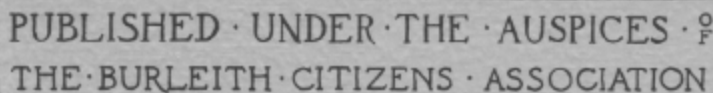




A · SHORT · HISTORY
OF · BURLEITH



PUBLISHED · UNDER · THE · AUSPICES · OF
THE · BURLEITH · CITIZENS · ASSOCIATION




A RESTORED CABIN OF THRELKELD'S ORIGINAL "BURLEITH".
IT IS LOCATED NEAR 36TH AND DENT PLACE AND IS OWNED
TODAY BY THE CONVENT OF THE VISITATION.



A SHORT HISTORY OF BURLEITH

By Edgar Farr Russell
Historian
Burleith Citizens Association
1973



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This Short History of Burleigh
is Dedicated to
The Founders of the Burleigh Citizens Association

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A SHORT HISTORY OF BURLEITH

For those persons who now live in Burleith, for those who have lived there in the past, and for those who will make their homes there in the future, this short article has been prepared. There are some, no doubt, who have lived in Burleith without much curiosity as to its past. It is believed that an understanding of the background of this area may increase the enjoyment of those living in Burleith today; it might also stimulate a pride in being part of this community, so comparatively new, and yet in some ways so very old.

In a small pamphlet distributed in the Roaring Twenties, by the firm of Shannon and Luchs, Inc., who were the builders of most¹ of the Burleith houses, it was stated that Burleith is adjacent to historic Georgetown, whose traditions go back even farther than the earliest days of Washington.² Actually the name of "Burleith" and the old area it comprised, goes back at least as far, or maybe even farther, than the earliest days of Georgetown.³ In a letter dated 1953, to Mr. John B. Thomas, President of the Burleith Citizens Association, from Ann Cottrell Free (Mrs. James S. Free) there is a paragraph from *Washington-City and Capital*:

"The convent (Visitation) stands on the site of Berlieth, the home of Henry Threlkeld built about 1716. The pecan trees in the convent garden were a gift from Thomas Jefferson⁴ to Threlkeld's son John when he married Elizabeth Ridgely. The original Berlieth was burned shortly after the Revolution, but another house was built."

In another paragraph of that letter, Mrs. Free remarked, "I was particularly interested in the spelling of Berlieth. How has the association spelled it--or was it just I who have been putting the 'e' before the 'i'?"

1. That is of the approximately five hundred houses within the area.
2. Shannon and Luchs, *The Story of Burleith*, 1926. Page 7.
3. *Washington-City and Capital*, American Guide Series of the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration, 1937. pages 745-746.
4. It is interesting to note that two sisters, direct descendants of Thomas Jefferson, Mrs. Page Taylor Kirk and Miss Margaret Taylor taught at Western High School until their retirement. Mrs. Kirk's children, Roger and Mary Mann are graduates of Western. Mrs. Kirk and Miss Taylor, along with another sister, Miss Olivia Taylor now live at "Lochlyn" near Jefferson's "Monticello."

There is another difference between the old and new spelling of the name of this area; apparently, in the old days, an "e" was often used in the first syllable of "Burleith", instead of the "u".

Georgetown celebrated its Two Hundred Years' Anniversary, in 1951 on April 12, 13, and 14, with balls, teas, parades, church services, art exhibits, and official ceremonies.⁵ The official Georgetown flag was presented to the 4th Regiment of the Washington High School Cadet Corps of Western High School on its own grounds in Burleith. Two hundred years may seem a long time, but people had been living on farms and plantations in what is now this entire locality long before Georgetown itself was founded.

