

VLP 10/14/02
IIR 5/22/03

(Rev. 10-90)
NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name George Crossman House

other names/site number Department of Historic Resources File Number 000-8826

2. Location


street & number 2501 North Underwood Street not for publication N/A

city or town _____ vicinity _____

state Virginia code VA county Arlington code 013 Zip 22213

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official _____
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

4/4/03
Date

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: _____ other (explain): _____

_____ entered in the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action _____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

 N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
roof metal and asphalt
walls weatherboard
shingle
other wood (porch, porch supports and ornament,
bargeboards and brackets, window and door
surrounds)
brick (chimney)

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1892

Significant Dates 1892

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1 18	312558	4306809	2 _____
3 _____	4 _____		

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Cynthia A. Liccese-Torres, Historic Preservation Planner

Organization: Arlington County Historic Preservation Program Date: 9/17/02

Street & number: 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 701 Telephone: 703.228.3831

City or town: Arlington State: VA Zip code 22201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Allen H. Jones and Katherine T. Jones

street & number 2501 N. Underwood St. telephone 703-538-7984

city or town Arlington state VA zip code 22213

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 7 Page 1

Summary Description

The George Crossman House, located in northwestern Arlington County, is a two-story, frame, Late Victorian vernacular farmhouse with a T-shaped plan and cross-gable roof. Resting upon a continuous fieldstone foundation, the exterior is clad in a combination of weatherboards and wood shingles. The dwelling features an original wraparound front porch with turned posts and balusters, intricate wooden trim work, and both double-hung and fixed-sash stained-glass windows with simple wood surrounds. The interior retains its original floorplan and features original plasterwork, pocket doors, decorative wood moldings and cabinetry, a carved wooden staircase in the main entry hall, and period light and bathroom fixtures. The house occupies what is now a corner lot, facing North Underwood Street on the west and North 25th Street on the south. A small residential development of 1950s-era ramblers borders the property on the east and south. The property currently consists of only $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre and there are no remaining outbuildings associated with its historic use as a dairy farm. The George Crossman House is in excellent condition and has been little altered since it was constructed in 1892. Maintained as a private residence, the dwelling retains a high degree of historic and architectural integrity.

Detailed Description

Setting

The George Crossman House is situated in the northwestern corner of Arlington County near the Fairfax County border and Interstate 66. Located at 2501 North Underwood Street within the East Falls Church neighborhood, the dwelling occupies what is now a corner lot and faces North Underwood Street on the west and North 25th Street on the south. A concrete driveway is located at the eastern edge of the property off of North 25th Street. Immediately to the east and south is an enclave of seven brick ramblers dating from the 1950s and known as Tuckahoe Gardens. The George Crossman House is one of the oldest surviving homes within the neighborhood, and is one of two designated Arlington County historic districts within the East Falls Church neighborhood boundaries. Although 60 acres were originally associated with the dwelling, the current property consists of only $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 7 Page 2

Prior to World War II, the East Falls Church neighborhood elected to be part of Arlington County rather than the City of Falls Church. In the early years of Arlington County, North Underwood Street was known as Crossman Street until 1935. The Crossman property was subdivided as Tuckahoe Gardens in April 1954. Tuckahoe Elementary School, Tuckahoe Park, and Bishop D.J. O'Connell High School were subsequently built on land to the east that originally was part of the Crossman dairy farm. A large portion of the original farm has since been consumed by Interstate 66, specifically near the Westmoreland Street and Lee Highway exits in Arlington County (Jones 2001: 9-10; Arlington County Deed Book 1145: 492).

