

1608894907  
M #36-5

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Silver Spring

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East-West Highway & Blair Mill Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

#### PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Telephone #: 589-1480

STREET & NUMBER

8787 Georgia Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Silver Spring

STATE, zip code

Maryland

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #:

Folio #:

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is the site of the original spring, once located on the Blair farm, that gave the name to the town of Silver Spring, Maryland. It is now a "mini-park", landscaped about the spring. In the park is an acorn-shaped structure on wooden posts that once served as a gazebo on Blair's farm. The spring itself is set down in a small, grotto-like recess. It is covered with a carved stone hood. Ironically, the water has been piped in ever since the area began its fast-paced development during this century. Old photos (ca. 1930) show the original Italian marble statue that was placed in the spring.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> J-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Several versions of a story are told that relate how Francis Preston Blair (a newspaperman-brought to Washington by Andrew Jackson) and his daughter discovered the bubbling mica spring after being thrown from a horse nearby. They named their home here "Silver Spring", and the name was passed on to the present community (often referred to as "Maryland's Second Largest City".) The old "Silver Spring House" was located on Eastern Ave. nearby, and was removed at the time of development during the 1950's. The Blair and Lee families of Silver Spring have played a prominent role in county and state politics.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- 1) Scharf, Thos. HISTORY OF WESTERN MD. (VOL. I), pp. 764-765.
- 2) "Annals of Silver Spring"-Records of the Columbia Hist. Soc. (1918)
- 3) Various articles such as one in WASH. POST, March 14, 1974.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

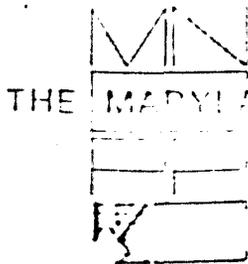
**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	
Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
M-NCPPC	6/2/75
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
8787 Georgia Ave.	589-1480
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Silver Spring	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See correspondence dated July 5, 1985

ACTION TAKEN

Final Draft Amendment...to designate the following sites on the Master Plan thereby extending to them the protection of the Historic Preservation Ordinance:

- M: 36/5.....Silver Spring/Acorn Urban Park and East West Highway
- M: 36/6.....Jesup Blair House/Local Park
- M: 36/11.....Old Silver Spring Post Office
- M: 36/14.....Armory Place

APPENDIX

SITES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR REGULATION UNDER THE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 24A OF THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CODE

The following sites have been reviewed and found not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Those sites also listed on The Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland will no longer be subject to regulation under the Moratorium on Alteration and Demolition, Section 24A-10 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. Although removed from the Locational Atlas, these sites will remain on the Maryland Historical Trust's State Inventory.

<u>Site</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
36/16	Little Tavern	8230 Georgia Avenue
36/17	Old Masonic Temple	8435-39 Georgia Avenue

while retaining the ability to be responsive to development plans which recognize important features of the resource.

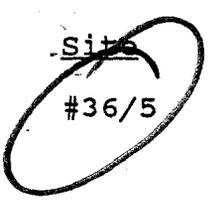
IMPLEMENTATION

Once designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, any substantial changes to the exterior of a resource or its environmental setting must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission and a historic area work permit issued. The Ordinance also empowers the County's Department of Environmental Protection and the Historic Preservation Commission to prevent the demolition of historic buildings through neglect.

It is the intent of the Master Plan and Ordinance to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting and enhancing Montgomery County's heritage for the benefit of present and future residents. The accompanying challenge is to weave protection of this heritage into the County's planning program so as to maximize community support for preservation and minimize infringement on private property rights.

AMENDMENT TO  
THE MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
SILVER SPRING CBD INDIVIDUAL HISTORIC SITES

The purpose of this amendment is to designate the following sites on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation thereby extending to them the protection of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code.



