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## CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT FOR WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS

MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK  
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY





*Landscape architect,  
Norman T. Newton,  
supervising the  
construction of the  
parterre garden by  
the CCC, 1938  
(Morristown NHP  
CRM Archives).*

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MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK  
*Morristown, New Jersey*

## INTRODUCTION

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## SITE HISTORY

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## EXISTING CONDITIONS

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## LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Prepared by  
Christopher M. Stevens

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**Cover Photo:** A 1967 view of the brick, axial walkway leading from the Ford Mansion to the museum (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

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# INTRODUCTION

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## THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The preparation of the following cultural landscape report (CLR) was timed to contribute to a planning effort that will guide decision-making at Morristown National Historical Park over the next twenty years. The 2000-2003 planning process, known within the National Park Service (NPS) as general management planning, effectively replaced the park's General Management Plan (GMP) which had not been updated since 1976. Preparation of this CLR for the park's Washington's Headquarters Unit ensured that cultural landscape resources were considered during the process, and the report presents a component of the information on which the conclusions of the GMP were drawn.

Besides informing the GMP process, a CLR typically serves important roles both as a synthesis and a storehouse of information related to a landscape's evolution over time, and as the agency's principle landscape treatment document. CLRs serve as a primary tool for long-term landscape management.

Because of issues related to funding and scheduling, cultural landscape reports are accomplished in phases. These are generally broken down into three manageable segments.

- Part 1 – Site History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis and Evaluation
- Part 2- Landscape Treatment Recommendations/Treatment Plan
- Part 3 – Record of Landscape Treatment

The following report, Part 1 of the CLR, presents a chronological site history of the property and its existing conditions in 2002 with both narrative text and illustrations. The Landscape Analysis chapter evaluates the significance and integrity using the terms and definitions of the National Register of Historic Places program.

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

While it is not known if the Washington's Headquarters property ever housed a Native American settlement, today's landscape was much different before European colonization. Human populations grew in villages and in nomadic campsites. People gathered roots, fruits, nuts, and grasses and began to hunt, fish, and farm. The Whippany River would likely have contributed to any

settlements in the area, but further archeology is needed to learn more about the Native American landscape at this site.

During the colonial period (1700-1777), Morristown evolved as a typical European settlement of the area with farmsteads and ironworks scattered around an organized village with a church and a green. Jacob Ford, Jr. built his home in the middle of his land on a summit of a low Piedmont hill facing a road that radiated east from the town center. This road branched in front of the mansion and connected Morristown to Newark and Elizabethtown. The mansion had extensive views across the rolling landscape, as the land was cleared for agriculture and pastureland.

The established period of significance for Washington's Headquarters is 1779-80, the time of the second winter encampment at Morristown when General Washington used the Ford Mansion as his headquarters. This period is a subset of Morristown National Historical Park's greater period of significance that encompasses all Continental Army activity in the area from 1777-1782 during the American Revolution. Very little is known about the landscape from the encampment period other than the relationship of the mansion's hilltop location with the road. The Ford family operated a powder mill on their estate along the Whippany River that made gunpowder for the army. During George Washington's occupation of the estate, the army built additions to the mansion, a stable, and about fifty log huts to house the General's Life Guard. The estate was busy during this period with daily operations and with countless dignitaries visiting General Washington.

During the rural economy period (1780-1873), Morristown remained as a centralized settlement for a dispersed agricultural community, but speculative subdivisions appeared as the village grew and evolved into a town. The Ford estate was a typical New Jersey farm in both size and layout with divided fields dedicated to crops or pasture and gardens and outbuildings clustered near the mansion. Gabriel Ford experimented with gardening from 1780-1849, planting trees, shrubs, lawn, flowers, and crops. He kept a parterre garden to the side or behind the mansion, and he reconfigured the front picket fence on a stone foundation around the trapezoidal front lawn. The lawn was lined with trees and surrounded by a driveway. In 1849, Henry A. Ford inherited a subdivided estate retaining the portions of the homestead lying north of Morris and Washington Avenues. Much of the remaining lands to the south, well over 200 acres, were subdivided and passed to other owners. The land north of the Ford Mansion remained as woodland, and Henry probably kept an orchard west of the mansion. A range of outbuildings off the northeast corner of the kitchen wing was likely to have remained from Gabriel's tenure or before. Henry also had a few barn buildings on the south side of Morris Avenue. Henry maintained the front lawn and cultivated many vegetables. At the close of the



period and according to Henry's will, the Ford Mansion was sold to the highest bidder. Only three acres were retained with the mansion, and the rest of the property was subdivided into forty-seven building lots. After newspaper articles inspired a public outcry, several prominent local men founded the Washington Association of New Jersey for the express purpose of acquiring and preserving the venerated mansion and grounds, known as Washington's Headquarters.

As Morristown grew, the subdivided, suburban lots became more urban in character. To prevent residential encroachment, the Washington Association of New Jersey began to purchase neighboring properties, grading and landscaping them to match the mansion grounds. However, houses were constructed on a few private lots immediately surrounding Washington's Headquarters. The Washington Association of New Jersey desired to return this now public mansion and grounds to their appearance at the time of Washington's occupancy. They removed the modern additions, installed cannons and a flagpole, planted hundreds of trees, and enclosed the property with a fence. The association improved the paths, constructed a few supporting buildings, and established a parterre garden ornamented with historic artifacts. The association also held celebrations and pageants at Washington's Headquarters for significant anniversaries. During the Great Depression, the Washington Association of New Jersey was having financial difficulties with managing Washington's Headquarters, and the movement to form a national park in Morristown was gaining momentum. In 1933, Congress created Morristown National Historical Park, and the Washington Association of New Jersey stockholders and the New Jersey government transferred Washington's Headquarters and its collection to the NPS.

Immediately after acquiring Washington's Headquarters in 1933, Morristown National Historical Park planned to acquire all of the parcels in the block occupied by the Ford Mansion. This task was gradually accomplished throughout the twentieth century with the assistance of the Washington Association of New Jersey.

The NPS built a historical museum north of the mansion during the 1930s. John Russell Pope designed the Colonial Revival building to harmonize with the mansion and gesture to Washington's Mount Vernon. The plans originally called for a central museum and administration building flanked by a museum wing and a library wing connected by covered arcades, but the required property could not be obtained, and only the central block was built. Norman T. Newton designed the landscape, and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) crews made many improvements and installed the landscape as planned until the organization was disbanded in 1942. The resulting landscape was

Beaux Arts in nature, elegantly linked the museum and the mansion, and was reminiscent of the former Washington Association of New Jersey landscape.

State construction crews completed Interstate-287 along the western side of the Headquarters property in 1973. The highway added tremendous noise pollution. Local roads were altered impacting circulation to and at Washington's Headquarters. The park constructed a parking lot north of the museum and altered the site's circulation making the north side of the property the new front. The 1980s and 1990s were quiet years at the Headquarters with few changes occurring except for routine maintenance.