In a series of facts about the Nation's Capital, the Liberty Building Association recently stated:

"Around 1700 land grants were made near the abandoned Indian town of Tahoga⁶, in what is now Georgetown. Those to whom the grants were made were so disgusted that they gave the land names such as 'The Widow's Mite', 'Poor Tom's Last Shift', and 'Knaves' Disappointment'. Now Georgetown is one of our most distinguished districts."⁷

At the time of its founding, since Georgetown was part of Maryland, then a British possession, of course old Berlieth was also. As early as 1703, land in these areas was granted to Ninian Beall (pronounced Bell), who was Commander-in-Chief of the Provincial forces of Maryland. His large tract of land included the northern section of Georgetown, Montrose Park, the Oak Hill Cemetery, parts of Rock Creek Park, and the area of the Washington Cathedral. Around 1745, George Gordon lived in a house believed to be either near the former location of the Industrial Home School,⁸ or near what is now Holy Rood⁹ Cemetery, both on Wisconsin Avenue, (High Street, in times past).

Another early settler was the Henry Threlkeld, previously mentioned. He bought an estate of a thousand acres, known as Berlieth, which bordered on the Potomac River. It ran north from the Potomac and included the grounds of what is now Georgetown University,¹⁰ the Convent of the Visitation, and, even farther to the north, Western

5. *The Washingtonian*, Georgetown Bi-Centenary Fair Edition, Official Herald of the Georgetown Bi-Centenary Fair Days, April 12, 13, 14, 1951.

6. The Indians of all this area belonged to the family of the Algonquins.

7. *The Wilds of Georgetown*, *The Evening Star*, May 17, 1954.

8. The Industrial Home School, under the direction of John F. Cairns, Superintendent, moved to its new quarters near Laurel, Md., during July 1954.

9. Rood, Fourth part of an acre. From Anglo-Saxon "rod" or "cross". A representation of the Crucified Christ, or of the Trinity. Noah Webster, *Dictionary* 1867, American Book Co.

10. Robert R. Hershman and Edward T. Stafford in *Growing with Washington*, Washington Gas Light Co., 1948, page 7, state that, in the fall of 1791, George Town College (now University) was opened and its first student, William Gaston, was later a Congressman from North Carolina. Georgetown University is the oldest Catholic college in the United States.