Exterior Architectural Description

The west (front) elevation faces North Underwood Street and measures one bay wide on the first floor and two bays wide on the second floor. The fenestration consists of single and paired one-over-one and two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash windows with plain wood surrounds. The exterior walls of the first and second floors are clad in weatherboards with cornerboards. A one-story projecting wraparound porch dominates the elevation, extending across the entire west façade and continuing onto the south elevation. The porch rests on brick piers infilled with horizontal latticework and has a wood plank floor. It features turned wood posts, a balustrade of turned wood balusters, and a roof sheathed in original standing-seam metal. A frieze of decorative slats and bull's eye-shaped blocks adorn the underside of the porch roofline. The dwelling's cross-gable roof is sheathed in rolled asphalt and pierced by a brick chimney on the central ridge.

The front gable is clad in plain wood shingles in a staggered pattern and is accented by two courses of dentils, one immediately above the second-story windows and the other atop the lintel of the single double-hung wood-sash attic window. The most distinctive feature of the main elevation is the decorative bargeboard along the front gable roofline. The bargeboards consist of an alternating pattern of raised horizontal bars, cut-out X shapes, and a cut-out bird design. On the underside of the gable at the apex is a small, inverted spade-shaped pendant. The bargeboards are especially striking when the cut-out shapes reflect the sunlight onto the surface of the gable. A scrolled wood bracket adorns the eave line at each end of the bargeboard.

The south (right) elevation faces North 25th Street and consists of three distinct sections. The first section features a portion of the wraparound porch as well as the main entrance. Five

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 7 Page 3

concrete steps lead to the entrance, which includes a pair of wood doors, each adorned with a square panel at the bottom and vertical rectangular glazing at the top. Simple wood trim surrounds the opening. Above the entrance on the second story is a single two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash window.

The second section of the south elevation is the two-story, cross-gable-roofed projection. A projecting bay window, with a total of four one-over-one light, double-hung, wood-sash windows, dominates the first floor. Vertical battens clad the area above the window lintels and meet the shed roof overhang sheathed in original standing-seam metal. The fenestration of the second level consists of a pair of one-over-one light, double-hung, wood-sash windows. Rising above the second story is a gable featuring the same treatment as the front gable, but with a paired, multi-light, fixed wood-sash square attic window rather than a double-hung sash window.

The third and easternmost section of the south elevation contains a secondary entrance. Originally this entrance was accessed via an open one-story projecting side porch with a shed roof clad in standing-seam metal. It has since been converted into an enclosed sunroom. Five concrete steps lead to the wood door, which is adorned with three horizontal panels at the bottom and four-light glazing at the top. Simple wood trim surrounds the opening. This central entrance is flanked by a four-light, fixed, wood-sash square window and a pair of two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash windows on the left side and three two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash windows on the right side. The upper fenestration consists of another four-light, fixed, wood-sash square window, a two-over-two light double-hung, wood-sash window, and a three-light, fixed, wood-sash rectangular window.

The east (rear) elevation features the rear two-story gable of the main house, as well as an abutting gable-roofed projection. The first floor along the projecting sun porch section contains one two-over-two light, double-hung wood-sash window and a paneled door identical to the sun porch entrance on the south elevation. Four wooden steps lead to this rear door. A three-light, fixed, wood-sash rectangular window adorns the space immediately below the roofline above the door. The projecting gable-roofed section includes yet another identical paneled door as well as a pair of six-light casement windows. The rear of the cross-gable-roofed section of the main house contains one two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash window on each floor.

The north (left) elevation contains two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash windows on the lower and upper floors. A cross-gable-roofed two-story projection features a gable with the same

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 7 Page 4

treatment as that on the south elevation. A small portion of the frieze detailing of the wraparound porch on the main gable is also visible from this elevation. The space between the frieze and the shed roofline is clad in vertical battens with sawtooth trim along the bottom edge.