By 1999, a museum building rehabilitation was planned and general management planning was underway for the park. In advance of these projects, NPS Northeast Region staff planned an initial phase of resource evaluation including a historic structures report, cultural landscape report, preliminary archeological assessment, and continued development of the park's long range interpretive plan. Beginning in 2000, an integrated cultural resources report, which included an overview and assessment of archeology, an overview of the park's cultural resource research program, a cultural landscape report, and narratives of the history of Morristown, was coordinated by the University of Massachusetts. Research for the cultural landscape report for Washington's Headquarters was initiated in November 2001, and a cultural landscape inventory was completed for Washington's Headquarters in 2004. These studies explore significance and integrity of the cultural landscape and will guide the park in future rehabilitation efforts.

## **SCOPE OF WORK AND METHODOLOGY**

This report is a combination of original research and synthesis of previous research and management documents. Long-term park staff members have guided the project, and the park's extensive archival collection has been tapped. The narrative landscape summary, synthesized from the archive's collection of documents, photographs, and plans, is the heart of this report.

Period Plans are a typical element of a CLR. These graphic plans are used to record landscape features present during a designated period or specific date. Period plans are generally developed from analysis and evaluation of all research findings, including maps, photographs, narrative sources, and site visits. For this project, period plans have been developed for 1900 and 1942, representative years for which there was adequate information. There is not enough information to create period plans for any of the Ford family tenures or for the time of General

Washington's encampment. A third plan has also been developed to depict existing conditions in 2002.

## DESCRIPTION OF STUDY BOUNDARIES

Morristown National Historical Park is composed of four noncontiguous units that encompass a total of 1,697.55 acres. Washington's Headquarters, the subject of this report and the smallest of the four, is located in the town of Morristown, New Jersey and includes approximately ten NPS-owned acres (Figure 1). The unit is bound by Morris Avenue to the south, Washington Place to the east, Lafayette Avenue to the north, and Interstate 287 to the west. The other three units within the park are located within portions of Morristown, Morris Township, Harding Township, and Mendham Township in Morris County and Bernardsville Borough in Somerset County (Figure 2). The units include Fort Nonsense, the Jockey Hollow Encampment (and New Jersey Encampment), and the Cross Estate (Figure 3).

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Morristown National Historical Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the American Revolution. The period of significance is 1777-1782, with Washington's Headquarters contributing for its use during the 1779-80 encampment. The greater park and Washington's Headquarters are also culturally important for their commemorative layer, an association with early historic preservation and memorialization efforts in America, from 1873-1942.

The Washington's Headquarters landscape does not retain historic integrity to convey its significance for its association with the American Revolution. The landscape possesses only a few physical characteristics from the period, including the Ford Mansion, its location on the highest point of the property, and its relationship to the road. Explicit landscape documentation and extant above-ground features are relatively absent. Archeological investigations have located some landscape features, but detailed information is sparse. Further complicating matters are the changes to the landscape caused by over two centuries of suburban growth. The most important contributing feature for this period is the Ford Mansion. Washington used Morristown's largest residence as his headquarters and constructed additional small structures near it to support his requirements. Although these outbuildings are now gone, the mansion, with its formal appearance oriented to the south, and the open front lawn with scattered shade trees are significant to the period. Later additions do not contribute to the period and include the museum, parking lot, pedestrian paths, and

neighboring structures. Noise from Interstate 287 and visible suburban development on all sides of the property significantly diminish the integrity.

The Washington's Headquarters landscape does retain historic integrity for its association with the commemorative layer retaining the buildings, the lawn, numerous trees, and much of the circulation system from the period. Today's landscape is the direct result of the 1930s design implemented by the NPS. Evaluating integrity for the potential second period of significance is somewhat simpler because there are more extant features and better documentation from the period. Memorialization activities began in 1873, peaked in the 1930s, and lasted until 1942 when Depression-era service activities ended. The goal of these efforts was to preserve and commemorate Washington's Headquarters, making it and its collection accessible to all citizens. This character endures in many of the existing features surrounding the mansion. The landscape contains many features significant to the commemoration period, including the Ford Mansion, the front lawn with scattered shade trees, the semicircular front walkway, the caretaker's cottage, and the museum/administration building. Although the character of the park around the mansion is essentially the same as in the 1930s, the presence of adjacent suburban development and heavy traffic on surrounding roads and Interstate 287 pervades the visitor experience. The axial relationship between the mansion and the museum still exists, with most of the circulation system and the building locations in place and with five of the ten white oak trees remaining from the alleé. The relationship is less perceptible to the untrained eye today though due to the removal of much of the axial walkway, the thinning of its tree alleé, and the naturalistic plantings of the 1970s that blocks key views. Furthermore, the construction of the parking lot and conversion of the museum's rear entrance into a main entrance reversed the original pedestrian circulation pattern. Combined, these changes have de-emphasized the historic relationship between the two buildings. Any future treatment should be rehabilitative and carried out with great sensitivity to maintaining the integrity of the commemorative layer.



Figure 1. State-level locator map (NPS).

