, 2 p.m.

#### ***“Women Soldiers of the Civil War.”***

Tracey McIntire and Audrey-Teller Scanlan will speak about the experience of more than four hundred women who disguised themselves as men and served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. They will explore individual stories, gender roles and military culture of the era.

Saturday, October 27, 2 p.m.

#### ***“Real v. Reel: A Closer Look at the Medicine of ‘Mercy Street.’”***

Sometimes the truth is stranger than fiction. When watching the portrayals of Civil War medicine it can be hard to know which is which. Rewatch some notable scenes, and separate the medical and historical basis for the drama from the “TV magic.” Looking at the PBS original series “Mercy Street”, Jake Wynn, the Program Coordinator at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine, will look at what the medical drama got right and wrong about Civil War medicine.

Saturday, November 3, 2 p.m.

You are invited to the Historic Blenheim Site 10th Anniversary Celebration! Talks, tours and new discoveries. Learn about the City’s acquisition of the historic site, preservation and restoration updates, and new discoveries! Tours will be offered in to the house at Noon, 1pm, and 2pm. Talks, gallery exhibitions, including the replica attic, refreshments and activities will be in the Civil War Interpretive Center.

Saturday, November 17, 2 p.m.

#### ***“Ever the Gray Ghost: Colonel John Singleton Mosby and the Lincoln Conspiracies”***

How much did Mosby know, and was he complicit in an attempt to murder the President of the United States? In his new book, author Dave Goetz offers new insights and focuses on numerous attempts to capture or kill Abraham Lincoln and is the first to write a book considering Mosby as an integral part of the Lincoln conspiracies.

Sunday, December 2, Noon-4 p.m.

#### **SPECIAL TIME AND DATE**

#### ***“Christmas in Camp and Making do at Home.”***

Engage in holiday customs of Civil War soldiers and civilians at home. 703.591.6728 for scout reservations.



### Other Information of Interest

**Volunteers and Docents** are sought for the city’s historic buildings: Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House, Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center and Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Additionally, volunteers may be interested in assisting with walking tours and special events. For information email [Susan.Gray@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Susan.Gray@fairfaxva.gov), or call **703-385-8415**.

Select historic buildings are open during city special events, including the Chocolate Lovers Festival, Civil War Weekend, Independence Day Celebration, Fall Festival and Festival of Lights and Carols. To arrange group tours of city-owned historic buildings email [Susan.Gray@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Susan.Gray@fairfaxva.gov) or call **703-385-8414**.



The city has published a free self-guided walking tour brochure that provides a brief history of the city and noteworthy buildings in the Old Town Fairfax Historic District. This brochure is available from the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street. **703-385-8414**.

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The Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. It includes a variety of building and monument types and styles, including:

Fairfax Courthouse (1800)  
 Ratcliffe-Allison House (1812)  
 Joshua Gunnell House (c.1830)  
 William Gunnell House (c.1835)  
 Ford House (c.1835)  
 Fairfax Elementary School (1873)\*  
 Old Fairfax Jail (1885)  
 Old Town Hall (1900)  
 Marr Monument (1904)

\*Fairfax Elementary School was converted into the Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center in 1992.

### **Exhibition at Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House**

Location: 10386 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22030  
 Open Saturdays from 11am-2pm May-October for free tours; or call 703.385.8414 for tour appointment.

**“Dr. Kate Waller Barrett: Mother to Many”** - Exhibition examines the life of this prominent social reformer of the Progressive Era, who saved the early 19th-century Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House from demolition in 1923.

## **In a Future Issue...**

**Fairfax Herald & Hawhurst's Store.** These two longtime Fairfax businesses occupied Lot #12 in the original plan of the Town of Providence (now Fairfax). They were located on the s.e. corner of Main Street and Chain Bridge Road.

## **150 Years Ago contd.**

did with the stockade that was around it, etc. In this old court house I whiled away many a lonesome hour at a game of euchre or checkers. I notice the escape of prisoners from the old jail in which “our boys” used to be confined for getting “on a high,” though we were compelled to keep a guard at the door. This guard was given the countersign every evening, and almost always in so loud a voice that a certain young lady living near by could not help hearing if she desired. The fact that she had the countersign was soon known at Brigade Headquarters, and this was sufficient for Gen. Gamble to fix the blame on a certain Lieutenant who was shamefully abused in the presence of all the officers of the station or post. We often thought that Gen. G. had visions of Col. Mosby's visit to the private quarters of Col. Stoughton!

SIGMA.

*Alexandria Gazette* August 14, 1868.

## **200 Years Ago**

**DOCT. CHARLES B. STUART**  
 respectfully offers his professional services  
 to the public, in the practice of Surgery,  
 Physic and Midwifery. He may be found  
 at Mr. John Bronaugh's.  
 Centreville, Fairfax co. Va. 3t  
 September 5.

*Alexandria Gazette*, September 7, 1818.

Note: John Bronaugh also operated a tavern at Fairfax C.H. in the 1820s.

## **DUES ALERT**

If you have not paid your annual Historic Fairfax City, Inc. dues they are now due. Please remit based on the schedule below. Annual dues payments should be made out and sent to: **Historic Fairfax City, Inc.**, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22030.