Interior Description

The interior of the George Crossman House retains its original open floorplan and numerous period features throughout the dwelling. Such elements include the original plasterwork and plaster ornament, decorative wood moldings and cabinetry, and a carved wooden staircase in the main entry hall. Period light and bathroom fixtures, as well as leaded-glass kitchen and pantry cabinets, also remain. The front parlor in the front gable-roofed section of the house adjoins the rear parlor in the cross-gable-roofed section via original pocket doors. A dining room with a period fireplace mantel is located off the rear parlor to the south. The rear gable-roofed section contains the kitchen as well as a pantry/laundry and an enclosed sunroom. Two sets of separate stairs are located off the northern wall of the kitchen; one leads to the unfinished full basement below, while the other rises to a bedroom and bathroom upstairs in the rear gable-roofed section. Another set of stairs on the eastern wall of the kitchen provides access to a small room used as servant's quarters in the projecting rear gable-roofed section. A brick interior chimney is still visible along the east wall of the kitchen, a remnant of an early wood burning stove. It is also visible in the upstairs bedroom.

The second story contains a master bedroom suite and bathroom above the lower two parlors, as well as a bedroom in each of the cross-gable- and rear-gable-roofed sections. There is an additional bath in the rear gable-roofed section. The attic space, which is currently unfinished and used for storage, has original wood flooring.

Outbuildings

There are no extant outbuildings associated with the property's historic use as a dairy farm. However, historic photographs and maps reveal that there were several outbuildings and structures, including two barns, a garage, a hog pen, and a windmill. In a 1904 photograph of the property provided by the current owners, the garage building is visible immediately behind the house. According to the 1935 edition of the Franklin Survey of Arlington County, Virginia, the George Crossman House was surrounded by a circular driveway off North Underwood Street and four outbuildings were in the rear. Two small buildings, one on each side of the driveway,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 7 Page 5

presumably were the hog pen and garage. The building on the south side, described as being of metal-clad construction, was likely the garage. Two large outbuildings, one located immediately behind each of the smaller structures, were most likely barns (Franklin Survey Company 1935: 24). By the 1943 edition of the Franklin Survey, only the metal-clad building and two barns were depicted, and by 1952, only the main house remained. The historic outbuildings likely stood on the adjacent sites of the Tuckahoe Gardens subdivision and Tuckahoe Elementary School (Franklin Survey Company 1943: 4; Franklin Survey Company 1952: 4). According to the current homeowners, the original well, which is still operable, is located underneath the floor of the sunroom near the rear door on the east wall. An undated historic photograph of the property shows a windmill northeast of the house.

Alterations

Since its construction in 1892, the George Crossman House has undergone only minor renovations and upgrades. One of the earliest modifications came in the winter of 1930 when the Crossmans announced that they were installing modern plumbing in their home and having it painted and wallpapered (Anonymous 2/16/1930: 5). More modern changes over time have included the installation of new electrical and wiring circuitry, the creation of a master bathroom, and the enclosure of the side porch on the south elevation and its conversion into a living space. Although the main roof of the dwelling has been replaced with rolled asphalt shingle, the lower roofing on the wraparound porch, bay window overhang, and former south side porch is the original standing-seam metal. The windows throughout the house are almost entirely original, including the stained-glass sash in the gable ends, and almost all maintain their original sash pulls.

In April 2000, the Arlington Heritage Alliance granted its 2000 Heritage Award to the previous owners of the George Crossman House in recognition of their stewardship of the property (Baker 2000).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 8 Page 6

Statement of Significance

The George Crossman House, built in 1892, is a representative example of a Late Victorian vernacular farmhouse. The home remained in the Crossman family for a period of 62 years and three generations were associated with the property's use as one of Arlington's most successful early-20th century dairy farms. As one of the few remaining late-19th century dwellings in Arlington County, the George Crossman House illustrates the practical simplicity of rural architecture and exhibits distinctly Late Victorian features. The home is also only one of two known residences in Arlington that was originally part of a working dairy farm. The George Crossman House meets National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as a well-preserved example of a vernacular dwelling that typifies Arlington County's rural and agricultural origins.