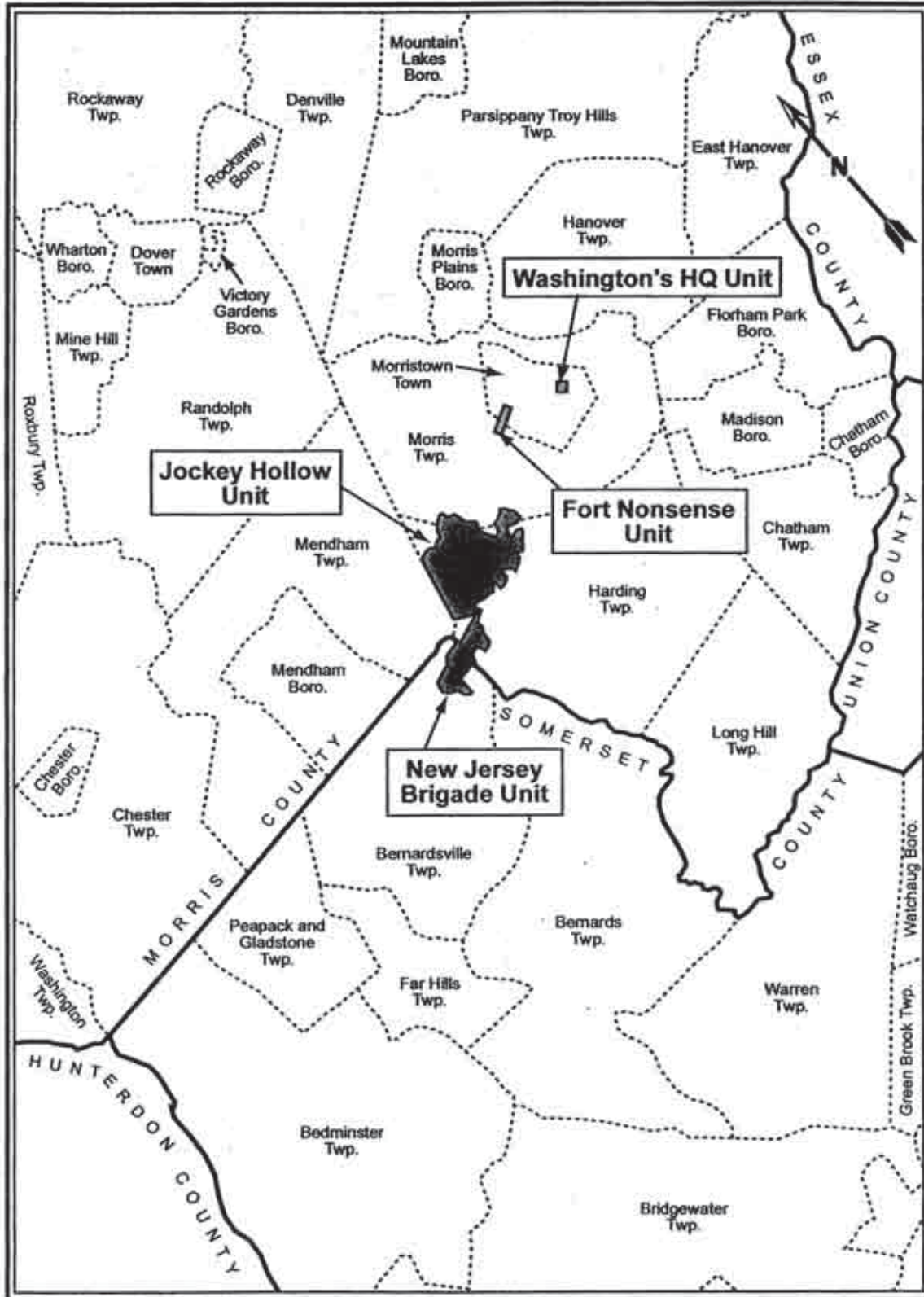


Figure 2. County-level locator map (NPS).



Figure 3. Morristown National Historical Park brochure map, 2001 (oriented with north left)(NPS).





# SITE HISTORY

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## PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE

This site history chapter documents the physical development of the Washington's Headquarters landscape from pre-history to present, focusing on human interaction with, and modification to, the natural landscape. The chapter provides a landscape description through every historic period up to the present, and it identifies and describes the historic context and period(s) of significance associated with the landscape. It describes the physical character, attributes, features, and materials (the landscape characteristics and associated features) that contribute to the significance of the landscape. Other types of historical information, such as stylistic trends, social history, the history of technology, and cultural history are detailed in the report if they have a direct bearing on the physical development of the property. The chapter also includes the experiences and stories of individuals associated with the physical development and use of the landscape.

This chapter is divided into five sections (time periods): Colonial, Encampment, Rural Economy, Washington Association of New Jersey, and Park Development and Management. The Encampment period is the main period of significance for Washington's Headquarters Unit and traditionally has received the most attention. This report will additionally explore the important landscape contributions of Gabriel and Henry Ford during the Rural Economy period and the major landscape designs installed during the Washington Association and Park Development and Management periods. With a historic designed landscape, it is important that the site history discuss design intent, primary design principles, physical relationships, patterns, features, and important individuals or events that have influenced the design of the landscape.

## INTRODUCTION

Today's Washington's Headquarters Unit of Morristown National Historical Park lies at the junction between the Highland and Piedmont physiographic provinces, which trend in a southwest to northeast direction, following both the coastline and the orientation of the Appalachians.<sup>1</sup> The Highlands are a southwestern extension of the New England Uplands and the easternmost edge of the Appalachians. These hills are comprised of hard crystalline rocks, mostly gneiss, which contains deposits of iron, graphite, and mica.<sup>2</sup> On the eastern side of the uplands, in the area of Morristown, is an extension of the hills known as the Trowbridge Range. With mountains to the north and west, Morristown's hilly terrain overlooks the lower piedmont and plains to the east. The Piedmont is the

down-sloping eastside of the uplands, which meets softer coastal plain sediments.<sup>3</sup> Washington's Headquarters lies on a low terrace overlooking the Whippany River to the north.

The end of the prehistoric era (*Contact Period* ca. C.E. 1500-1700) began with the arrival of Europeans along the east coast, who recorded the first written or historic records. Much of northern New Jersey, southeastern New York, and northeastern Pennsylvania was occupied by the Munsee branch of the Algonquian-speaking Lenapes, but Morristown's inland setting would have been bypassed by most Native American and Europeans during this period.<sup>4</sup> While little evidence has been gathered to support occupation of Morristown by Lenapes and their predecessors over the last ten millennia, it is likely that a systematic survey of Morristown National Historical Park would yield additional information concerning their lifeways and settlement locations.<sup>5</sup> While it is not known if the Washington's Headquarters property ever housed a Native American settlement, evidence has been found that at least indicates some activity. Native place names such as Passaic, Musconetcong, Watnong, Rockaway, Shongum, Whippany, and Parsippany are also evidence of Native American presence in the area.<sup>6</sup>

## COLONIAL (1700-1777)

### CULTURAL CONTEXT

European settlement patterns had a profound effect in shaping the physical landscape of the Morristown area during the Colonial period. During the late-seventeenth century, the Jersey province was divided into the two proprietary colonies of East and West Jersey. At this time most settlement was located in East Jersey, but the division opened West Jersey to further European settlement. From their original seventeenth-century settlements in East Jersey (now northeastern New Jersey), pioneer agriculturists began moving westward into the interior through the Passaic and Hackensack Valleys around 1700.<sup>7</sup> While the glaciated highlands were a barrier to westward expansion, "the better soils [found in parts] of Morris County and her relatively rich iron ores, waterpower and forests" attracted many East Jersey residents during the first decades of the eighteenth century.<sup>8</sup> In addition to New Englanders, Dutch, English, Scotch, Irish, and German peoples settled in Morris County. Africans comprised another element of Morris County's population, albeit an involuntary one as slaves. In 1772 non-whites numbered less than three percent of the county's population.<sup>9</sup>

European settlement of early Morris County materialized as scattered farmsteads and ironworks with a few small, nucleated villages. Water-powered mills and ironworks also served as

focal points around which settlements coalesced. The Whippany/Parsippany region just north of Morristown, an area of relatively fertile soils located near the Minisink Trail and within influence of New England, appears to have been the original locus of European settlement in Morris County, its existence recorded by land surveyor John Reading in 1715.<sup>10</sup> Surveyors shaped the settlement by locating property lines and aligning roads.<sup>11</sup>