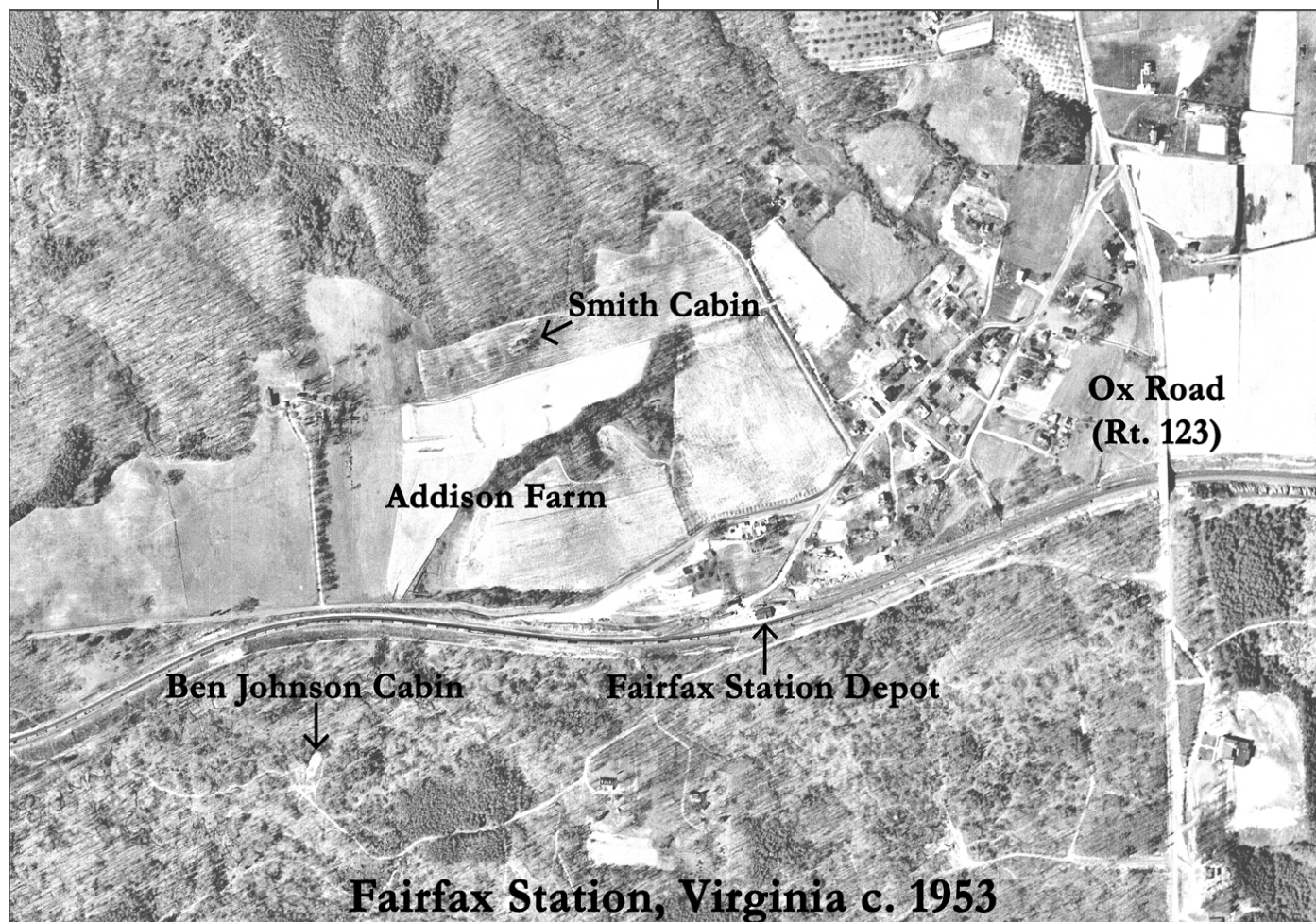
a stroke and was buried in “Little Zion Cemetery,” Clifton, Virginia.<sup>9</sup> Jennie Gaskins Johnson was the daughter of Glasco Gaskins (1792-aft. 1880) and Annie Harris.

Glasco, or “Glasgow,” Gaskins and Annie Harris, Andy's great-grandparents, were both slaves of Robert “Councillor” Carter, III, Esq. (1728-1804) of *Nomini Hall*, Westmoreland County, Virginia. In 1754, Robert Carter, III married Frances Ann Tasker (1738-1787), daughter of Benjamin Tasker (1690-1768), President of the Kings Council for the Colony of Maryland. After his wife's death in 1787, Robert Carter, III converted to the Swedenborgian faith<sup>10</sup> which held that slavery was immoral. Beginning in 1791, Carter began to free almost all of his more than 500 slaves. The process, which began during Carter's lifetime, took more than twenty years. It remains the largest manumission of slaves by a single

individual in the history of the United States.<sup>11,12,13</sup> More than thirty of Robert Carter's manumitted slaves with surnames of Allen, Burke, Harris and Gaskins settled in Fairfax County. Many of their descendants still reside in Fairfax County.<sup>14</sup>

Andy's parents, Alfred and Ella, were married on May 10, 1893 at her father's home in Fairfax Station.<sup>15</sup> After their marriage Alfred and Ella Smith leased a small cabin on the farm of Thomas Daingerfield Addison about a quarter mile northwest of the depot. This cabin survived until the early 1970's when it was heavily damaged by Hurricane Agnes in 1972 and demolished shortly thereafter. The exact location today is 5725 Smoke Rise Lane, Fairfax Station, Virginia.<sup>16</sup>

Andy grew up in the segregated Jim Crow era. Life was hard, especially for African-Americans. Fairfax Station



Aerial Photo of Fairfax County 1953, Tax Map Grid 76-2 & 77-1. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/aerial-photography>  
Fairfax County Historical Imagery Viewer, Office of GIS & Mapping, Fairfax County, VA



resident, Thelma Taylor, who was born in 1909, recalled Andy as a young boy dancing for pennies in front of Swetnam's Store.<sup>17</sup> Andy's father died in 1916 when Andy was just five years old. He left school after the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and went to work as a farm laborer to help support the family. As he grew older, Andy worked at odd jobs, doing whatever he could to earn a living. Fairfax resident Benny Leonard remembered competing with Andy for lawn mowing jobs.<sup>18</sup>

In 1940 Andy registered with the Selective Service for World War II. At that time he indicated that he was employed by Dr. F.M. Brooks.<sup>19</sup> Dr. Frederick Mortimer Brooks resided on a farm on Ox Road (Rt. 123) opposite of what is now the Country Club of Fairfax. Andy did not serve during World War II likely due to his age. However, he was known to have walked with a limp most of his life from due to a leg injury or deformity.