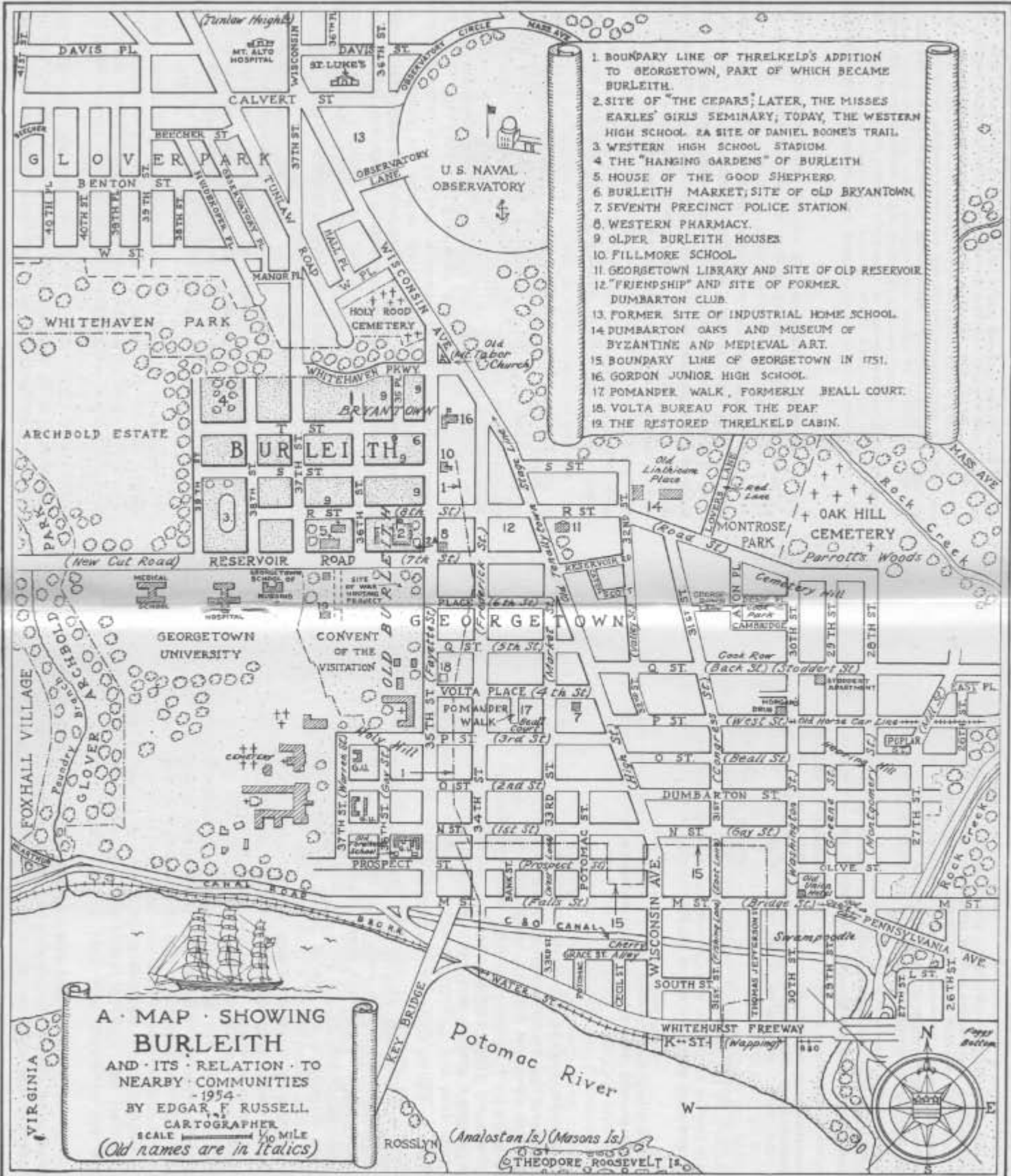
High School, and the present-day Burleith. A restored cabin, owned long ago by the Threlkelds, still standing on the Visitation grounds, is used by its modern students as a picnic spot.¹¹

Henry Threlkeld's son John was active in the affairs of Georgetown, having been its mayor in 1793. So, one of the first "Burleithians" was a mayor of Georgetown! John Threlkeld's daughter, Jane, married John Cox, who also served as mayor from about 1823 to 1845, a longer term in that office than any other person. In *Washington-City and Capital*, we see the old spelling of Burleith again, in a paragraph taken from the book:

"The land was part of the Threlkeld estate¹², Berlieth, for which a modern suburb is named. Jane Threlkeld brought the land as a dowry to her husband, John Cox, who built a manor house there. In order that Cox might accept the nomination for mayor (a position he held for 22 years) the city limits of Georgetown were enlarged to include his estate. Later the large home was converted into a 'female seminary' kept by the Misses Earle."¹³

John Cox succeeded the Mayor, Henry Foxall,¹⁴ for whom our neighbor community, "Foxhall Village", has been named. John and Jane Cox built their house near that of Jane's father, and they called it "The Cedars".¹⁵ It was located where the Western High School¹⁶ now occupies its attractive setting on 35th Street (old Fayette Street). The area where Western and parts of present-day Burleith are situated was known afterwards as "Cox's Woods," and called that, even as late as the last decade of the Nineteenth Century.