Colonial New Jersey's road network was created through governmental regulation, which established the route and width of individual roads, and often incorporated Indian trails and the informal track ways of the local residents. Major roads measured four rods wide (sixty-six feet), and linked towns to important places "such as public landing places, markets and mills," and were surveyed "upon application of the inhabitants." Minor roads, one or two rods wide, were laid out upon the application of any "Person or Persons" to link "the said Persons plantation ... to any other Plantation," and "these became the streets of the evolving agglomerated settlements."<sup>12</sup>

The majority of farms in Morris County during the Colonial period were typically under 150 acres, although some were as large as 600 acres. Because of the labor-intensive nature of agriculture at that time, no more than a fraction of any farm was under cultivation at any time. The keeping of orchards and production of fruit required less labor, and consequently the area witnessed large harvests of apples and peaches and developed a thriving brandy industry.<sup>13</sup> The area's colonial farmsteads and houses often had an extensive complement of outbuildings including barns, stables, wagon houses, hay barracks, smokehouses, spring houses, and wells. The colonial barns of Morris County were usually English in style. However, the hay barrack, a structure of Dutch origins, seems to have been widely distributed.<sup>14</sup> Typical farms had many enclosed fields that were primarily used for crops and secondarily for pasture and meadow.<sup>15</sup> Farmers often used the steep, rocky, and poorly drained places further from the house for woodlots, while labor-intensive agriculture like gardening and orcharding were typically located near the house. Barns were usually sited to the rear or side of the house with other outbuildings.<sup>16</sup> The most common fence in the area was 'worm' or 'stake-and-rail' containing large numbers of rails, but farmers also used post-and-rail fencing.<sup>17</sup> Some farmers also used stone rows to enclose their fields.<sup>18</sup> Gardens were often enclosed with "pales" or picket fences.<sup>19</sup>

*MORRISTOWN:* The West Jersey Council of Proprietors established its property rights, extinguished Native American land titles throughout most of northwestern New Jersey (including all of what became Morris County), and thereafter proceeded to allot property to its shareholders.<sup>20</sup> The site of Morristown, originally known as West Hanover, formed part of a 5,711-acre tract acquired by

five West Jersey proprietors after 1713. A 2,000-acre portion of that property apportioned to John Kay encompassed the future sites of both the Morristown Green and Washington's Headquarters. West Hanover remained undeveloped for years with only three families living there by 1727<sup>21</sup>. The original locus of settlement appears to have been in "the Hollow" on the Whippany River where gristmills, sawmills, and an iron forge were established. The unplanned village of Morristown began to develop after the Presbyterian church was built (1738-1740) on the upland south of the Hollow.<sup>22</sup> The church-owned green emerged as the village focal point. By 1739, settlement in the region had increased enough to warrant the creation of Morris County from the northern parts of Hunterdon County.<sup>23</sup> A log courthouse was erected on the green in 1755. It was replaced by a more substantial building in 1770 and a Baptist church built nearby in the following year. The village had about 250 inhabitants at the beginning of the Revolutionary War and contained a tavern, a school, and several stores, in addition to its courthouse, two churches, and mills.<sup>24</sup>

Early maps of the village document its irregular nucleated pattern with buildings clustered at the crossroads in the Hollow and around the green and scattered along the roads radiating from those adjoining focal points. Morristown's present-day street network incorporates much of the colonial road pattern. The alignment of Morris Avenue, which passes the Ford Mansion, follows the eighteenth-century "Road to New Arck (Newark) thro' Hanover," and the "Road to Elizabeth Town," now Washington Avenue, forks to the southeast in front of the mansion.<sup>25</sup> According to a 1740 testimonial, the "Road to Elizabeth Town" likely followed or paralleled the "Manusink Path."<sup>26</sup> Throughout the period, the region's roads were unpaved with grassy verges except where traffic kept vegetation down.

#### FORD PROPERTY

The Washington's Headquarters site is part of a 200-acre parcel of land purchased from L. Anderson in 1743 by Jacob Ford (1704-1777).<sup>27</sup> His father John Ford, a New Englander who moved to East Jersey in 1701, was a pioneer settler and land speculator at Whippany where he acquired land in 1715. John, described in his 1721 will as a carpenter, is said to have built the first iron forge in Morris County at Whippany in partnership with John Budd.<sup>28</sup> Jacob Ford evidently settled in Morristown by 1740, the year he was licensed to operate a tavern there.<sup>29</sup> Active in business and civic affairs, he acquired large landholdings, established several ironworks, and served as a colonial judge and legislator. He owned a house and outbuildings west of the future Ford Mansion, and deeded his 200-acre tract at Morristown to his son, Jacob Jr., in 1762 (Figure 4).<sup>30</sup> Jacob Ford Jr. (1737-1777), like his father, was a large landowner and iron manufacturer. Jacob Jr. built his family residence on the Morristown property.<sup>31</sup>

The mansion, erected by Jacob Ford Jr. between 1772 and 1774, occupies the summit of a low Piedmont hill east of the town center and just south of the Whippany River.<sup>32</sup> It was sited about 150 feet north of the road from Morristown to ‘New Ark’ through Hanover (now Morris Avenue) and faced the intersection of this road and the road to Elizabethtown (now Washington Avenue).<sup>33</sup> Much, if not all, of the site was probably originally forested and subsequently cleared for agricultural use, but there are no early records of the conditions of the property during this period. However, because the mansion was situated on 200 acres of land, it may be assumed that the improved property included pastureland for grazing horses and other domestic animals, perhaps a kitchen garden, and many outbuildings.

The Ford Mansion was and is an outstanding example of colonial architecture exhibiting both Georgian stylistic influences and traditional building practices in its design and detailing. The main block’s rectangular, hip-roofed form, symmetrical plan and fenestration, Palladian window and entry, and modillion cornice are Georgian. Traditional influences are evident in such features as the wing chimney’s exposed fire back and the timber frame’s combination of Dutch and English techniques.<sup>34</sup>

#### LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

Morristown evolved as a typical European settlement of the area with farmsteads and ironworks scattered around an organized village. The village developed around a church and a green. Jacob Ford Jr. built his home in the middle of his land on a summit of a low Piedmont hill facing a road that radiated east from the town center. This road branched in front of the mansion and carried travelers to and from Morristown from Newark and Elizabethtown. The mansion had extensive views across the rolling landscape, as the land was cleared for agriculture and pastureland. There were probably many outbuildings.

#### ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001Draft. 5,6. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:5.

Wacker, Peter O. 1975. *Land and People: A Cultural Geography of Preindustrial, 6-7. New Jersey*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

<sup>3</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:5.

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<sup>4</sup> Grumet, Robert. 1989. *The Lenapes*. New York: Chelsea House.

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<sup>5</sup> Mulholland, Mitchell, Timothy Binzen, Christine Arato, Dennis Bertland, Christopher L. Donta, Sharon Swihart, Jan Whitaker, and Margaret Kelly. 2001 Draft. Integrated Cultural Resource Report, Morristown National Historical Park. Massachusetts: University of Massachusetts Archaeological Services, National Park Service Boston Support Office and The Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>6</sup> Mulholland et al. 2001.

