

PROPERTY INFORMATION

PROPERTY NAME	The Hopewell Lodge No. 1700 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows (Site)
PROPERTY ADDRESS	2000 Block of North Culpeper Street Arlington, VA 22207
TAX PARCEL	07006125 & 07006126
USGS QUAD (S)	WASHINGTON WEST (DC)
COUNTY/INDEPENDENT CITY	Arlington (County)

ADDITIONAL PROPERTY INFORMATION

ARCHITECTURE SETTING	Suburban
OWNERSHIP CATEGORY	Private

SITE DESCRIPTION

November 2019: The historic Hopewell Lodge lot has been subdivided and the original wood-framed building is no longer extant. According to the 1943 Franklin Survey Company map of Arlington, the Hopewell Lodge lot fronted approximately 100-feet along Culpeper Street south of its intersection with N. Buchanan Street (Franklin Survey Company 1943). Two historic residential structures, 2001 N. Culpeper (1942; DHR #000-4818) and 2011 N. Culpeper St. (1930; DHR #000-4819), now occupy the historic Hopewell Lodge lot (ACGIS n.d.). The west edge of the lot features short brick and/or stone retaining walls to contain the lawns that slope upwards and east. Fencing encloses the rear yard of both replacement homes.

PROPERTY HISTORY

November 2019: The Grand United Order of Odd Fellows (GUOOF), one of two lodges that played a role in the social, cultural, and religious development of the Hall's Hill/High View Park (HHHVP) neighborhood, established February 14, 1876 (Richmond Planet 1897; Brooks 1902: 134); the Independent Order of Grand Samaritans was another prominent local lodge (ACHPP 2016: 16). The arrival of the Odd Fellows in HHHVP corresponds with the growth of the community after the Civil War by newly emancipated slaves from the Hall's Hill Plantation that had previously settled in Freedman's Village. The group quickly broke ground on a building and supported the community through various acts of benevolence (Maas et. al. 2017:36-37). Sumner School No. 2, a school for African American children in the northern area of Arlington County, held classes in the Odd Fellows building from approximately 1876 to 1885 (ACHPP 2016: 20). Contemporary *Alexandria Gazette* accounts of the school mention the Odd Fellows Hall building as a modest, wood-framed structure.

Sumner School No. 2, of Washington District, is a colored school at Hall's Hill, taught by Miss Jennie E. Arnold, a very good instructress indeed. It has lately, by the care of Geo. Ott Wunder, esq., one of the trustees, been removed across the road to a much more commodious and comfortable house in Odd Fellows' Hall, and fifty to sixty children seemed to be doing well in their studies. (Alexandria Gazette, March 3, 1876 in ACHPP 2016:20)

The school room is in the lower story of a building known as "Odd Fellows Hall" and is not very well adapted for school purposes, being [d]ark from having but few windows, and they are small. The furniture, if such it may be called, is unfit for the uses for which it is required, there being but one small black board and map of the world, with no other school

appliances than a few rickety desks and benches unfit for school purposes. (Alexandria Gazette, November 27, 1879 in ACHPP 2016:20)

Arlington County land records from August 28, 1888 list Moses Jackson, George H. Hyson, Shirley Snowden, Joseph Bolden, and Horace Shelton as purchasers of one acre of land for \$80 from the Bazil Hall Plantation on behalf of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Hopewell Lodge No. 1700 (ACHPP 2016:15; Jones 2018:16). The 1943 Franklin Survey Company map of Arlington County identifies the Hopewell Lodge as located between the John M. Langston School and the Mt. Salvation Baptist Church at ~2020 N. Culpepper Street.

The GUOOF came to be a predominately African American group in the United States although the fraternal order was founded in England in 1798 and a few unofficial chapters had begun in place in the early 1840s. In March 1843, the African-American New York Philomathean Institute and Philadelphia Library Company and Debating Society became the first two official GUOOF lodges; each had denied acceptance by unofficial local chapters due to racial prejudice. Peter Ogden, a West Indian steward of the S.S. Patrick Henry, a British vessel, facilitated the establishment of the two lodges which set precedence for the chapters in Arlington, Va. By 1900, the GUOOF in America was the second largest African American fraternal organization with over 200,000 members and over 2,000 lodges. Its membership consisted mainly of lawyers, doctors, military officers, ministers, and other professionals (GUOOF n.d.). Despite their Mason-like power structure, the Odd Fellows utilized Biblical content in their rituals for lodge establishment. “Many historians note the Odd Fellows as one of the most significant black mutual aid societies even at its beginning stages in the 1840’s, and the hybrid of non-denominational Christian content and a Mason-modeled organizational structure may have been why” (Barga n.d.).

SURVEYOR ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATION

November 2019: As a demolished resource, the former Hopewell Lodge No. 1700 of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

SURVEYOR RECOMMENDATION: NOT NRHP ELIGIBLE

PRIMARY RESOURCE INFORMATION

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Social/Recreational
RESOURCE TYPE	Meeting/Fellowship Hall
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	ca.1877 (Demolished: Unknown)
HISTORIC TIME PERIOD	Reconstruction and Growth (1866-1916)
HISTORIC CONTEXT(S)	Architecture/Community Planning, Recreation/Arts, Ethnic Heritage (Black)
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	--
FORM	--
NUMBER OF STORIES	1.0
CONDITION	--
THREATS TO RESOURCE	Demolished

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

November 2019: The historic Odd Fellows building has been demolished. Historic accounts of the lodge mention a one-room, wood-framed building.

EXTERIOR COMPONENTS

COMPONENT	COMPONENT TYPE	MATERIAL	MATERIAL TREATMENT
CHIMNEYS	--	--	--
ROOF	--	--	--
WINDOWS	--	--	--
STRUCTURAL SYSTEM/EXTERIOR TREATMENT	--	--	--
FOUNDATION	--	--	--
PORCH	--	--	--

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Arlington County, Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development, Historic Preservation Program (ACHPP). *A Guide to the African American Heritage of Arlington County, Virginia*. 2016. Arlington, VA: Arlington County.

Barga, Michael. "Grand United Order of Odd Fellows in America (1843-present)." Virginia Common Wealth University Libraries Social Welfare History Project. No date. Accessed November 2019 at, <https://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/eras/grand-united-order-of-odd-fellows-in-america/>.

Brooks, Charles H. *The Official History and Manual of the grand United Order of Odd Fellows in America: A chronological treatise of the origin, growth, government and principles of the Order; the duties of the various officers in every branch of odd fellowship with directions for laying corner-stones, holding thanksgiving services, dedicating lodges, cemeteries, churches, halls, and other public edifices, forms of petitions, reports, charges, appeals, &c., &c.* Philadelphia, PA: Odd Fellows Journal Print. 1902. Accessed November 2019 at, <https://archive.org/details/officialhistory00broogooog/page/n20>.

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Grand Order of Odd Fellows America (GUOOFA). "Interesting Facts." No date. Accessed November 2019 at, https://guoofamerica.com/oddfellows_natl/Interesting_Facts.html.

Jones, Wilma. *My Halls Hill Family: More Than a Neighborhood*. Arlington: Wilma J, LLC, 2018.

Maas, Anna, Penne Sandbeck, and Alison Blanton (Thunderbird Archaeology, a division of Wetlands Studies and Solutions, Inc.). *National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form: African American Historic Resources in Arlington County, Virginia*. 2017. On file at ACHPP.

Richmond Planet. June 5, 1897. "Hopewell Lodge, Number 1700, of Falls Church, was instituted February 14, 1876. Its meets are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at Hill's Hall. On file at the Library of Virginia, Richmond.