11. William A. Kinney, *Washington's Historic Georgetown, The National Geographic Magazine*, April 1953, Page 532. The Convent of the Visitation is the oldest Catholic girls' school in the Thirteen Original States.
12. Titles and deeds to houses and lots in this area, often still carry the wording "Threlkeld's Addition to Georgetown".
13. When Western High School was founded in 1890, it was built on the site of the Misses Earles' Seminary.
14. Wilhelmus Bogart Bryan, *A History of the National Capital*, VOL. II (1815-1875), The McMillan Co., 1916, New York, page 160. Henry Foxall operated a foundry. The Foundry Methodist Church, (now on 16th Street, N. W.) was created by his benevolence.
15. *Washington-City and Capital*, page 745. "On the right (west) side of 35th St. are the wooded grounds of Western High School. This was the site of the Cedars, estate of Col. John Cox."
16. Miss Irene Rice, herself a graduate of Western High School, is principal of Western at present. She followed Mr. N. A. Danowsky, who was appointed principal after the retirement of the well-known Dr. Elmer S. Newton. Mrs. Buel W. Patch, known also as Lella Warren, the author of best-sellers *Whetstone Walls* and *A Touch of Earth*, is another distinguished Western graduate; she lives in Burleith on S Street with her husband, Dan Patch, a columnist for *The Evening Star*.



1. BOUNDARY LINE OF THRELKELD'S ADDITION TO GEORGETOWN, PART OF WHICH BECAME BURLEITH.
2. SITE OF "THE CEDARS"; LATER, THE MISSES EARLES' GIRLS SEMINARY; TODAY, THE WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL 2A SITE OF DANIEL BOONE'S TRAIL.
3. WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM.
4. THE "HANGING GARDENS" OF BURLEITH.
5. HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.
6. BURLEITH MARKET; SITE OF OLD BRYANTOWN.
7. SEVENTH PRECINCT POLICE STATION.
8. WESTERN PHARMACY.
9. OLDER BURLEITH HOUSES.
10. FILLMORE SCHOOL.
11. GEORGETOWN LIBRARY AND SITE OF OLD RESERVOIR.
12. "FRIENDSHIP" AND SITE OF FORMER DUMBARTON CLUB.
13. FORMER SITE OF INDUSTRIAL HOME SCHOOL.
14. DUMBARTON OAKS AND MUSEUM OF BYZANTINE AND MEDIEVAL ART.
15. BOUNDARY LINE OF GEORGETOWN IN 1751.
16. GORDON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
17. POMANDER WALK, FORMERLY BEALL COURT.
18. VOLTA BUREAU FOR THE DEAF.
19. THE RESTORED THRELKELD CABIN.

A · MAP · SHOWING
BURLEITH
 AND · ITS · RELATION · TO
 NEARBY · COMMUNITIES
 - 1954 -
 BY EDGAR F. RUSSELL
 CARTOGRAPHER
 SCALE $\frac{1}{10}$ MILE
 (Old names are in *Italics*)



Where Western's stadium is now, was once a thicket; in a clearing there, in the Nineties, the boys played baseball on a field named the "Redlands Ball Diamond".

Burleith is built on comparatively high ground and so enjoys a cooler climate and stronger breezes than most other parts of the city during the summer. Charles Dickens, after a visit to the United States, in describing Georgetown's heights, in 1842, remarked:

"The heights of this neighborhood, above the Potomac River, are very picturesque; and are free, I should conceive, from some of the insalubrities of Washington. The air, at that elevation, was quite cool and refreshing, when in the city it was burning hot."¹⁷

In 1886, the Huidekoper family came into possession of the Burleith tract through William Corcoran Hill.¹⁸

For years, the Burleith Citizens Association has held its meetings at the Gordon Junior High School, also on 35th Street; Gordon was named for another early Georgetown resident, John Holdsworth Gordon, who had been a member of the Washington Board of Education. Mr. Frank A. Woodward was its first principal. The Fillmore Elementary School, where so many Burleith children have received their educational foundation, was named for President Millard Fillmore, who had served in Congress in Washington for many years before he became President. During the season 1933-1934, our Citizens Association met at the Mt. Tabor Church on 35th Street.