While Andy does not appear to have had any legal trouble during his life, his large extended family occasionally did. As an example, in June 1947, after several hours of drinking at the Bull Run Dance Hall, a segregated *beer parlor* along Bull Run at the Stone Bridge, Andy's nephew, Benjamin Frederick "Bennie" Smith (1917-1982), tried to break up an argument between his sister, Frances Smith, and a man named Nobel Jackson. Bennie left the dance hall with his sister, Frances along with Nellie and Ellene Colbert. They were followed outside by Nobel Jackson and Lawrence Parker. Bennie later gave the following statement to the Fairfax County Police:

"I got my sister out...and we left there and started home. Between there and Centreville, Nobel Jackson [with Lawrence Parker] tried to wreck me by hitting my truck with his car. I then stopped at the Esso Station at Centreville, Virginia and asked them to call the police, but they refused. While we were at the service station Nobel Jackson stated to me 'start down the road and I would see,' meaning he was going to wreck me. I, instead of coming down the lee highway, went down the back road,

across Braddock Road and he met me at Piney Branch and tried to wreck me again, but I managed to get by him and I then came on home. When I got home I went into the house and my sister went into her house, a trailer, I heard him arguing with her. I then picked up my rifle and went out by the trailer and called to Nobel Jackson to come out and when he did I shot him. When I shot he fell to the ground and started crawling, at this time a couple of people took me by the arm and led me back to the house. I then stayed at the house until the officer arrived and gave myself up including the rifle."<sup>20</sup>

The murder of Nobel Jackson took place at Bennie Smith's home located at 11610 Lee Highway, Fairfax, just west of Kamp Washington.<sup>21</sup> Bennie was indicted for murder, tried and sentenced to 20 years in prison. He was paroled after five years.

By the 1950's Andy was working for the Farr family as a laborer on the 150-acre Farr tract of land located south of the Town of Fairfax. This tract of land was owned by former Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney, Wilson Mahone Farr and his sister-in-law, Viola Marigold Farr Orr, the widow of Richard Ratcliffe Farr. The Farr tract adjoined the traditional and segregated African American community of School Street to the north in the Town of Fairfax.

In 1949, through the generosity of the Farr family, Andy began living in a 1940's vintage camper trailer situated on the northwest corner of the 150-acre Farr tract. His trailer fronted on Ox Road (Rt. 123) and was situated next door to, and south of, the two-story frame home of Wade Perry, a former slave. Andy may have first lived in the Wade Perry house until it became uninhabitable.<sup>22</sup> At the time, there was no electricity, running water, sanitary facilities or trash removal in this part of Fairfax. Andy obtained water from a well located across Ox Road. He used an outhouse behind his trailer. He burned his trash in a barrel. What could not be burned was simply dumped

on his small lot. As a result, there was a constant and significant pile of bottles and rusting cans strewn around his trailer.

According to a contemporary newspaper, Andy never paid any rent for the land on which his trailer sat. However, Anne Farr Lewis, the daughter of Wilson M. Farr, disagrees and recently divulged the true financial arrangement that existed between her father and Andy Smith, “Andy was quite a colorful character. He would come to my father’s office to pay his annual rent of \$1.00.”<sup>23</sup> Clearly, Andy was no bum.

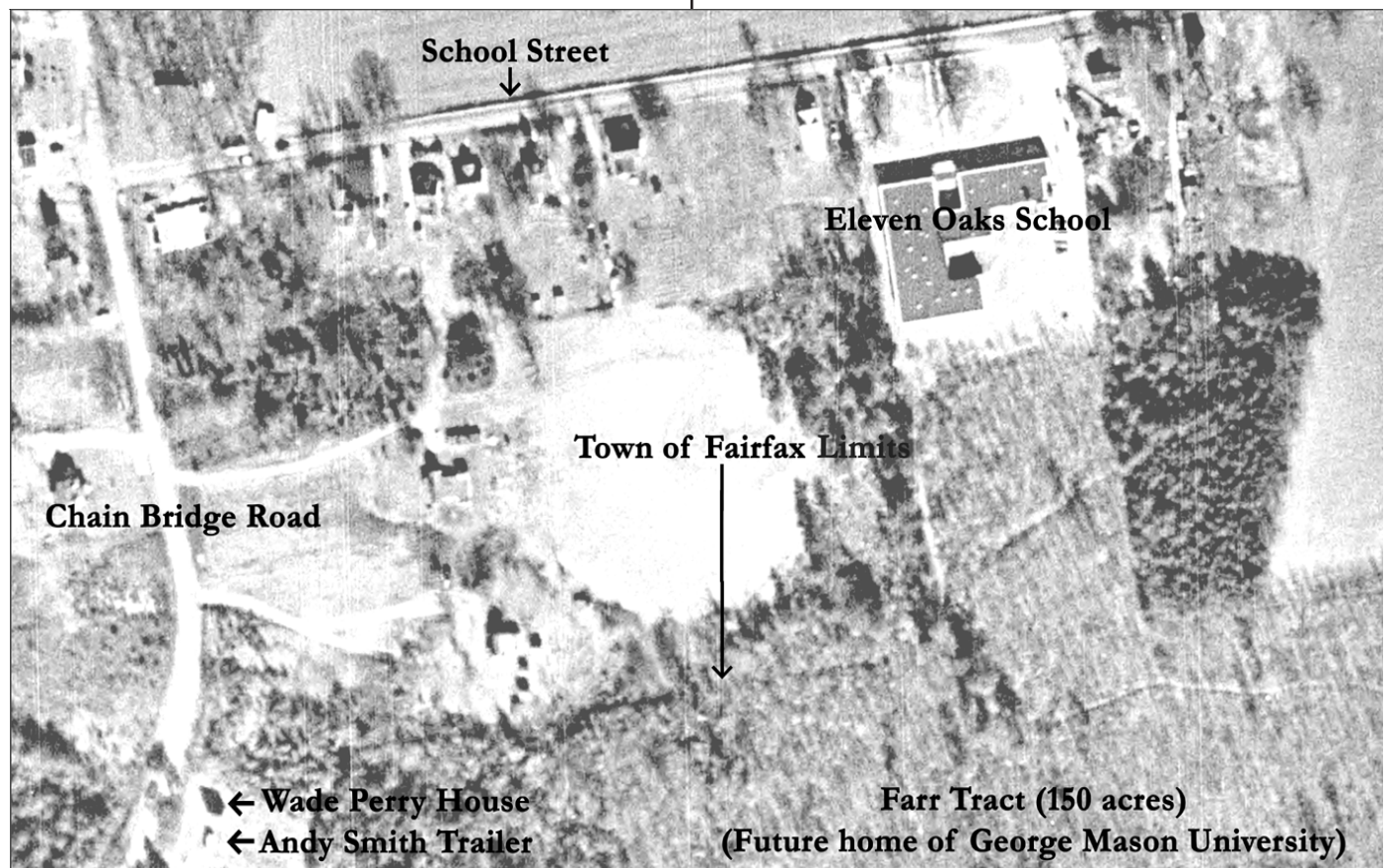
It was during this time that Andy began to endear himself to the people of Fairfax. From his prominent location on Ox Road, Andy would sit on his small front porch and wave at every passing motorist.

