

May 2, 1979

1. Building Name: Eastman - Fenwick House
2. Address: 6733 Lee Highway
3. Original Owner: Albert Prescott Eastman
4. Original Use: Dwelling
5. Present Owner: Mrs. Eleanor R. Fenwick
6. Present Use: Dwelling
7. Legal Description: From Liber B-4

"Beginning at a stake on the north side of the Fairfax and Georgetown Turnpike and in the Western line of the tract of land purchased by Issac Crossman from Chas. E. and Henry French (7) Seven Poles and four links Northwestwardly from the corner of said tract of said land and Heciaur Brown's land, which said tract was deeded to Issac Crossman by deed bearing date on the 9th day of February 1865, and is recorded Liber W., No. 3, folio 300, one of the Land Records of Alexandria County, Va., thence $63^{\circ} 24'$ E Two Poles along the north side of said Turnpike to a stake. Thence North $28^{\circ} 30'$ W. twenty poles to a stake; thence South $63^{\circ} 24'$ W Ten Poles to a stake in the line of the original tract; thence South $28^{\circ} 30'$ F with said line twenty poles to the point of beginning, containing one an a quarter acres of land. To have and to hold the same, with general warranty to him and his heirs forever."

8. Description and History:

The original owner of the Eastman-Fenwick house was Albert Prescott Eastman. A. P. Eastman came to the area during the late 1800s and settled in Falls Church around 1876. During the Civil War he served in the Army of the Potomac rising to the rank of Lieutenant and was first stationed at the Washington approach to the Chain Bridge. He later saw action during Grants push to Richmond and was wounded at Petersburg. Following the war, A. P. Eastman worked for the Federal Government in the Office of the Paymaster General at the State, War, and Navy Building in Washington, D. C.

As a citizen of East Falls Church A. P. Eastman was very active in civic affairs. He served as a Charter member of the Old Village Improvement Society and was it's treasurer from 1865 until 1896. He also worked with a group of East Falls Church residents to establish the 1st Congregational

The site of the Eastman-Fenwick House was purchased from Isaac Crossman. It contains $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres or 55,000 sq. ft. of land and was called Everbloom by the Eastman family. The property is on the north side of Lee Highway approximately 100 feet east of the intersection of Washington Blvd. and Lee Highway. During the Spanish American War a Provost encampment was located a short distance west of the Eastman-Fenwick House on Fairfax Drive.

House on Lee Highway.

The Eastman-Fenwick House was built in 1876 by builders under contract to A. P. Eastman. Both the plans and specifications for the house were drawn up by Mr. Eastman. The specifications are attached to this report. The house was built according to Victorian architectural style, and was placed close to the eastern boundary line of the lot in order to allow a large area of space on the opposite side of the house for a yard and garden. The front of the house was placed so that it would face in a southeasterly direction facilitating a good view of the sunrise. All of the cabinets in the house were designed by a nephew of A. P. Eastman. Attached to the front and back of the house were porches that were used as a conservatory for Mr. Eastman's plants during the fall and winter.

Other structures in the yard of the Eastman-Fenwick House included a large barn, chicken coop, and a lean-to. Mr. Eastman also planted elm and maple trees along with a garden and various shrubbery around the yard which was enclosed by a white pickett fence.

Over the years A. P. Eastman gradually acquired the property on all four corners at the intersection of Lee Highway and Washington Blvd. He bought the parcel directly across Lee Highway from the house in order to prevent the possibility of his view being blocked by the erection of another structure. He also had the curbs on all four corners rounded off so that it would be possible for ladies to turn a horse and buggy around in the street.

In 1898 additions were made to the house which included two new indoor bathrooms. In 1910 a new tin roof was put on.

Today the Eastman-Fenwick House is in remarkably good condition. The molding around the doors, windows, and the fireplace mantle in the interior look like new. The oak floor boards in the parlor and the maple flooring in the dining room are still in excellent condition. The original china closets in the dining room, built in the early 1900's are in good condition and still in use. In the yard, some of the maples and elms planted in the late 1800's still stand today.

Eastman - Fenwick House

- Continued -

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The original white picket fence still encloses the property.

The present owner of the Eastman - Fenwick House is Mrs. Eleanor Russell Fenwick. Mrs. Fenwick is the granddaughter of Albert Prescott Eastman. Her father, Frank Hall Eastman, was a graduate of Cornell University and worked as an electrical engineer.

F. H. Eastman once served as President of the Arlington Rotary Club, was a member of the Washington Roundtable, and was on the Board of Directors of the Fairfax Savings and Loan Association. He was also Superintendent of the Sunday School at the Falls Church Presbyterian Church and also served as Elder and Trustee there.

In 1946 Mrs. Fenwick and her husband, State Senator Charles R. Fenwick moved into the Eastman-Fenwick House.