<sup>7</sup> Wacker, Peter O. 1975. *Land and People: A Cultural Geography of Preindustrial*, 126. New Jersey. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

<sup>8</sup> Wacker 1975:212.

<sup>9</sup> Wacker 1975:190.

<sup>10</sup> Thayer, Theodore. 1975. *Colonial and Revolutionary Morris County*, 16,24. Morristown, New Jersey: Compton Press, Inc.

<sup>11</sup> Wacker 1975:407.

<sup>12</sup> Wacker 1975:379.

<sup>13</sup> Thayer 1975:67.

<sup>14</sup> Wacker, Peter O. 1968. *The Musconetcong Valley of New Jersey: A Historical Review*, 96,100. Rutgers University Press.

<sup>15</sup> Wacker, Peter O. and Paul G.E. Clemens. 1995. *Land Use in Early New Jersey: A Historical Geography*, III. Newark: New Jersey Historical Society.

<sup>16</sup> Wacker 1995:72,III.

<sup>17</sup> Wacker 1995:69.

<sup>18</sup> Wacker 1968:71-72.

<sup>19</sup> Wacker and Clemens 1995:112.

<sup>20</sup> Thayer 1975:22-24.

<sup>21</sup> Thayer 1975:27-28.

<sup>22</sup> Cavanaugh, Cam. 1986. *In Lights and Shadows: Morristown in Three Centuries*, 14-19. The Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township, Morristown, New Jersey.

Thayer 1975:91.

<sup>23</sup> Wacker 1975:149.

<sup>24</sup> Bertland, Dennis N. 1981. Historic Sites Survey of the Town of Morristown, N.J. Prepared for the Morris County Historical Society and the Town of Morristown.

Cavanaugh 1986:14-19.

<sup>25</sup> Montrésor Map: A Map of the Province of New York, with part of Pensilvania, and New England, from an Actual survey by Captain Montrésor, Engineer. A. Dury, 1775, London. Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division.

<sup>26</sup> Wacker 1975:III.

<sup>27</sup> Thayer 1975:27-28.

<sup>28</sup> Stewart, Elizabeth Cobb. 1968. *Descendants of Andrew Ford of Weymouth, Mass.* 20-23,35. Montpelier, Vermont: Capitol City Press.

<sup>29</sup> Cavanaugh 1986.

<sup>30</sup> HABS. American Memory, The Library of Congress National Digital Library. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, Collection Finder. 2001. [Online]. Available: <http://memory.loc/cgi-bin/ampage>).

<sup>31</sup> Gee, Jodi, David Uschold, and Patrick Eleey. 2000 Draft. *Washington's Headquarters, Morristown National Historical Park, Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)*, Part 2:1. Brookline, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>32</sup> Barber, John W., and Henry Howe. 1844. *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey*, 385-86. Newark, New Jersey: Benjamin Olds.

<sup>33</sup> Montrésor Map.

<sup>34</sup> Jacob, Judith. 1993. Ford Mansion, Morristown National Historic Park, Historic Structures Report, 91. National Park Service, Northeast Region.

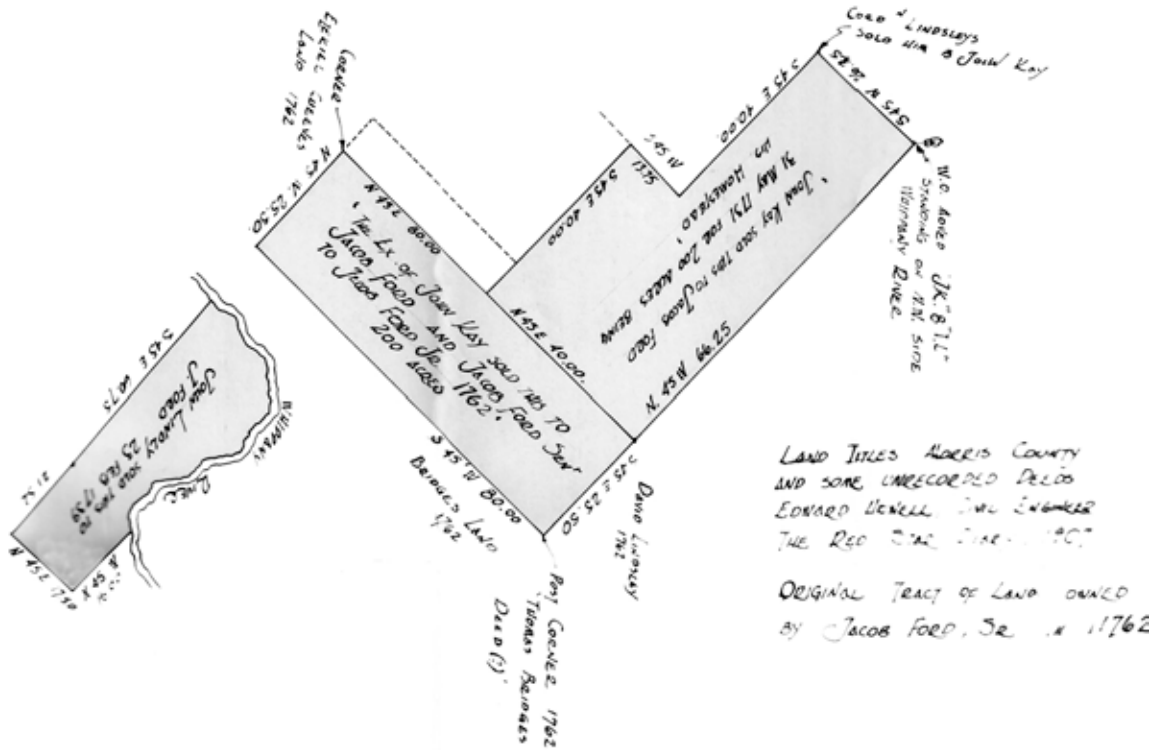


Figure 4. Jacob Ford property map, 1762 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





## ENCAMPMENT (1777-1780)

### CULTURAL CONTEXT<sup>1</sup>

From the beginning of the American Revolutionary War in 1776, New York was the principal British stronghold in the North. American General George Washington kept his lines of communications safely nearby, watching the British movements in New York, guarding the roads that connected New England and Pennsylvania and holding himself in readiness to move troops with great rapidity to any threatened point. Morristown was only thirty miles from Manhattan and became the scene of almost continuous American military activity from 1776 to 1782.<sup>2</sup> Here, Washington used the winter lulls of 1777 and 1779-1780 to fill his ranks and forge them into an effective fighting machine.<sup>3</sup>