“When he’s out-of-doors and not working, Andrew Smith waves and smiles at each car

that passes. It’s a pleasant experience in a hurried day.”<sup>24</sup>

Andy’s life was simple, in addition to mowing lawns and working occasional odd jobs, he hunted and fished to supplement his diet. He collected discarded soda bottles for the nickel return deposit. It was clear to everyone, including Fairfax Station resident, Lee Hubbard, that Andy’s circumstances were very low. Lee, who is a retired Fairfax County police officer, recently related that if he hadn’t seen Andy for a while he would stop in to check on him and occasionally bring him fresh game. Andy gratefully accepted with the quip ‘You bring me anything that’s edible and I’ll eat it.’<sup>25</sup>

As a child in the early 1960s, I too, remembered Andy and his yellow dog *Bruno*, vividly. My paternal grandmother, Edna Sisson Johnson Eanes, lived on Groves Lane south of Fairfax. We visited her house regularly. On each visit, I eagerly anticipated passing Andy’s trailer and



Aerial Photo of Fairfax County 1960, Tax Map Grid 57-4. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/aerial-photography>  
Fairfax County Historical Imagery Viewer, Office of GIS & Mapping, Fairfax County, VA

the smile and wave that I knew would greet me. I distinctly remember being disappointed if he and *Bruno* were not out front as we passed by.

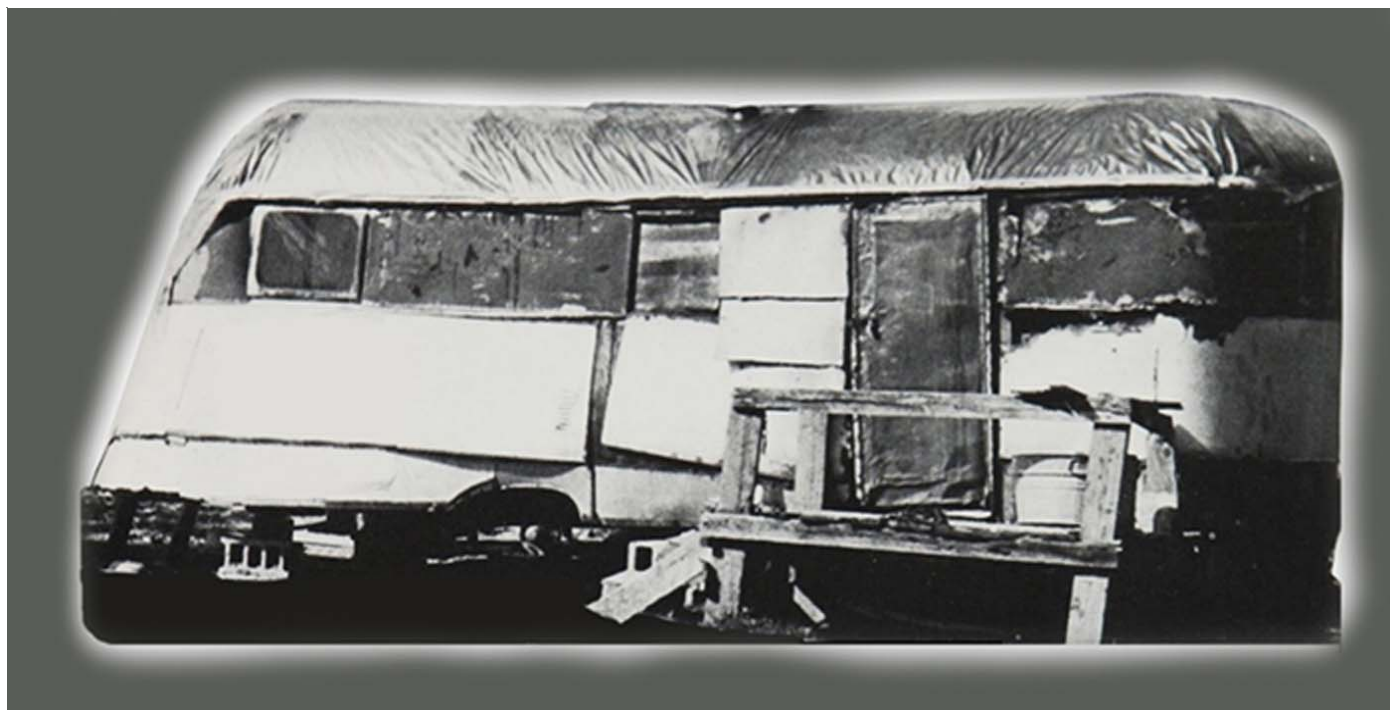
The 1950's and 60's was a time of great change in Fairfax. The post-World War II housing and baby booms were in full swing. In 1958 the Fairfax Town Council voted to purchase the 150-acre Farr tract from Wilson M. Farr and his sister-in-law, Viola Marigold Farr Orr, the widow of Richard Ratcliffe Farr. In 1959 the citizens of the Town of Fairfax then donated the land to the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia. George Mason College of the University of Virginia was to relocate from Bailey's Crossroads to the former Farr tract south of the Town of Fairfax. Progress was about to overtake Andy Smith and his way of life.