It seems odd that when Congress passed the "Old Georgetown" law of 1950,¹⁹ the Fillmore and the Gordon Junior High schools were included within the area designated as "Old Georgetown", although Western High School was not. To imagine a location which could be considered more "Georgetown" than Western is difficult indeed! It could not be that the law intended to seek and use the original boundaries of Old Georgetown, for the most northern line did not extend even to N Street, in 1751! Hence, Western is included in Burleith instead of in Georgetown.

Although Burleith has no drug store within its boundaries,²⁰ the Western Pharmacy now serves its residents. It is owned by the

17. Charles Dickens, *American Notes*, 1842.

18. Christine Sadler, "Our Town - Burleith", in *The Washington Post*, Tuesday, October 24, 1939. Clipping on file at the Georgetown Library.

19. Public Law 808 - 81st Congress, Chapter 984 - 2nd Session, H. R. 7670, AN ACT to regulate the height, exterior design, and construction of private and semi-public buildings in the Georgetown area of the National Capital.

20. The present boundaries of Burleith are: Whitehaven Parkway and Park on the north; 39th Street, west; Reservoir Road, south; and 35th Street, east. To the west of Burleith is the Archbold estate.

genial Dr. Harold M. Elwyn who began business at 35th and Reservoir Road in June 1947. Before this, the store was occupied by the Meadowbrook Dairy, the Clover Dairy, and High's Ice Cream shop. O'Donnell's Drug Store, which was operated by the German-born Miss Hilde Frank, preceded these three stores. In the early days of the modern Burleith, this corner was occupied by Benjamin F. Baker's grocery store; Harry Baker, his son, operated it for him and advertised it in *The Westerner*, (Western High School's year-book of 1920) as "Where All the Boys Go". The Muntz sisters, who lived until recent times next to this store, kept a grocery there themselves many years ago. The actual building is reputed to have been built at about the time of the Civil War.

Another Burleith institution which must be mentioned is the House of the Good Shepherd Convent on Reservoir Road, (called the "New Cut" Road in days past). The Sisters of the Good Shepherd belong to a cloistered order which follows the Rule of St. Augustine; the order was founded by Blessed John Eudes at Caen, France, in 1641. The House of the Good Shepherd, a landmark for residents of Burleith, has the date 1890 on one of its older buildings. Its newest building was erected in 1954.

Some of the east blocks of Reservoir Road were also known as "7th Street" when Georgetown had the old system for naming its streets. The reason for calling this road "Reservoir" was that a reservoir occupied a nearby site, east of Wisconsin Avenue. A number of tennis courts were located, where the houses now stand, in the 3700 block of Reservoir Road. The Georgetown Library²¹ was erected on the grounds of the old reservoir in 1935. The east blocks of R Street were known as "8th Street", and the most easterly as "Road Street".

Not all the houses in modern Burleith were constructed by Shannon and Luchs²², who started their venture in 1923. Here and there were residences, already standing, and built long before the modern Burleith was developed. They may be seen easily on a short stroll through Burleith and include numbers 1710, 1812, 1814, and 1906 on 35th Street (old Fayette Street). There is a row of six at the corner of 35th and Whitehaven Parkway. The Burleith Market

21. The Peabody Room of the Georgetown Library, open to the public, has a fine collection of pictures, prints, records, newspapers, and articles of interest, pertaining to Georgetown.
22. Waverly Taylor, an official and architect of the firm of realtors, Shannon and Luchs, at the time of the development of Burleith, lives at present at 3834 T Street, N. W. The development, and the houses designed by Mr. Taylor received national recognition when they were built, because of their fine design and beauty. Their influence upon contemporary architecture was so strong that similar developments were made in such cities as Detroit, Baltimore, and Philadelphia.

at 35th and T is also located in an old structure (and who, at one time or another, has not shopped there?)²³ Before the turn of the century, the area around the Burleith market was known as Bryantown, and the boys there played baseball on their own field which was known as the "B. T. ball ground." North of Whitehaven Park in what is now Glover Park, was Connelly's Dairy Farm.²⁴

On both sides of the street, around the corner from the Burleith Market, on 35th Place are quaint and interesting rows of houses. This street, only one block long was often referred to, in years past, if memory is correct as "Incubator Row", for there were so many small children living there.