References:

Steadman, Melvin Lee, Jr. Falls Church by Fence and Fireside, 1964

Interview with Eleanor R. Fenwick, Owner, Eastman - Fenwick House,
Arlington, Virginia, April 4, 1978.

Specifications:
Eastman - Fenwick Residence
6733 Lee Highway
Arlington, Virginia

DIMENSIONS

To be as per drawing when the inside dimension of rooms as shown. Hall to be as represented in plans. Height of stories, in clear, to be 1st story, 10 ft. 2nd story, 9 ft., attic to be 1 ft. at eaves and 8 ft. at ridge. I don't show how high it ought to be.

MATERIALS

To be of good Va. Pine, thoroughly seasoned, and when exposed to view, clear sills to be 4x6, corner posts 6x6, studding 2x4, 1st and 2nd floor joists to be 2x10, ceiling joists for attic 2x6.

FRAME

The whole to be covered with 1 in. Va. Pine thoroughly nailed with ten penny nails. Outside of the boarding to be one thickness of tarred paper and outside of paper, 5/8 in. weather boarding.

PORCHES

One in front of parlor and hall and one 10 ft. long on east or upper side, both to be 7 ft. wide, to be finished with columns and steps, all to be done in a good and workmanlike manner. Porches to be covered with tin roofs.

DOORS

Front door, 3 ft. x 7 with transom, other doors 1 3/8 in. thick, 2 ft. 10x6 ft. 10 moulded on both sides. To be hung with good butts and mortised locks and with white porcelain knobs, inside doors to be trimmed 4 in. moulding and back strip. Wash board to be trimmed with suitable mouldings.

WINDOWS

To be hung with weights and provided with fastenings, finished with brackets and moulding.

SASH

To be 1 3/8 in. thick, 4 lights to a window except gable windows which are to be round.

GLASS

To be good quality.

BLINDS

To be 1 3/8 in. thick, to be hung with lull and porters self fastening hinge. With movable slats.

STAIRS

There are to be stairs in hall with landing 3 ft. wide at suitable height rail to be of black walnut, black walnut newel and ash balusters, the steps to be 1 1/4 in. yellow pine. There are to be stairs from kitchen to story above, over these are to be stairs to attic, and under kitchen stairs, stairs to kitchen.

CHIMNEYS

One between kitchen and dining room with two flues.

PLASTERING

To be best quality 3 coats and hard finish.

ROOF

To be covered with _____ boards thoroughly nailed, and cypress shingles.

CLOSETS

One opening from chamber over parlor, one opening from chamber over dining room, one small one from chamber over kitchen, one from dining room on left side of chimney to have double doors, one in kitchen. All closets to be provided with suitable shelves, closet in dining room to communicate with kitchen.

BATHROOM

To be suitably lighted and ventilated so that water or earth closet can be put in. And also to have means to carry off waste water.

OUTSIDE TRIMMINGS

For gable ends, eaves, porches, cornice with brackets. Porches and bay window to be furnished on top with open balustrade.

SINK

To be built in kitchen with closet under, and provided with means of drainage.