Historical Background

The Crossman Family

The George Crossman House is located on land originally part of a 126-acre parcel of farmland that spread over Fairfax and Alexandria (now Arlington) counties. Isaac Crossman purchased the land in 1864 when he moved to Virginia from Pennsylvania. Isaac was a prominent figure in the development of the neighboring Town of Falls Church, having served as an alderman for the first Falls Church City Council when the city was incorporated in 1875. The Crossman United Methodist Church, to which the family belonged and served, was built on land donated by Crossman. Active in business and commerce, Isaac Crossman was a director on the board of the Fairfax and Georgetown Turnpike Railway and was an incorporator in the Falls Church and Potomac Railway Company. Isaac also served as a trustee of Oakwood Cemetery in Falls Church and played an integral role in transferring the cemetery from Methodist to public ownership (Jones 2001: 7-9). Described as "one of the fathers of the town [of Falls Church], a man of sterling integrity, great energy and physical ability," Isaac Crossman also maintained a farm regarded as a "noted show-place" (Steadman 1964: 290). By 1890, Isaac was considered one of the "principal farmers" of the Falls Church area of Fairfax County (Chataigne 1890: 152).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA

Section 8 Page 7

Isaac Crossman deeded 60 acres to one of his sons, George Grant Crossman, in 1890. A vernacular Late Victorian farmhouse, today located at 2501 North Underwood Street, was built in 1892 by George, who operated a dairy farm on the site (Jones 2001: 8). In the September 11, 1891 edition of the Fairfax Herald, there is a reference to Mr. George G. Crossman building a new house (Anonymous 9/11/1891: 3). The home was completed by the time George married his new bride, Miss Nellie Dodge, on April 7, 1892. The couple's wedding announcement, which referred to Mr. Crossman as "a popular ladies' man," also detailed how "the bride was duly installed in a brand new house all furnished and ready for occupancy" (Anonymous 4/15/1892: 3).

During his residency at the property, George was a successful and reputable dairy farmer. Like his father, George also served as a trustee of the Oakwood Cemetery Association (Jones 2001: 9; Anonymous 1/15/1932: 4). George and Nellie Crossman deeded ownership of their farmhouse and its 4.415-acre parcel to their son, William C. Crossman, Sr., on April 18, 1941. The conveyance also included a metal-clad garage building and two barns (Arlington County Deed Book 571: 88). William lived in the Crossman family's home from his birth in 1895 until 1954, a period of nearly 60 years. In his youth, William helped his father operate the family's dairy farm, eventually becoming the owner, operator, and manager. When William retired in 1949, the Crossman Farm was one of the last working dairy farms in Arlington County. William continued the family's association with Oakwood Cemetery by serving as superintendent from approximately 1949 to 1975 (Anonymous 4/6/1980: B6).

The Crossman Dairy Farm

Originally, Arlington County was the rural portion of the 10-square-mile parcel that was surveyed in 1791 as the nation's capital. Arlington, which was referred to as Alexandria County of the District of Columbia, included present-day Arlington County and part of the City of Alexandria. Throughout the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, Arlington's character remained rural, sparsely populated, and agricultural-based. Though corn was the area's most important crop by the mid-19th century, livestock farms, dairy farms, and timber harvesting also were common. In 1860, more than 15,000 acres of land were being farmed in the County. Despite the lack of such formalized services as water and sewer systems, rural Arlington also was noted as a vacation and hunting destination for neighboring Washingtonians. With the introduction of the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 8 Page 8

electric railroad in the 1890s, Arlington began its gradual transformation from an isolated rural community into the heavily populated bustling commuter suburb that still thrives today (Tracerics 1996: 1; 13; 15; 27-28).