*THE FIRST ENCAMPMENT 1777:* After American victories at Trenton and Princeton had dashed British hopes for an early end to the war, Washington decided to take his victorious yet exhausted forces into winter quarters. The Army arrived at Morristown on January 6, 1777 and occupied many farmhouses, homes, and other buildings in or near the village and from Princeton to Hudson Highlands. Thirty-five Delaware troops quartered at Col. Jacob Ford Jr.'s mansion. The Arnold Tavern on the village green probably served as Washington's headquarters. Remaining here until May 1777, the commander in chief faced many crises, among them shortages of food and clothing, finding recruits for his small army, and a serious outbreak of smallpox among the troops.<sup>4</sup>

*THE SECOND ENCAMPMENT 1779-80:* In December 1779, Washington's army again marched into Morristown for the winter. The main body of the army, eight infantry brigades in all, camped in the wooded, hilly area south of the village known as Jockey Hollow, three miles southwest of the Ford Mansion. The soldiers constructed log huts for shelter, while senior officers found quarters in private homes. Washington took up headquarters at the mansion of the late Col. Jacob Ford Jr. The winter proved to be the worst of the entire Revolutionary War; over twenty snowstorms blasted the hills and slopes with unremitting violence and blocked vital supply roads with six-foot snowdrifts.<sup>5</sup> Washington struggled with acute problems of supply, army discipline, and relations with state governments and Congress. Spring brought some relief to the suffering troops and welcome news from the Marquis de Lafayette that a French army was on the way to aid in the struggle for independence.<sup>6</sup> The British invaded New Jersey in early June 1780, and the Continental Army and General Washington departed Morristown around June 7.

### STRATEGIC FACTORS IN GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SELECTION OF MORRISTOWN

A variety of strategic and logistical factors influenced General Washington's choice of Morristown as a winter encampment. These included its location between the American capital at Philadelphia and the British Army in New York City; local topography, which sheltered the encampments from British attack; and the availability of resources such as timber. Here Washington aptly demonstrated his leadership by holding the Continental Army intact, keeping the American Revolution alive despite seemingly overwhelming challenges associated with weather, logistics, inflated currency and morale.

*LOCATION:* Morristown's position and topography were critical to its selection for Washington's winter encampments in 1777 and 1779-1780. Geography created a strong defensive position with Morristown located on the eastern edge of the highlands surrounded by forests and swamps and protected by the Watchung Mountains, a range of parallel ridges stretching from the Raritan River on the south toward the northern boundary of New Jersey. The First and Second Watchung Mountains formed a barrier thirty miles in length between the encampment and the British posts to the east. The remote location enabled Washington to conceal his low numbers of troops, as well as their miserable condition, from the British.<sup>7</sup>

Morristown's location allowed easy surveillance of British troop movements in the New York area and secured communication with the Hudson and Delaware Valleys.<sup>8</sup> Morristown was equidistant from the British posts at Newark, Perth Amboy, and New Brunswick in 1777 and guarded the vital inland communication line through the Hudson Highlands to New England. General Washington was able to protect the roads linking Philadelphia with New England, and was in an advantageous position from which to move troops swiftly to any point threatened by the British.<sup>9</sup>

*RESOURCES:* The Morristown area offered a variety of resources to Washington's army. The land itself offered sufficient space, comparatively level ground, and fresh water supplies making the accommodation of more than 10,000 troops feasible. Extensive timber resources were available to construct shelter and to provide firewood. The surrounding agricultural country was rich, and Washington was reaping its harvest while denying produce to the British in New York.<sup>10</sup> Farmers raised wheat, corn, rye, oats, barley, vegetables, apples, peaches, and other fruits. Much of the hilly land was heavily forested.

The local hills contained iron ore deposits, and ironworking facilities were already operating on a modest scale in the vicinity. Furnaces yielded pig iron which was cast into tools, farm

implements, and cannons at the forges of Hibernia and Mt. Hope. At a secluded spot along the Whippany River, a small mill belonging to the Ford family made gunpowder from saltpeter, sulfur, and charcoal for Washington's army.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to being the center of a productive agricultural and industrial district, most of the town's residents actively supported the American cause.<sup>12</sup> The Morris County militia, led by men such as Col. Jacob Ford Jr., had already proved its value in resisting British advances.<sup>13</sup> In 1777, Morristown's center featured between 50 and 60 buildings on a plateau, with approximately 250 residents with New England, Long Island, and coastal New Jersey roots. A courthouse, jail, tavern, and churches were clustered around the town green. Isolated farmsteads were widely distributed around the town. While some tracts at Jockey Hollow had been cleared and demarcated, the majority of the area remained wooded. Roads were laid out, linking outlying agricultural farmsteads with the civic center of Morristown (Figure 5).

#### FORD PROPERTY

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Jacob Ford Jr. was a landowner, iron manufacturer, and loyal patriot to American independence. His 200-acre estate included pastures, crop fields, orchards, and woods.<sup>14</sup> When Ford was appointed as Commander of the Eastern Battalion of the New Jersey Militia, all work on the mansion and grounds abated. In December 1776, Jacob Ford Jr. commanded a battalion of Morris County militia at the Battle of Springfield.<sup>15</sup> This same year, Ford established a contract with the Provincial Congress of New Jersey to erect a powder mill, and Congress agreed to pay him 2000 pounds of public money for one year without interest to be repaid in good merchantable powder.<sup>16</sup> Ford built his powder mill along the Whippany River northeast of his home.

The Ford Mansion was occupied by military personnel during both winter encampments of the Continental Army at Morristown. During the winter of 1777, the mansion was used as quarters for the Delaware light infantry regiment under the command of Captain Thomas Rodney.<sup>17</sup> During this encampment, Colonel Jacob Ford Jr. died from pneumonia contracted during the Mud Rounds campaign of late 1776 in which he commanded the Morris County militia.<sup>18</sup> According to Col. Ford's will his widow, Theodosia Ford, received money to raise and educate their four children, Timothy, Gabriel, Elizabeth, and Jacob III, as well as livestock, household goods, and rights to occupy the mansion.<sup>19</sup> The children's grandfather, Jacob Ford, Sr., managed the mansion and land until his death in 1778.

On December 1, 1779 when General Washington returned to Morristown, he established his headquarters at the Ford Mansion, by far the finest and largest house in town. The 1780 Montrésor map designates the mansion's low hill as "an eminence that commands Morris Town Green distant about 60 chains [ca. 4000 feet]," suggesting that the property's strategic value (Figure 6).

All but two of the rooms in the mansion were used by Washington and his official staff. These two rooms were retained by Mrs. Ford for herself and her four children.<sup>20</sup> According to Benson Lossing and other nineteenth-century sources, General Washington ordered a log addition to be built on the east side of the mansion for a kitchen, and one or two buildings on its west side as offices for himself and his aides.<sup>21</sup> A letter written by Washington, January 22, 1780, complains about the lack of a kitchen "althou' the logs have been put together some considerable time by my own Guard."<sup>22</sup> Little documentary evidence exists for the kitchen and offices.