<u>Site</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Associated Acreage</u>
#36/5	The Silver Spring/ Acorn Urban Park & East West Highway	Blair Mill Road	0.1 acre
	- Site of the original spring which is of symbolic importance to the community, being the site from which the town supposedly derives its name.		
	- The Park's acorn gazebo, originally from the farm of Francis Preston Blair, founder of Silver Spring, is a good surviving example of the picturesque garden furniture popular on the estates of the wealthy during the 19th century.		
#36/6	Jesup Blair House- Local Park	900 Jesup Blair Dr.	14.46 acres
	- Circa 1850 -- Unusually sophisticated two-story frame house incorporating elements of Federal and Greek Revival styling and featuring a hipped roof		

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COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PORTION  
OF THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT  
WITHIN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: District Council

Subject: Amendment to the Approved and Adopted Master Plan for Historic Preservation in Montgomery County, Maryland re: Silver Spring CBD Individual Historic Sites

Background

1. On July 12, 1985, the Montgomery County Planning Board transmitted to the Montgomery County Council a Final Draft Amendment to the Historic Preservation Master Plan to designate the following as individual historic sites in the Silver Spring CBD:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Associated Acreage</u>
#36/5	The Silver Spring/Acorn Urban Park and East West Highway	Blair Mill Road	0.1 acre
#36/6	Jesup Blair House/Local Park	900 Jesup Blair Drive	14.46 acres
#36/11	Old Silver Spring Post Office	8412 Georgia Avenue	16,714 sq. ft.
#36/14	Armory Place	925 Wayne Avenue	1.6 acres

2. The Final Draft Amendment to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation concerning Silver Spring CBD individual historic sites also recommends the following sites as not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance and to be removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland:

1. The following sites are designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation:

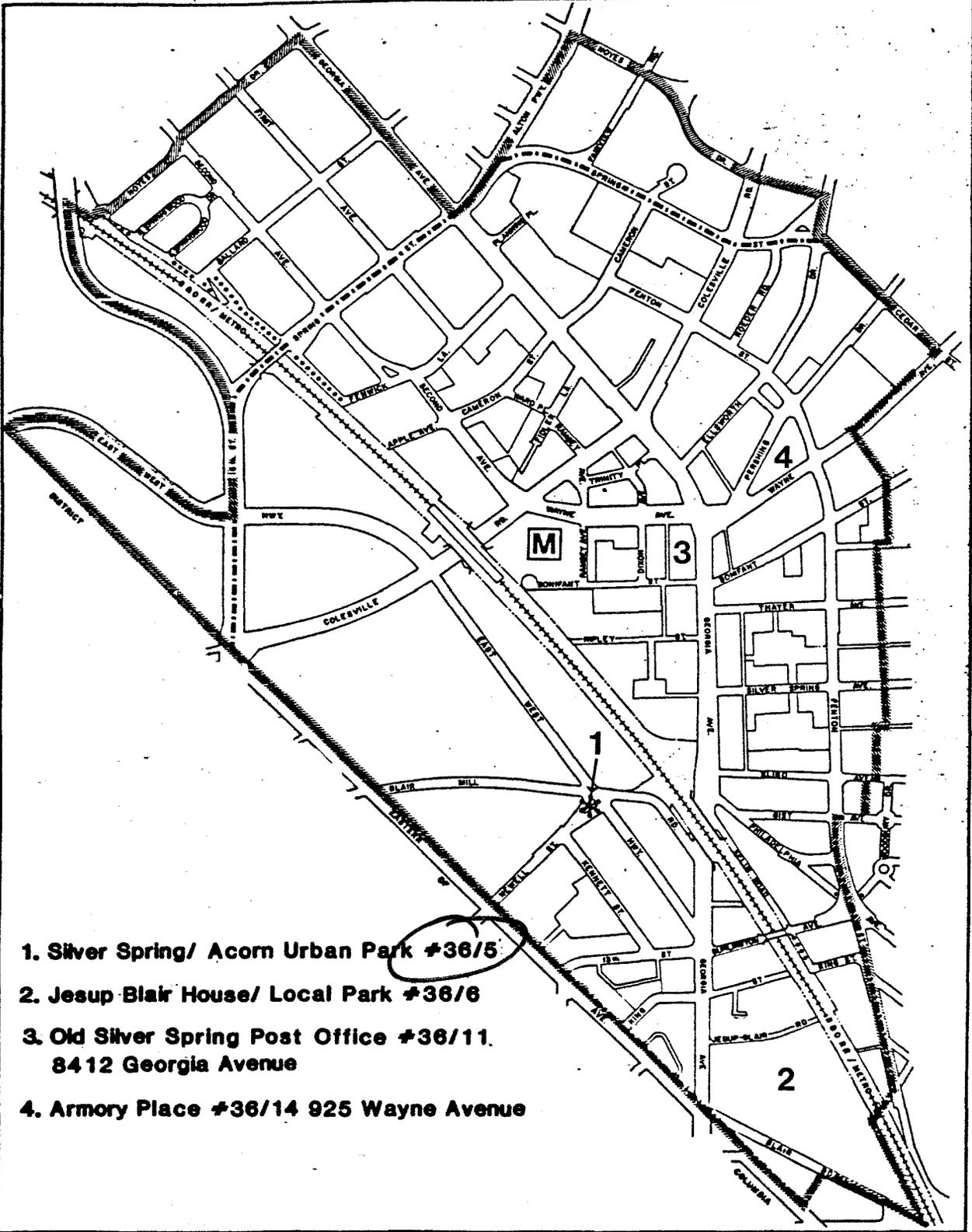
<u>Site</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Associated Acreage</u>
#36/5	The Silver Spring/Acorn Urban Park and East West Highway	Blair Mill Road	0.1 acre
#36/6	Jesup Blair House/Local Park	900 Jesup Blair Drive	14.46 acres
#36/11	Old Silver Spring Post Office	8412 Georgia Avenue	16,714 sq. ft.
#36/14	Armory Place	925 Wayne Avenue	1.6 acres