Dairy farming was popular throughout the area since the mid-19th century. Several factors impacted the development of dairy practices in the Northern Virginia region beginning in the late-19th century. First, specialized farming proved to be a practical venture since concentrated markets for farm products were being created by increasingly populated cities, such as Washington, DC. The post-bellum years also witnessed a national interest in scientific farming, sanitation, and improving both product quality and methods of production. This interest was compounded by the Industrial Revolution, including advancements in machine technology in general and farm machinery in particular. Additionally, the introduction and popularity of the railroad throughout the region allowed goods, especially such perishable items as milk and dairy products, to be transported from the rural farmlands of Alexandria (Arlington) and Fairfax counties to larger area markets. Finally, and perhaps most significantly, dairying began to emerge as a specialized activity, with the design of barns and farm buildings based on innovations in science and sanitation and that reflected the specific function of the building (Landry 1985: 21; 23).

In the 1880s, dairying was primarily a family-operated business, with raw milk production as the main staple and source of profit. As dairying evolved into an agricultural specialty, technical *advice and information*, such as how to improve milk production, control disease, and evaluate the nutritional value of milk, were widely published. Such discoveries led to government regulation of food products to insure sanitation practices and quality control. Consequently, milking methods and equipment and barns became standardized, which resulted in more efficient and modernized production (Ibid: 23; 26).

As early as 1880, Washington, DC, had an ordinance requiring the collection and testing of milk samples, and by 1895, legislation was enacted that established explicit regulations for inspecting Washington dairies. By 1925, additional laws enforced the safety and quality of milk production, ranging from regulations for barn dimensions to prohibiting milk below a Grade A standard. The District of Columbia's stringent policies resulted in the Northern Virginia region improving its product to become a leading milk producer for the metropolitan area. In fact, the Northern Virginia region produced some of the highest quality milk in the entire nation (Ibid: 27).

NPS Form 10-900-a
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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

OMB No. 1024-0018

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA

Section 8 Page 9

In 1900, there were 379 farms in Alexandria County, the majority of which were on land in present-day Arlington County. By 1910, this number had decreased to 96 farms. After Arlington County was formally established in 1920, there were 56 farms within Arlington that amounted to a total of 2,773 acres. While 12 of these farms contained between three and nine acres, there were 35 farms between ten and 99 acres, six farms between 100 to 174 acres, and only three farms larger than 175 acres. In 1920, 232 dairy cattle were raised throughout Arlington County and were valued more than any other type of livestock at over \$19,500. With the exception of chickens and swine, dairy cattle was the third most popular type of livestock in the county at that time. Arlington dairy farms produced more than 78,500 gallons of milk in 1919, of which nearly 66,000 gallons were sold (US Department of Commerce 1925: 72-73; 83). By 1925, there were 49 farms in Arlington County that amounted to a total of 1,755 acres. Of the farms in operation in 1925, 38 reported owning and milking dairy cows (US Department of Commerce 1927: 12-13; 22-23).

By 1901, George Crossman's dairy farm already was well established, as evidenced by an advertisement in the Fairfax Herald promising a liberal reward for the recovery of a stray cow (Anonymous 4/12/1901: 2). More significantly, George Crossman often earned distinction from the local Cow Testing Association Number 2 for top-producing cows within his herd. Throughout the 1920s, local newspapers such as the Fairfax Herald and Herndon Observer consistently reported Mr. Crossman as owning "honor roll" cows that produced over 50 pounds of butterfat. In May 1928 specifically, George Crossman was recognized as having the third-highest rated overall herd, as tested and reported by the Fairfax Herd Improvement Association. Crossman's award-winning herd produced 1,348 pounds of milk and 66.1 pounds of butterfat that month alone (Anonymous 6/29/1928: 1). The Crossman Farm's dairy products were purchased directly by their neighbors, as well as sold to the Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Association (Groves 2002). Unfortunately, only limited information is available (e.g., an oral history interview, a scant collection of newspaper and journal articles) about the overall operation and success of Arlington's dairy farms.