In early 1962 Andy's now badly dilapidated trailer stood directly in the path of the extension of University Drive to Ox Road then under construction. The extension would provide access to the new college campus from the south. Andy's old trailer was unceremoniously shoved out of the way a few feet to the northeast corner of the

new intersection. Also that spring a new sign announcing the relocation of George Mason College was also installed on the southeast corner of the new intersection.

Construction of the first four buildings of the new Fairfax campus of George Mason College began in 1963 and was completed by the late summer of 1964. A large dedication ceremony was planned for November 12, 1964. Virginia Governor Albertis S. Harrison, Jr. and a host of other dignitaries were scheduled to attend and speak. As that date approached, the dilapidated condition and location of Andy's trailer presented a problem for the college leadership. The main entrance to the new college campus from the south was now a route that went right by Andy's ramshackle trailer. Sometime that summer Andy and *Bruno* were notified that they were to be evicted.<sup>26</sup>

Andy's ancient trailer, which had been his home for 15 years, was in bad shape. Plastic covered the roof to keep out the elements. The exterior panels were loose and rusty. With its tires long gone, the trailer frame was suspended on old cinder blocks. In short, it was not up to being moved any distance at all. Even if it were, there was



The travel/camper trailer used by Andy Smith from 1949 to 1964. The trailer, possibly a 1947 or '48 Westcraft 24 ft. Westwood Coronado, was located on the northeast corner of the Farr tract, later George Mason College/University and the corner of Ox Road (Rt. 123) and University Drive.

Photo credit: The Advocate, 1965, George Mason College Yearbook, George Mason University Libraries, Special Collections.



no place to move it. At this precise moment Andy's many friends, the very people to whom he offered the simple gesture of a smile and wave, came to his rescue. In August 1964, Mr. Luther T. Donaldson, then the Manager of Fairfax Auto Body, established the *Andrew Smith Fund* to solicit funds for the purchase of a new trailer for Andy. Mr. Donaldson, along with Mrs. Gertrude Burner of Fairfax Auto Body, Mr. Andy Cooper of Vienna Auto Body, and Mrs. Clay (Virginia) Joyner of the City of Fairfax, served as trustees of the *Smith Fund*. When contacted recently and asked if he were the same L.T. Donaldson who worked for Fairfax Auto Body, Mr. Donaldson now aged 84 years old and a resident of Morris, Alabama, stated, "Son, I have done everything from making moonshine to teaching college, and yes, I worked for Fairfax Auto Body."

Through the efforts of Luther Donaldson and others, the community rallied behind Andy Smith and very soon the funds were raised and a new, *used*, trailer purchased. But there was still the problem of where to put it.

Newly elected Fairfax Mayor, Edgar A. Pritchard, who took office in September 1964, facilitated the placement of the newly acquired trailer at the Sewage Treatment Plant (now the City of Fairfax Property Yard) on Pickett Road. You will not find these facts recorded anywhere in the minutes in the Fairfax City Council – all

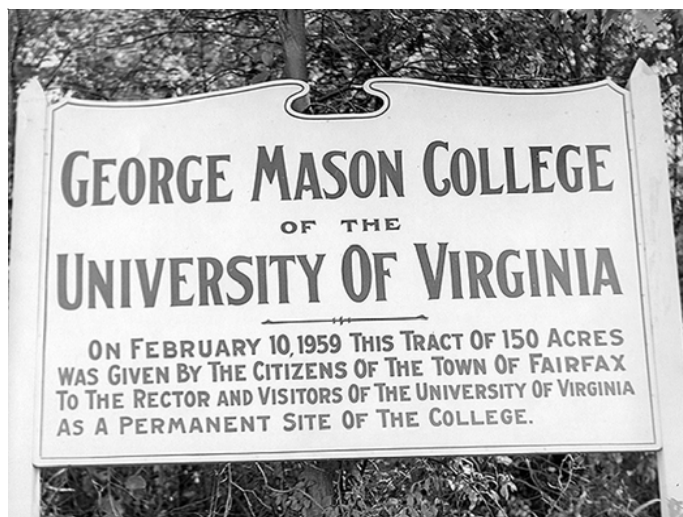
of this was accomplished on a handshake. Perhaps to justify allowing an individual to live on public property, Andy was unofficially known as the *Night Watchman* of the Sewage Treatment Plant. While the plant location was not ideal, a crisis for a gentle soul was averted. Andy was to live here, rent-free, with free water and sewer facilities for the rest of his life.

The Sewage Treatment Plant was located directly across Pickett Road from Thiass Park, the Fairfax Little League baseball fields. Thus, Andy Smith was able to endear himself to a whole new generation – the children of Fairfax Little League. Just as he had done earlier from his trailer on Ox Road, Andy would sit out in front of the gate of the plant and smile and wave to passing motorists on Pickett Road. However, at this location Andy took on another role. On weekends when there was a lot of traffic due to little league games, Andy would get out in the middle of a dusty Pickett Road and *direct traffic*. Pickett Road was then a narrow two-lane gravel road. The City of Fairfax Police Department, probably out of fear for his safety, supplied Andy with a yellow safety vest and even a whistle. Andy's attempts at traffic control were comical to say the least. As a result, every Fairfax Little Leaguer of the late 60's and early 70's fondly remembers Andy Smith.

