ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY YEAR IN REVIEW

1990-1991

June 1990

The Society served as a sponsoring organization for the National Genealogical Society annual conference and offered two tours of Arlington for participants. The Newsletter began monthly publication (Sept.-May). The Society joined the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

July 1990

Building Chairman Kathryn Ellenburg began preparing recommendations for repair of the museum’s foundation leak and electrical work.

August 1990

The Society’s County Fair booth featured a review of old and new Arlington in a photo display entitled “History — Gateway to the 90’s.”

September 1990

Don C. Terrill presented a program of slides on the Civil War in Arlington. John Sinks presented copies of the Potomac Palisades Report containing recommendations regarding the future of this area of the county. The museum bell was rung to celebrate the anniversary of the Constitution.

October 1990

The Historic Arlington Day house tour featured five homes spanning nearly a century with varying views of Arlington’s architecture and personal adaptations. The George and Carol Olmsted Foundation of Arlington provided a $3,300 grant for publication and distribution of the AHS Magazine.

November 1990

The museum director and curator completed computerization of the collection by donor, object and location. Bruce Gregory McCoy was featured speaker at the membership meeting, discussing the Spanish presence in Virginia prior to Jamestown.

December 1990

A lively holiday open house at the museum featured Father Christmas telling stories. The year ended with a total of 448 members, including 54 life and 4 junior members.

January 1991

A week of winter weather forced cancellation of the board and membership meetings. A complete inventory of the museum collection was begun.

February 1991

The museum closed to facilitate inventory of the collection.

October 1991
March 1991

The society's newsletter was named "Arlington Spring." A deaccession guideline was established. Treatment of collection items containing carpet beetles caused delay of the inventory. HJR 475 to preserve the Abingdon ruins passed in the Virginia General Assembly. The membership meeting was held at the Alexandria Waterfront Museum. An AHS bus tour along Arlington County's 1791 roads included the celebration of the bicentennial of the District of Columbia boundary markers.

April 1991

Physical stabilization of the Ball-Sellers house was completed. Changes to the By-Laws were approved by the Board.

May 1991

A long-range plan for the Society was adopted. AHS participated in Potomac Overlook Regional Park's open house/heritage festival which included the first of the Palisades walking tours. Speaker at the banquet and annual meeting, with over 170 in attendance, was Lt. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., USAF(Ret), the first black cadet to graduate from West Point. Revisions to the constitution were approved and the revised by-laws became effective.

Marcey Family Cemetery

Located in the rear of 2641 North Richmond Street, this cemetery still exists, although there have never been any markers or tombstones. It is the burial place of the pioneer couple, Mr. and Mrs. James Marcey, Sr. and many of their descendants.

Also buried there were six unknown Civil War soldiers. In excavating at the site of the old Van Dorn house at the southeast corner of Military Road and Lorcom Lane in 1953 (where Cherrydale Baptist Church now stands) six bodies were exhumed and identified as Union soldiers. They were buried in the Marcey family cemetery about 1890.

Information is from conversation with Eleanor Lee Templeman and from her book, Arlington Heritage, pp. 108, 154, 155.