By 1950, the number of farms in Arlington had declined by nearly half to a total of 24 farms that comprised only 433 acres of land. The average farm size diminished substantially with 75 percent of the farms containing less than 10 acres. Of the farms in operation in 1950, only four reported owning milk cows and only two were selling whole milk (US Department of Commerce 1952: 56; 64; 82).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 8 Page 10

The George Crossman House remained within the Crossman family for a period of 62 years from 1892 to 1954. Three generations were associated with the property's use as one of Arlington's most successful early-20th century dairy farms. Isaac Crossman purchased the original 126 acres of farmland and deeded 60 acres to his son George Grant Crossman, who built the residence at 2501 North Underwood Street in 1892 and operated a dairy farm on the site. George's son William C. helped his father operate the farm and later assumed ownership and management of both the house and dairy operation, retiring from farming in 1949 and selling the property in 1954. Throughout their lives, Isaac, George, and William Crossman were each influential and active citizens in western Arlington County and the neighboring Falls Church community in Fairfax County.

The George Crossman House

Although the architect of the George Crossman House is unknown, it resembles the type of house that was available through mail-order catalogues in the late-19th century (Massouh 1983: 3). Throughout the nation in the 1870s and 1880s, the Queen Anne style was advertised in pattern books and architectural magazines. Both the Queen Anne style and the more simplified Folk Victorian style were further popularized by the country's expanding railroad network, which made pre-cut architectural elements widely available and easily distributed (McAlester 1992: 268; 310).

The George Crossman House is an exceptional example of a vernacular farmhouse that was influenced by the popular architectural trends of the era in which it was built. Both its original rural setting and Late Victorian detailing attest to not only the prominence of the local railroad network, but also the importance and affluence of the Crossman family at the turn-of-the-20th century. The George Crossman House, which is only one of a handful of remaining late-19th-century dwellings in Arlington County, is especially significant as a functional, yet stylized residence that reflects Arlington's rural architectural heritage. The home is also only one of two known residences in the county that was originally part of a working dairy farm. On May 17, 1986, the Crossman House was designated an Arlington County Historic District.

The George Crossman House clearly exhibits characteristics of both the Queen Anne and Folk Victorian styles. Such traits include the asymmetrical plan, dominant front-facing gable, and use of patterned wood shingles, weatherboards, and projecting bays to give texture to the exterior walls and decorate the gable ends. Additional stylistic features include the one-story wraparound

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 8 Page 11

porch that extends along the front and side (west and south) elevations, and the delicate turned spindlework and cut-out ornamentation on the porch posts, balustrade, and frieze, as well as on the bargeboards. The George Crossman House also boasts simple wooden door and window surrounds and period stained-glass windows with a large pane of glass in the center surrounded by additional small square panes (Ibid: 262-266; 309-310).

As such, the George Crossman House meets National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as a well-preserved example of a vernacular dwelling that typifies Arlington County's rural and agricultural origins.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA

Section 9 Page 12

Bibliography

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Anonymous. "Tests Show Fairfax County Herds and Cows Are Giving Better Results." Fairfax Herald, June 29, 1928, p. 1.

Anonymous. Herndon Observer, February 6, 1930, p. 5.

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Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