During this time, the mansion housed the Ford family and their servants, General and Mrs. Washington, Washington's aide, Alexander Hamilton, four other aides, eighteen servants, and visitors from abroad who brought hope of foreign aid (Figure 7). Additionally, Washington entertained regularly, often hosting many dinner guests. Thus, there was constant traffic to and from the Ford home during the winter and spring of 1780. Visitors included Philip Schuyler, Light Horse Harry Lee, and Benedict Arnold.<sup>23</sup> Foreign visitors included the Marquis de Lafayette, French Minister Chevalier de la Luzerne, and Don Juan De Miralles who officially represented Spain.

The Commander-in-Chief's Life Guard, a special contingent of 250 Virginians commanded by William Colfax, was stationed in the meadow about 100 yards southeast of the Ford Mansion.<sup>24</sup> Fifty log huts were constructed to house the soldiers and supplies, but boards were "much in want" that winter.<sup>25</sup> The military also constructed a stable with two finished upstairs rooms southeast of the mansion and repaired an existing well.<sup>26</sup> It was unusual for houses of this period to have their stable in front of the house, but it was probably sited there for its close proximity to the Life Guard. The new stable mitigated the encampment's clutter of horses, carriages, and wagons. General and Mrs. Washington each had a carriage, and the headquarters had nine baggage wagons. Other diplomatic visitors, dinner guests, and aides would have been expected to have the same. Other structures, such as privies and sheds, would certainly have been present during this time but their existence is not documented. The mansion's grounds, like the mansion itself, were crowded and busy. Washington left his Ford Mansion headquarters and Morristown on June 7, 1780 after the British invaded New Jersey, and by June 23, all of Washington's possessions had been removed.

## LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

Very little is known about the Encampment Period (1777-1780) landscape. The Ford Mansion stood on a summit of a low Piedmont hill facing a junction of two important roads connecting Morristown to Newark and Elizabeth. It has been speculated that there was a semicircular drive in front of the mansion, but there is no proof, and no other landscape features have been documented. The mansion had extensive views across the rolling landscape, as most of the land was cleared for agriculture or pasture. Crops raised on the farm may have included wheat, corn, rye, oats, barley, vegetables, apples, peaches, and other fruits. The estate probably included many supportive outbuildings, but their locations are unknown. The Ford family operated a gunpowder mill along the Whippany River on their estate, northeast of the current Washington's Headquarters Unit. During Washington's encampment, the army built additions to the mansion, a stable, and about fifty log huts to house the General's Life Guard. The estate was busy during this period with daily estate and military operations and with countless visiting dignitaries visiting Washington.

## ENDNOTES

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<sup>1</sup> Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001 Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, Park Brochure. 1962 Reprint. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

<sup>3</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, Park Brochure. 1982 Reprint. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

<sup>4</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, Park Brochure. 1970 Reprint. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.

<sup>5</sup> Morristown National Historical Park Park Brochure 1982.

<sup>6</sup> Morristown National Historical Park Park Brochure 1970.

<sup>7</sup> Weigley, R. 1983. Morristown, A History and Guide, Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, 31. Washington, DC: National Park Service.

<sup>8</sup> Rutsch, Edward S. and Kim M. Peters. 1976. A Survey of Historic Archeology of Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey, 15.

<sup>9</sup> Weigley 1983:8.

<sup>10</sup> Weigley 1983:30.

<sup>11</sup> Rutsch and Peters 1976.

<sup>12</sup> Rutsch and Peters 1976:15,16.

<sup>13</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey, General Management Plan (GMP). 2001:14 Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Northeast Region, Boston Support Office.

<sup>14</sup> Massey, William U. 1975. *Historical Grounds Survey of Washington's Headquarters*, II. National Park Service.

<sup>15</sup> HABS American Memory.

<sup>16</sup> HABS American Memory.

Weigley 1983:34.

Montrésor 1780.

<sup>17</sup> Perry, Sherman W. 1963. Historic Structures Report, Part 1, Ford Mansion. Morristown National Historical Park, 3. National Park Service, WASO/NESO.

<sup>18</sup> Weig, M. 1949. *Morristown A Military Capital of the American Revolution*, p. 30, Publications-Mini Folder, c. 1950-60, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

<sup>19</sup> Marshall, Charles. 1942. *Preliminary Report on Collection of Research Data on Old Property Lines, Streets, Roads, Buildings, and Other Structures in Morristown and Vicinity During the Colonial-Revolutionary War Period*, Research & Survey-Project 33-Marshall Report on Old Property Lines (March 3, 1942) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes. [Tract #61 property, the Theodosia Ford Property, Secretary of State's Office, Trenton, NJ, Book of Wills, No. 19, p. 143].

<sup>20</sup> Lossing, Benson. 1851 First Installment. *The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, 310. New York: Harper & Bros., Reprinted 1969, Books for Libraries Press, Freeport, New York.

Jacob 1993:27.

<sup>21</sup> Perry 1963:4.

<sup>22</sup> Lossing, Benson. 1874. Washington's Headquarters at Morristown. *Appleton's Journal* 12:130, August. Barber and Howe 1844.

Fitzpatrick, John C., ed. 1931. *The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Source, 1745-1799*. 23:423-424, Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC.

Jacob 1993:94-96.

<sup>23</sup> HABS American Memory.

<sup>24</sup> Coleman, J., *Winter of Our Discontent*, Publications-Mini Folder, ca. 1950-60, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

<sup>25</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft, Part 2:1, Part 3:10.

<sup>26</sup> July 26 1780 letter from R.R. Meade, Quartermaster officer, USA, to Mrs. Theodosa Ford in: Massey 1975:4.



Figure 5. Robert Erskine's "Survey of Morristown by the chain only," December 17, 1779, map 105 (courtesy of the New York Historical Society in Olsen et al. 1998).



Figure 6. Segment of John Montessor's "A Plan of the Spot of Morris Town in Morris County for about three miles From the Court House, made out from a View of the same," 1780 (courtesy of William L. Clemens Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in Olsen et al. 1998). The actual powder mill was probably further east.



Figure 7. 1780 Diorama of Washington's Headquarters, 1938 (note stable to the southeast in the background) (in Lindsley, 2000).



## RURAL ECONOMY (1780-1873)

### CULTURAL CONTEXT<sup>1</sup>

Morris County's small agglomerate settlements maintained their traditional role as centers for the dispersed agricultural population throughout the nineteenth century. Irregular, incremental development still characterized most of these places, but rectilinear street patterns and speculative subdivisions appeared in emerging centers as they evolved from villages into towns. Local landowners often platted their properties in a rectilinear pattern of streets and lots as much as boundary lines and terrain would permit. Concurrently, the outskirts of the village, including the vicinity of the Ford Mansion, took on a suburban character.<sup>2</sup> Growth was accompanied in some places by the introduction of civic improvements, including water supply systems, sidewalks, curbs, and street trees. Many descendants of the area's eighteenth-century settlers remained, often on inherited property, suggesting stable social and economic conditions.<sup>3</sup>

Although land was plentiful in eighteenth-century New Jersey, the cost of labor was high.<sup>4</sup> The New Jersey farmer's family typically provided his basic labor unit, but hired laborers, indentured servants, and slaves were also utilized.<sup>5</sup> Gradual manumission was instituted by state statute in 1804, slavery disappeared in New Jersey over the next several decades, and New Jersey farmers and other employers increasingly relied on hired labor.<sup>6</sup> Beginning in the 1820s, Irish settlement in Morris County increased, and by the mid-nineteenth century, an Irish neighborhood developed in Morristown providing a new source of labor.