There are a number of other houses pre-dating the modern Burleith homes; some are on T Street between 35th and 36th; others are on S Street on the north side only, between 35th and 36th. The old Bourke house, with its attractive garden on the west side, at 3611 R, is still the home of the Bourkes.

Burleith has long been noted for its trees, gardens and flowers. One of the most beautiful sights in the city is the terraced gardens at the rear of the houses on both 38th and 39th Streets, above T. These large, tiered yards might well be described as "The Hanging Gardens of Burleith". Especially in the spring, visitors are attracted to the Annual Burleith Garden Tour to see these gardens as well as the roses and flowers of the entire community. The Burleith Garden Club,²⁵ a well-organized activity has been highly successful in bringing color and cheer to many spots of this section, and even a large proportion of the alleys have been beautified by the efforts of this club.

According to the geologic history of Burleith,²⁶ and particularly in the area of the "Hanging Gardens", such history began more than a billion years ago in pre-Cambrian time. A photograph by D.E. McHenry of the National Park Service, taken in 1939, shows an exposed and interesting unconformity, representing an interval of about 365,000,000 years, on the north side of the alley between 38th and 39th Streets, north of T. This exposed bank, now owned by John B. Thomas shows sand and gravel of the lower Cretaceous Period lying unconformably on the ancient crystalline rocks of the pre-Cambrian age. It is estimated that the earliest life in Washington, of which any evidence is preserved, existed about 100,000,000 years ago. Burleith was part of a low swampland with luxuriant plant life, and its first citizens were dinosaurs.

23. The Schiffmans, and later Sam and Rose Holtzman, were proprietors of the Burleith Market.

24. From the recollections of Mr. Arthur Royce who lived in Georgetown as a young man. He now makes his home in Burleith with his daughter, Mrs. Ellen L. Williams.

25. It is suggested that anyone who desires to join the Burleith Garden Club should contact Mrs. Carl O. Romborg, its present president, or Miss Emma Hance.

26. Martha S. Carr, *The District of Columbia Its Rocks and Their Geologic History*, Geological Survey Bulletin 967, pp. 14-17.

In writing the history of a community (and the same is true for a nation) it is impossible to dissociate its architecture from its history. To a great extent, Burleigh is very fortunate in possessing a typical style of houses---i.e. nearly all of the houses are of the same period. Architecture usually expresses the era in which it finds itself, and, as the period of large city houses is long past, it was natural for the Burleigh house to be a town house of medium size, well-suited to fill the needs of the average family.

Much of its style of architecture is basically American Colonial and is an adaptation of Georgian. Many of the houses, designed by Waverly Taylor, have slate mansard roofs and dormer windows. Some are not unlike the Cape Cod type except that the Cape Cod roof has a flatter slope. The American Colonial house was a descendant from the small English dwelling, either rural or urban. The same is true in much of Georgetown where the big house is the exception rather than the rule. The English built their houses to be used as homes, for informal intimate living. Even the buildings of the well-to-do in England did not vary in style but only in size from those occupied by citizens of more moderate circumstances. In the same way the small English church often tended to differ from the larger in dimensions only. Thus, the residents of Burleigh have luckily fallen heir to a comfortable kind of living. The style and uniform size of the average house in Burleigh has brought about a homogeneity in its population that is enjoyed by but few other communities. Its families have been and still are in what is usually described, as comfortable circumstances.

Even the art of landscape gardening, in two of its major terms, expresses this difference in the exterior setting of a home; there is the "geometrical or formal" type of garden, and the "English or natural" style. The people of Burleigh have instinctively landscaped their houses in the proper way, although in some spots, the ever-greens have gotten out of hand, and have grown too tall and full, thus obscuring the houses.