In 1972, Hurricane Agnes devastated Northern Virginia. Andy with his little yellow dog, *Russ*, a successor

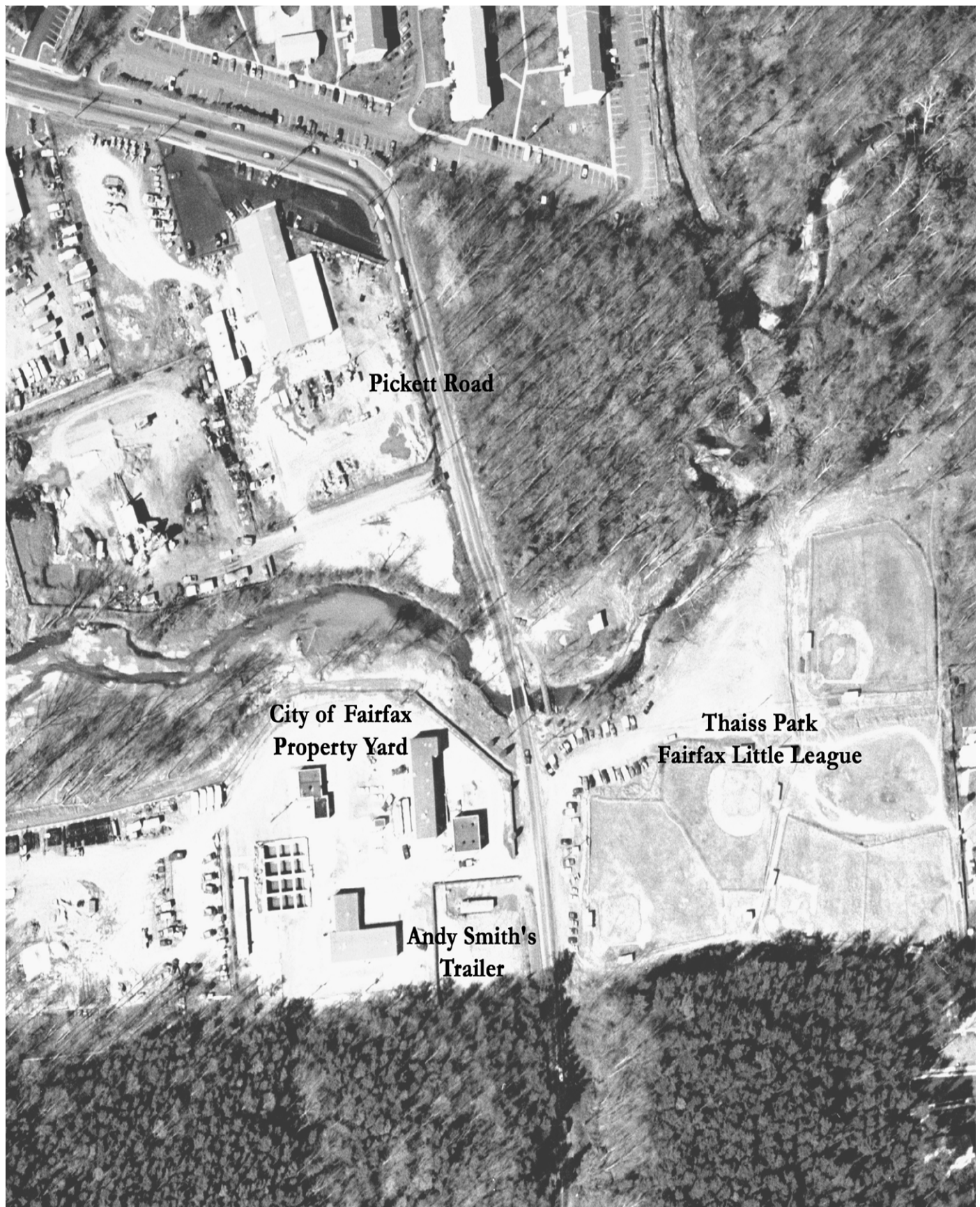


Location of Andy Smith's Trailer today (2018). The northeast corner of Ox Road (Rt. 123) and University Drive.  
Photo credit: Page Johnson, September 2018



Sign announcing George Mason College, southeast corner of Ox Road (Rt. 123) and University Drive in the Spring of 1962.  
Photo credit: George Mason University Libraries, Special Collections.





Aerial Photo of Fairfax County 1976, Tax Map Grid 48-3, 48-4, 58-1, 58-2. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/aerial-photography> Fairfax County Historical Imagery Viewer, Office of GIS & Mapping, Fairfax County, VA





Andy Smith *directing traffic* on Pickett Road at Thiass Park c. 1970. Note Andy's trailer, purchased by the citizens of Fairfax in 1964, parked across Pickett Road at the City of Fairfax Sewage Treatment Plant (now Property Yard).

Photo credit: Montage of Video stills from a Super 8 mm film.

Photo courtesy: Glenn Gore



Fairfax County Cemetery - Potters Field. 3609 Jermantown Road, Fairfax, VA.

Photo credit: Page Johnson



Grave of Andrew Smith, Fairfax County Cemetery, 3609 Jermantown Road, Fairfax, VA.

Photo credit: Page Johnson

to *Bruno*, managed to escape the rising flood waters of nearby Accotink Creek, but his trailer and most of his meager belongings did not. By that time, Andy was something of a celebrity. A remnant of the old Fairfax, a fixture in the community, a true character. As a result, the Fairfax Little League, myself included, and other residents raised the money to replace Andy's ruined trailer and furnishings.