Section 9 Page 13

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Continuation Sheet**

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Section 9 Page 14

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Continuation Sheet**

**George Crossman House
Arlington County, VA**

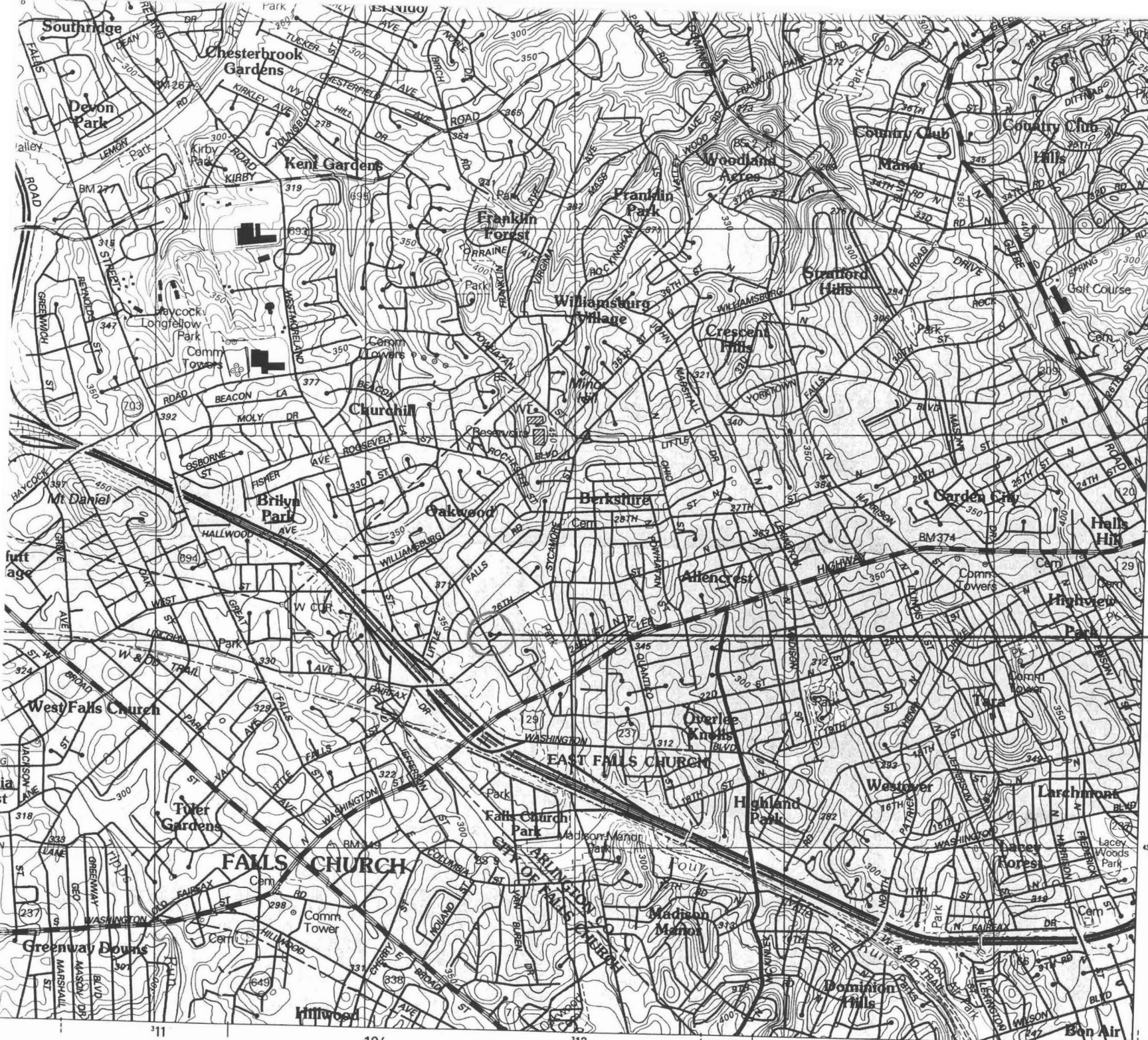
Section 10 Page 15

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the George Crossman House is shown as the hatched lines on the accompanying map entitled "Property Boundary."

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the George Crossman House includes only the current legal property boundary of 2501 North Underwood Street. Known as Lot 13 of Tuckahoe Gardens, the total lot size is 11737.13 square feet and measures only $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre. The remainder of the original Crossman farm has been excluded from the boundary because it has been subdivided and developed into residential neighborhoods and roadways within both Arlington County and neighboring Fairfax County.



10
55'
409
450 000 FEET (MD)
407
4306000 N

04 000 11 10' 13 15 000 FEET (MD) 15 000 E 38°52'30" 77°07'30"