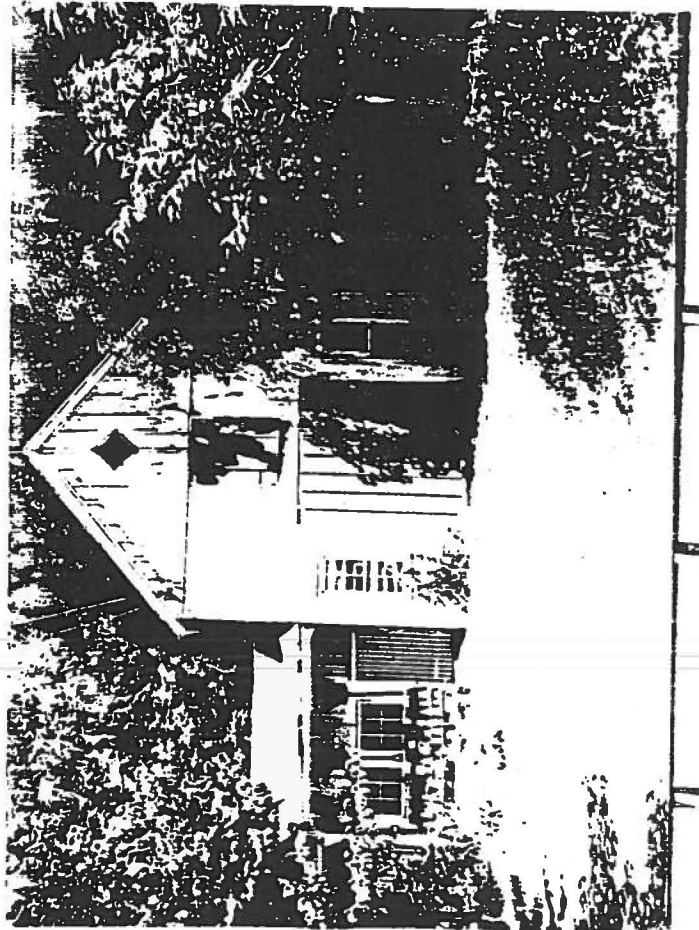
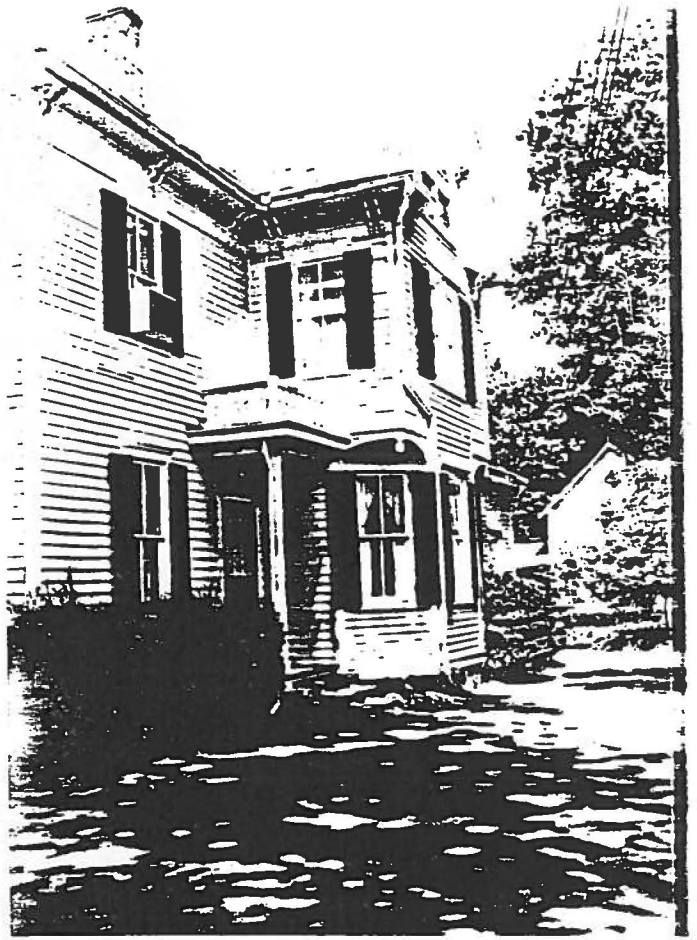
ALL MATERIAL TO BE OF GOOD QUALITY AND WELL SEASONED.