Andy Smith died of a heart attack in his trailer on July 13, 1978. His funeral was held at Mount Cavalry Baptist Church in the City of Fairfax. Hundreds of people attended. He is buried in the Fairfax County Cemetery on Jermantown Road in the City of Fairfax. The cemetery is also known as *Potters Field* – a biblical term for a paupers' graveyard.

Former City of Fairfax Mayor Nathaniel "Nat" Young summed up Andy's legacy this way, "The world needs a lover and Andy Smith loved everybody."<sup>27</sup>

Because of his warm smile and friendly gesture for everyone, he was missed, and still is. Sadly, we will never see the like of him again, but his legacy lives on.

The world needs more Andy Smith's.

#### (Endnotes)

<sup>1</sup> Birth Certificate of Andrew B. Smith, #78-022559, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>2</sup> Death Certificate of Margaret Ella Johnson, #26804, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>3</sup> Fairfax County Marriage Book 1, p. 259, Fairfax Co. Cir. Ct. Clerk.

<sup>4</sup> Death Certificate of Jennie Catherine Johnson, #12701, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>5</sup> Vaughn, Curtis L., *Freedom is Not Enough: African Americans in Antebellum Fairfax County*, PhD diss., George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 2014. Retrieved from [http://mars.gmu.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/19209155/Vaughn\\_gmu\\_0883E\\_10726.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](http://mars.gmu.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/19209155/Vaughn_gmu_0883E_10726.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Mortality Schedule of 1880, Fairfax County, Virginia. National Archives and Records Administration, Wash., DC.

<sup>7</sup> Communication from Lee Hubbard, September 10, 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Death Certificate of Ben Johnson, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>9</sup> Death Certificate of Jennie Catherine Johnson, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>10</sup> Faith established by Swedish Mystic, Emanuel Swedenborg.

<sup>11</sup> Retrieved from <http://nominihallslavelegacy.com/>

<sup>12</sup> Register of Free Blacks 1835, Book 3, No. 538, Fairfax County, Fairfax County Circuit Court. "...the bearer hereof Glasgow Gaskins, who is very black, has a small scar on the corner of the right eye, and the right ankle much swollen and effected with white swelling, aged about sixty eight years, five feet eleven inches high, and who is the son of Cate Gaskins, liberated by the late Robert Carter, Esqr of Baltimore...."

<sup>13</sup> Claim of Glascoe Gaskins, #2359, Southern Claims Commission Approved Claims, 1871-1880: Virginia. Microfilm Publication M2094, 45 rolls; Records of the Accounting Officers of the Department of the Treasury, Record Group 217; National Archives at Washington, D.C.

<sup>14</sup> Register of Free Blacks 1835, Book 3, No. 538, Fairfax County, Fairfax County Circuit Court

<sup>15</sup> Fairfax County Marriage Book 1, p. 259, Fairfax Co.Cir. Ct. Clerk.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid 7.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid 7.

<sup>18</sup> Communication from Benny Leonard, September 6, 2018.

<sup>19</sup> The National Archives in St. Louis, Missouri; St. Louis, Missouri; Record Group: Records of the Selective Service System, 147; Box: 674

<sup>20</sup> *Commonwealth vs Smith*, Fairfax County Law Case 6700, Fairfax County Circuit Court Clerk.

<sup>21</sup> Death Certificate of Benjamin Frederick Smith, #82-000162, Virginia Department of Health, Richmond, Virginia.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid 7.

<sup>23</sup> Communication from Anne Farr Lewis, September 11, 2018.

<sup>24</sup> Fairfax City Times, August 7, 1964, p. 1.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid 7.

<sup>26</sup> Communication from Robert L. Vay, Archivist, Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.

<sup>27</sup> Washington Post, March 25, 1983.



## Fairfax City News

### 50 Years Ago



FRED M. EVERLY

### Fred M. Everly, Pharmacist, Former Fairfax Councilman

Fred M. Everly, 62, a pharmacist and a former member of the Fairfax Town Council and later the Fairfax City Council, died Thursday of a heart attack at his home, 10400 Stratford Ave., Fairfax.

Mr. Everly was born in Strasburg, Va., where he was graduated from high school, later moving to Alexandria.

He received a degree from the school of Pharmacy George Washington University in 1932, and from that time until 1965 he operated his own pharmacy in Fairfax. For the last two years

he was a pharmacist at Leesburg Hospital.

He served several terms as a member of the town council and a term on the city council after Fairfax became a city in 1961.

He was an active member of the Fairfax Methodist Church, serving on the church board and also as a trustee of the church. He was a past master of Henry Lodge No. 57, F&AM in Fairfax and a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, a past patron of Hope Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star of Fairfax and a member of the Kena Temple Shrine and the Arlington Royal Arch Chapter No. 38.

He leaves his wife, Gertrude, a son, Fred M. Everly Jr. of Fairfax; two brothers, Josiah S. and George F. of Alexandria; a sister, Mrs. E. L. Keirn of Richmond, and two grandchildren and nine stepgrandchildren.

Friends may call at the Everly Funeral Home, 10565 Main St., Fairfax, where Masonic services will be held at 8 p.m. tomorrow. The family requests that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Heart Fund.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Monday in Fairfax Methodist Church, University Drive and Stratford Avenue, with burial at Bethel Cemetery, Alexandria.

*Evening Star*, July 13, 1968.

## 50 Years Ago contd.

### Fairfax Burglary Suspect Escapes at Arraignment

A burglary suspect escaped from the Fairfax County jail while he was being arraigned before a justice of the peace this weekend, police said today.

Robert Lee Earman, 25, of the 6000 block of Lakeside Drive, Bladensburg, dropped to his knees to escape the hold of several policemen and ran out the door of the office of the justice of the peace at the jail in Fairfax City Saturday night, according to police. They said Earman, charged with three counts of breaking and entering, disappeared.