2. The following sites are found as not suitable for regulation under the Historic Preservation Ordinance and removed from the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites in Montgomery County, Maryland:

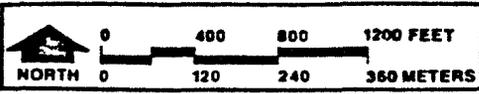
<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Little Tavern	8230 Georgia Avenue
Old Masonic Temple	8435-39 Georgia Avenue

This is a correct copy of Council action.

  
Kathleen A. Freedman, Secretary  
County Council



- 1. Silver Spring/ Acorn Urban Park #36/5
- 2. Jesup Blair House/ Local Park #36/6
- 3. Old Silver Spring Post Office #36/11.  
8412 Georgia Avenue
- 4. Armory Place #36/14 925 Wayne Avenue



**Silver Spring CBD  
Individual Historic Sites**

**1**

and most rapidly growing density at the time. Schools were established in 1872 by the Maryland legislature for white children. State property owners. The Montgomery School Commissioners paid teachers a salary that differed between white and black schools as a black teacher received twenty-five dollars for a white teacher seventy-five dollars for a black teacher. Established, segregated schools would be common in Montgomery County for more than eight

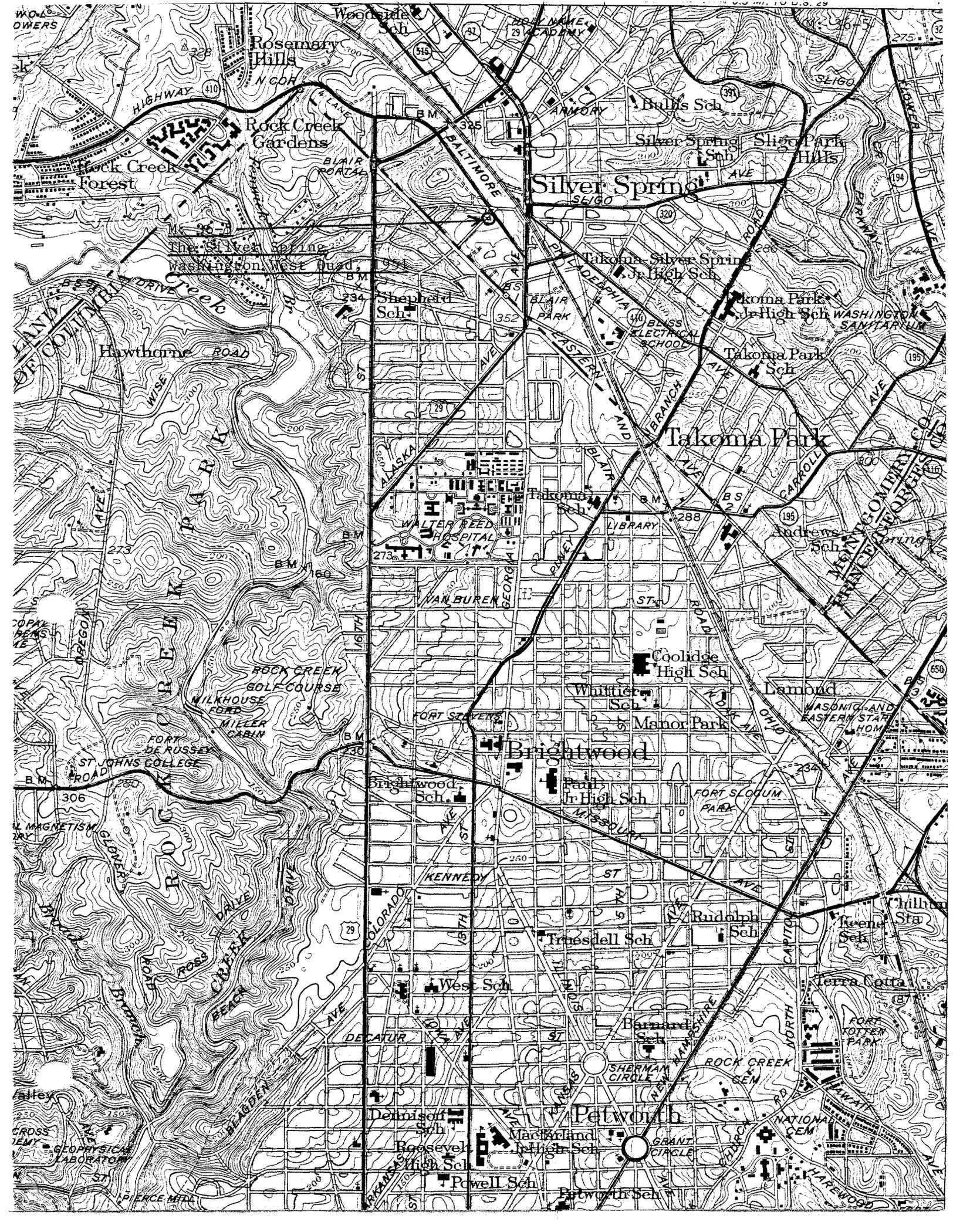
years of segregated housing and the white counterparts knew the desperate economic loss and upheaval. In the early 1870s harmony was difficult at the county level as many of the white members of the legislature were faced with the loss of Southern property and Confederate defeat. The war's war wounds were bitter and the South wept at Lee's surrender than the North.

Union soldiers guard Silver Spring, the home of Francis Preston Blair. Falklands, the home of Montgomery Blair, had already been burned to the ground by Confederates. Courtesy of Library of Congress



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Silver  
Spring

Coleman, Margaret Marshall and Anne Dennis Lewis  
1984 Montgomery County: A Pictorial History.  
Norfolk: Donning Company.



WOOD OWNERS

WOODS



M: 36-5  
The Silver Spring  
Washington West Quad E965 PR 1080

420 000 FEET (MD.)

GREEN MEADOWS 1.3 MI.

WHITE OAK 5 MI.

4314

57'30"

3.9 MI TO U.S. 50

4312