The materials used in the buildings themselves helped create much of the beauty of the houses in this community. No mere "decoration" or "features" were added, or were needed, to give the impression of everyday comfort or well-balanced proportion. Brick, with the soft tones of different colors, stone, wood, and plaster have been varied to relieve any possibility of monotony. Slate, where used on the roof, has given an idea of permanence. An atmosphere of self-respect and responsibility has settled on each row. One later group of houses on the north side of T Street between 38th and 39th, built by the Cooley Brothers, deserves special mention because of its adherence to this design, which has always denoted comfort, informality, and love of home. These houses are an adaptation of Elizabethan English,²⁷ and are half-timbered with beams; there is much light colored plaster, and the wood is stained dark.

Another later group, which possesses much architectural charm, is the row on 39th Street, above T. A close inspection will reveal many fine and interesting details. The newer houses on Whitehaven Parkway have a future which could be highly enviable; they face a broad area of public lands, which in time, should become a park.

The doors and doorways of most of the Burleith houses command attention; although simple, they are well-proportioned. They invite one to enter. Notice them on your next walk. Many of the houses, when originally built, had window boxes. It is disappointing to realize that but few are left. As they wore out with age, not many were replaced. It is pleasant to remember them as they were once, filled with geraniums and petunias.

As each house was well-designed, with a view toward beauty as well as comfort, might it not be wise to effect no major change in the exteriors without due consideration? The "new" should not be sought for. When a change is contemplated, it should be discussed with an architect who is not only competent but who also realizes that architecture is a fine art.

In years past, many splendidly designed houses in Georgetown were spoiled by their exteriors being changed: a porch was added here; some whimsical gingerbread there. It has been necessary to spend much time and money in recent years to restore these houses to their original condition. Lest we of Burleith become too smug, we should remember that these mutations could happen, in time, to the houses in Burleith.

By preserving the typical Burleith Architecture and maintaining high standards in the landscaping and in the care of the yards, garages, sidewalks, and even the grass by the trees near the streets, we citizens of the area may continue to be proud of our community. We must also be ready to resist all encroachments which would change the character of our neighborhood, or could lower its values.²⁸

Of course behind all of the past accomplishments, of this small community (actually, only four blocks square) has stood the Burleith Citizens Association. From its very beginning, it had outstanding leaders of vision and energy, who organized the citizens, and adopted a constitution in January 1925. Also, its membership, from the outset, has striven to make Burleith a pleasant place in which to live.

28. Such encroachments have been stopped in Georgetown by the concerted efforts of its citizens groups. As early as May 1924, the Georgetown Citizens Association in a pamphlet, *The Future of Georgetown*, defended its stand against apartments and urged its citizens to action.

Praise should likewise be given to modern Burleigh's "early settlers", who moved into this area about a quarter of a century ago, and who were the mainstays of its Association.²⁹ It will be impossible, however, to mention all of them, or even of a large proportion: John S. Gorrell, a past president, achieving so much that he can actually be considered a "mayor"; Harry E. Radcliffe, another past president, and his lovely garden; the Lamasures on R Street; the Paul Frizzells; James Morrison, who is now President of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company; the Carl Romborgs and the twins; Willis and Callista Clark; Norman W. Fields, a former president, with an abiding interest in Burleigh; John K. Christmas, now a Major General; the Walter Steinbauers, Sr. and Jr.; Canon and Mrs. Wolverine; W. Vincent and Louise McDougal; the Irvin W. Carpenters, Sr. and Jr.; General and Mrs. Sylvester; the Frank H. Rowes; the Beards of R Street; and the William Prescotts.