Police said the arrest of Earman and four others had solved a series of about 30 housebreakings in the Tysons Corner, McLean and Falls Church areas in the last several weeks. They said their investigation is continuing.

*Evening Star*, September 2, 1968

**RECEPTIONIST.** Fairfax City, meet and greet the nice people in Fairfax. Local office needs front desk person. 54.200. **POTOMAC EMPL.**, 9653 Lee Hwy., Fairfax Circle Center. 591-4040.

*Evening Star*, September 10, 1968

## 100 Years Ago

**TWELVE-ROOM DWELLING, TEN ACRES,** in Virginia: one block from electric car line running from 12th and Pa. ave., Washington, D. C., to Fairfax Courthouse, Va., about 14 miles from the city; large frame dwelling, painted white; now vacant; barn and stable; chicken house. Price, \$4,750; easy terms, if desired.

**JOSEPH C. ZIRKLE**, 203 Colorado bldg.

*Evening Star*, July 21, 1918.

Note: Joseph Claibourne Zirkle (1886-1960) was the father of former City of Fairfax resident Capt. Joseph C. Zirkle, Jr. (1917-2013), Ensign Joseph C. Zirkle, Jr. was an Ensign onboard the U.S.S. California during the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.

### "DEARIE" MYSTERY GROWING DEEPER

The mystery about "Dearie," the little girl baby left on the doorstep of Robert Dove, Fairfax county farmer, and later taken away to Alexandria, is yet unsolved. Mrs. Dove insists the baby was left on her doorstep last Saturday morning.

According to the stories told by the many who seem to be personally interested in the two-weeks' old baby, it has already had about five homes to live in during its short existence. Just where it is now Mrs. Sheada, of Alexandria, who got it from Mrs. Dove, declares she does not know.

Mrs. Dove, who lives about three miles from Fairfax Court House, says that early Saturday morning her twelve-year old boy found it on the doorstep wrapped in baby clothes and sleeping in a shoe box. The boy verifies this. A note was attached to the baby to the effect that Mrs. Dove would be paid \$25 a month for keeping the baby. A band was on the wrist of the baby with the name "Dearie" penciled on it.



The Doves grew attached to the baby the first day, and telephoned the Fairfax authorities they would take out papers of adoption for the infant. Others of Fairfax claim to have read the note on the band which was on the baby's wrist.

Thursday morning Mrs. Dove stated that Mrs. Sheads, who lives on Cameron street, Alexandria, with orders from Chief Goods, got the baby and took it to its mother. Chief Goods denies this statement.

Mrs. Sheads says that her daughter Nita secured the baby from a woman in Washington. Mrs. Sheads refused to admit the baby, she says, and it was taken to Mrs. Dove in Fairfax county.

Mrs. Sheads denies the statement of Mrs. Dove that the baby was left on the Dove's doorstep.

*Washington Times*, September 7, 1918

## 150 Years Ago

The number of horses that have been stolen from this neighborhood during the past year is alarmingly large. Some say if a few horse thieves could be dealt summarily with, instead of being taken to Fairfax Court House, to escape from the insecure jail at that place the first dark night, the ends of justice would be better served than at present. The existing condition of affairs calls loudly for a remedy that will be prompt and efficient.

*Alexandria Gazette*, July 25, 1868.

At his residence, at Fairfax Court House, Va., on Saturday, September 19, 1868, Dr. FREDERICK BAKER, in the 59th year of his age.

*Alexandria Gazette*, September 21, 1868

Note: Dr. Baker, an Englishman, owned Coombe Cottage, a girls school. Coombe Cottage was located where the Mosby Building is now located.

## 150 Years Ago

Letter from a former Federal Soldier.  
[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

JEFFERSON, GREENE CO., PA., Aug. 10.—I read regularly the Alexandria Gazette, and its columns are closely scanned, especially for names, and occupations, and business, of some of the citizens of Alexandria and Fairfax, with whom I formerly became acquainted. I always find matters of interest in every number, and in the last, I find two communications, one from Fairfax Court House, and one from Manassas, that were worth to me the price of subscription.

You may think it strange that a Pennsylvania Volunteer, who spent four years in Virginia, performing the every day duties of a common soldier, such as marching, fighting, &c., should feel any anxiety to hear from, or any interest, in a people who were once his enemies in war. But outside of our political differences I always found Virginians generous and kind, and to many of them I am indebted for a hundred acts of kindness. If one of your old Virginia 17th Regiment should come here, I would call on him and talk over the Charles City Cross Roads affair, and one or two other occasions when I met, in arms, that gallant regiment.

Of course I differ with one of your public speakers, as reported in your paper—that the doctrine of State sovereignty has been recognized by the government since its date. At any rate, I think it is a doctrine which the South might as well "surrender" too. The Northern people, of all parties, as a body, think they were right in the matter of the late war, and extreme Radicals make this doctrine, at present, a pretext to subject the Southern States to military rule.

I think that the idea that any great proportion of the North is in sympathy with the South, as to the war and its causes, is an erroneous one. But a great portion of the Northern people are in sympathy with the sufferings of the South, and are opposed to the Congressional plan of "reconstruction," believing in the axiom, "that all just and free governments are founded on the consent of the governed;"—and this fundamental principle seems to be entirely lost sight of by the ruling party.

I would be glad if some of your Fairfax correspondents would tell us about the old Court House; if it was refuted or rebuilt; what they

*"Preserving the Past. Protecting the Future."*

Return Address - Historic Fairfax City, Inc.  
John A.C. Keith, President  
10209 Main Street  
Fairfax, VA 22030



## The Newsletter of Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

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Editor: William Page Johnson, II

**E-mail:** [historicfairfax@aol.com](mailto:historicfairfax@aol.com)  
**Website:** [www.historicfairfax.org](http://www.historicfairfax.org)