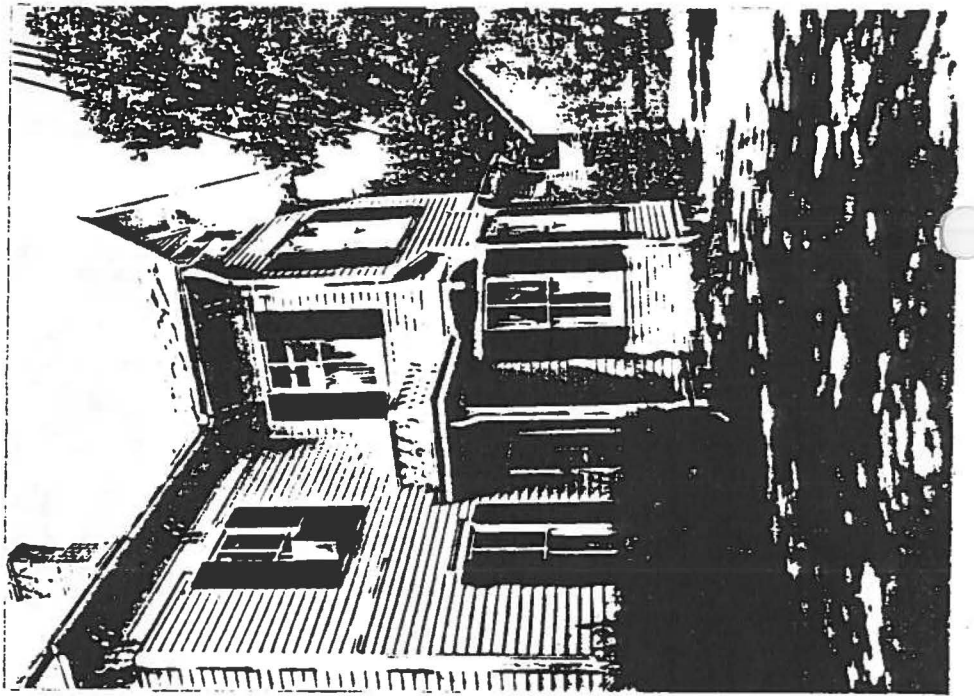
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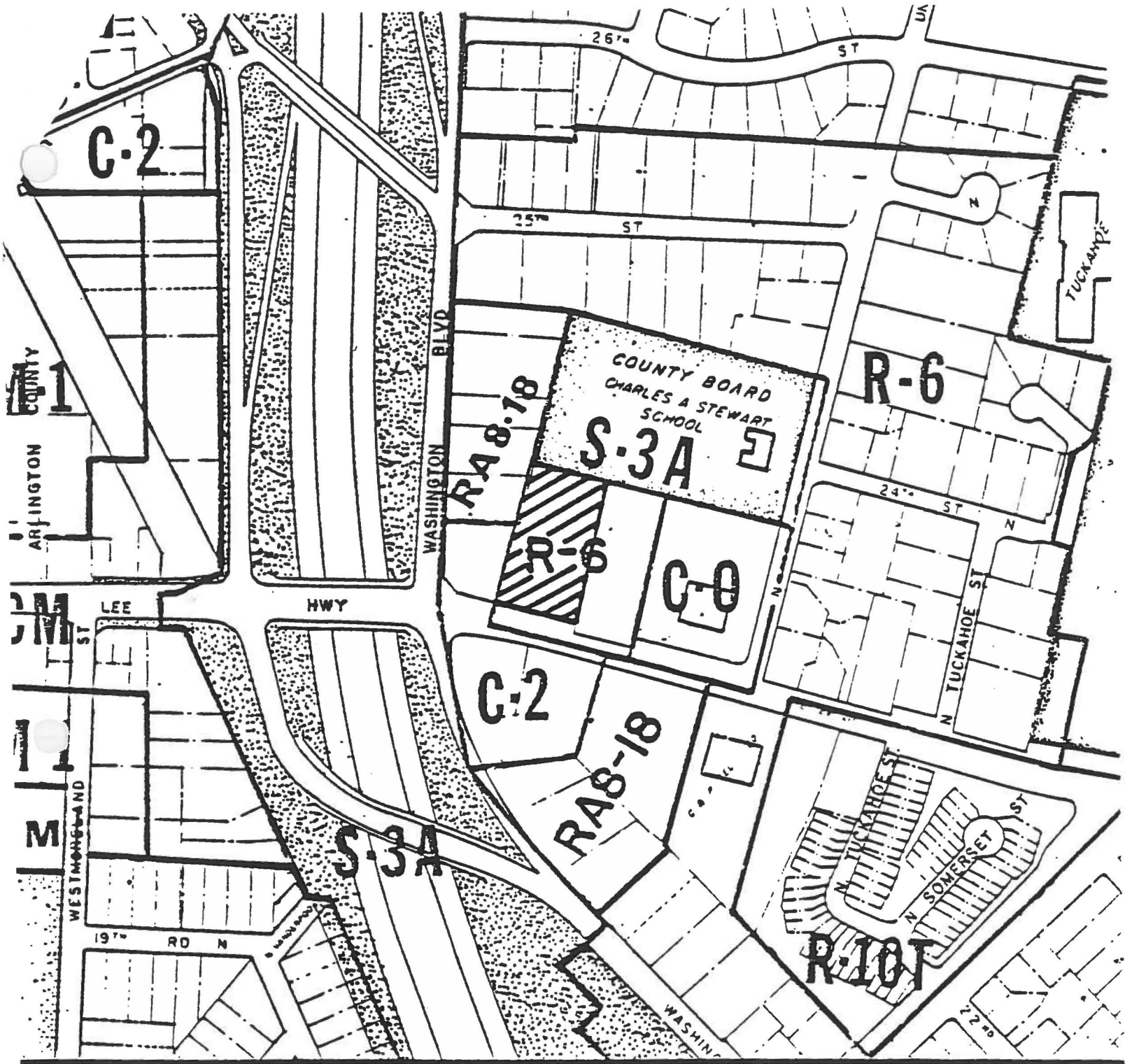
I have been advised to have the west chimney on the east or upper side of parlor, that is, just opposite where we spoke of having it. Would it be better? And if I had it - so would a bay window on the west side or lower side of parlor be expensive.

Inside the house, I can only have the kitchen, dining room, chamber over it, bathroom and halls finished now. I suppose you can fill in where I have left blanks, and make your estimate and when we get it right, we can put it in ink.

Whole house to be enclosed and outside finished. Of the inside, all floors to be laid, all to be finished except parlor, room over it and attic.







HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGNATION

EASTMAN FENWICK HOUSE

PLATE: 4

Prepared by
GRAPHICS SECTION