Other "first families of Burleigh" include: Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Parkinson; Mr. and Mrs. Towson Price; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Subluskey; the Wynne Johnsons; Mrs. Charles L. Byrne and Bobby and Charlie; Geoffrey Cryke, a former president, and Geoffrey Cryke, Jr., known, at the time, as "the boy secretary"; Alec R. Bowling, now a Major General; the two William Dix families on two corners; Shirley D. Mayers, past president; the Lewis R. Watsons, (Snips and Olzie); Dr. and Mrs. Alan J. Chenery; Rees B. Gillespie; Don G. Harmer, a past President; the Diggs sisters on R Street; the C. Lee Sowards and Jimmy and Jerry; the Richard W. Thrushes; Mr. and Mrs. Carl A. Voss; Mrs. Ethel W. Thoenen and her three daughters; the J. W. Lamberts; Professor and Mrs. Tibor Kerekes; the Elton F. Youngs on S Street; Mr. and Mrs. James G. Massey; the Conway H. Arnolds; and Dr. and Mrs. R. L. De Saussure.

Mrs. Harry A. Flint and Major Flint, "Paddy", a hero in the World War serving under General Patton, was killed in action in France 1944; Harvey and Peggy Jacob; Ben M. McKelway, of T Street, now Editor of *The Evening Star*; Douglas A. and Mary B. Reed of 37th Street; the Charles and William Molster families; Col. and Mrs. William H. Cowles; Mrs. Cornelia N. Bishop, secretary of the Fillmore P. T. A., and Col. R. Chesney Bishop; Miss Ruth A. Hubbell, Reference Librarian at Georgetown Library; Dr. and Mrs. Oliver Bowles and their sons, Edgar and George; the Russell G. Bishops; Col. Walter O. Rawls³⁰ and his wife, Kathryn, the noted organist; Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Gannon, (Mrs. Gannon is the daughter of Col. and Mrs. Lewis Lucas, former Burleigh residents; Mr. Gannon is a past president).

29. Christine Sadler, *op. cit.*, "The citizenship group (of Burleigh) was formed before all the first inhabitants had moved in and has remained on the job. John S. Gorrell was its president for six years."

30. Not many years after the first of the Burleigh houses of Shannon and Luchs had been occupied, there occurred "The Great Burleigh Fire". Col. Rawls lives in one of the houses, in the 1800 block of 37th Street, which was considerably damaged by the fire at that time.

Also, Harry and Carol Devlin, and their son, Dr. William Devlin; Harry A. and Cora Barnard, and son, Capt. Harry A. Barnard, Jr., USN; Captain and Mrs. Franklin D. Shawn, whose son Frank was killed in action during World War II; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Uriell; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Wallace; Mr. and Mrs. Hubert B. Steele of S Street; the George Wolcotts with their dogs, "Sue" when they lived at the corner of 37th and Reservoir Road, and "Gus" when they lived at the corner of 38th; Mr. and Mrs. Harold B. Rogers; the Clifton Moores and Ben Seekfords of Western's faculty; the Dickenses and son Paul who became a doctor; Mr. and Mrs. J. Blaine Gwin; Major General and Mrs. Myron C. Cramer; and the Charles P. Woffords.

The best proof that Burleith³¹ has a permanent attraction for its residents, lies in the fact that children of Burleithians often make their homes here. Recent examples are: Captain and Mrs. Hamilton De Saussure, he being the son of Dr. De Saussure; Edgar F. Russell, Jr. and his wife Jean; Comdr. and Mrs. Douglas H. Pugh of Whitehaven Parkway. Mrs. Pugh is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Thomas. All these couples are the parents of third generation Burleithians.

This short account of Burleith concludes with the words of Shakespeare's Henry Bolingbroke, later Henry IV of England:

"I count myself in nothing else so happy as
in a soul remembering my good friends."

King Richard II, Act II, Scene 3

31. The origin and significance of the name, "Burleith" is uncertain although it is probably Scotch. Many of the colonial settlers in, and around Georgetown were Scotch Presbyterians. In the Scottish language, "Bur" means the "cone of the fir tree"; "Bur-Thrissel" means "spear thistle". Jamieson's *Scottish Dictionary*, published by William P. Nimmo, Edinburgh 1867. "Leith", another Scottish word, is the name of the port of Edinburgh. It stands on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth and the mouth of the Water of Leith.

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