Traditional agriculture practices and land use patterns established during the Colonial period continued after the Revolutionary War and into the nineteenth century. John Rutherford, a knowledgeable observer writing in 1786, described the typical New Jersey farm as ranging from 50 to 400 acres in size and being laid out in "four fields rotated every four years" with summer crops (corn, oats, flax, buckwheat) the first year, fallow the second, wheat and rye the third, and grass in the fourth.<sup>7</sup>

Throughout the nineteenth century, farms were arranged much as they had been in the colonial period.<sup>8</sup> Gardens and domestic outbuildings were clustered near the house and agricultural outbuildings were arranged around the barn, usually located some distance to the rear or one side of the house and occasionally across the road from it. Both picket and post-and-rail fencing were used in Morristown, while wire fencing was being tried as early as the 1850s in New Jersey. Barbed wire

fencing appeared in the 1870s and its use quickly became widespread, employed by any farmer tired of splitting rails.<sup>9</sup>

New Jersey farm production during the period evolved in response to market forces. Production of traditional crops like buckwheat, rye, and flax increased and then rapidly declined after the middle of the nineteenth century in the face of competition from newly developing Midwestern agricultural districts. Corn remained an important crop in New Jersey, and Morris County was among the half dozen counties in the state whose production approached or exceeded one million bushels per year after 1879. While the raising of sheep and hogs witnessed similar rises and declines, dairy and poultry farming became increasingly important later in the century as farmers turned to supplying perishable products like milk and eggs to urban markets. These changes in farm production largely resulted from transportation improvements that ended Morris County's relative isolation and increased the exposure of local farmers to regional and national market forces. While the network of rural roads continued to be expanded and improved, turnpikes built in the early 1800s bolstered the county's connections to Newark, Elizabeth, and New York and solidified Morristown's position as a regional hub.<sup>10</sup> As part of these improvements, the Morris Canal was built between 1824 and 1834, and the Morris and Essex Railroad was chartered in 1835.<sup>11</sup>

#### FORD PROPERTY

*INTERIM YEARS (1780-1805):* After General Washington's departure in 1780, the Ford Mansion did not house any officers or soldiers for the remainder of the war. The widow Ford raised her children and continued to live there until her death in 1826 (Figure 8).<sup>12</sup> Her second eldest son Gabriel Ford assisted with managing the estate's operations. The mansion's courtyard was fenced by 1790, if not earlier. Lombardy poplar trees were planted on either side of front door in 1793, along Morris Avenue in 1794 or 1796, and by the drawing room window in 1795 or 1797. Rousselet pear trees were planted in the backyard in 1794 and 1796 or 1797 as part of an orchard or in conjunction with a utilitarian garden.<sup>13</sup> A December 1799 building account in Gabriel Ford's daybook includes "underpinning the wash house and necessary" and lists a "brass cock in water barrel" among purchases made in that year. An 1804 survey of the "Ford Homestead Farm" indicates that an enclosed trapezoidal front lawn occupied the area between the mansion and the road (Figure 9).<sup>14</sup> This survey does not depict a semicircular drive surrounding the lawn, but its existence is supported by Gabriel Ford's diary.<sup>15</sup> "Meadows" were south of the mansion, across the road with a large "clered [sic] field" to the west. An orchard was northwest of the mansion, and woodland was to the north. The survey depicts three outbuildings: a "stable" east of the front courtyard, a "farmhouse" west at

the bend in Morris Avenue, and a “barn” on the south side of the road roughly midway between the mansion and farmhouse.

*GABRIEL FORD YEARS (1805-1849)*: Gabriel Ford (1765-1849), having managed the Ford estate for many years, acquired complete rights to the property in 1805 when he purchased his sibling’s shares.<sup>16</sup> A 1784 graduate of the College of New Jersey at Princeton, Gabriel became a licensed attorney in 1789 and a counselor in 1793.<sup>17</sup> He married in 1790 and returned to Morristown by 1791, the year in which he and his wife joined the local Presbyterian church. He later served as a judge of the Morris County Court of Common Pleas and for many years as a justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court.<sup>18</sup> He and his wife Frances had four children.

Gabriel has been described by historians as “exceedingly systematic, carrying his love of order into all his business, even to the planting of trees in his garden,” suggesting that the mansion grounds had a well-cared-for character during his lifetime.<sup>19</sup> He made many alterations to the landscape during the second decade of the nineteenth century, including planting the front lawn (“the courtyard”) with potatoes in 1813. That same year he improved the 1780 stable constructing new sides, a new roof, a pen, and a carriage or wagon house addition. Around this same time, he filled the icehouse pit.<sup>20</sup> In 1814, Gabriel sowed the courtyard with flax, clover, and timothy seed and planted two larch trees.<sup>21</sup>

Gabriel maintained a parterre garden to the side or behind the mansion, although its position is not documented. It was divided in quarters by crosswalks and enclosed by a post and rail fence.<sup>22</sup> The squares were used mostly for vegetable gardening, but also included ornamentals such as hibiscus. Gabriel began spring plantings in March based upon the moon position and advice from the Farmer’s Almanac calendar. He used manure and crop rotations to maintain the soil and fresh seed from Thorburn, Dixon, and Boisaubin, leading seed distributors of the early-nineteenth century.<sup>23</sup> In 1814, Gabriel used an artificially heated planting flat, known as a hotbed, for plant propagation and a root cellar for his gardening pursuits. Gabriel planted a Canadian dogwood, clethra, and magnolia in the lowest garden square, west of middle walk that same year.<sup>24</sup>

In 1815, Gabriel built a smokehouse, and in 1816, he painted the fence and outbuildings white.<sup>25</sup> He planted several white pines and two horse chestnut trees on the property and rosy esfsia, hibiscus, and sweet scented shrubs in the garden, and he ordered twenty four trees from Prince Nursery, Long Island, New York on April 25, 1816 for \$12.87 ½.<sup>26</sup> The Prince order included eight horse chestnuts, six mountain ashes, two chestnuts, four beure pears, and two lindens which were planted along the

border of the courtyard (the trapezoidal plan is illustrated in Massey 1975:6). In his notes, Gabriel diagrammed a 3/8-acre lot bordered by several small outbuildings (including pecan and pear cribs, a smokehouse, and a privy), but the location of this section in relation to the mansion is unknown.<sup>27</sup> The 1850 Smith map depicts a similar complex of outbuildings just east of the mansion that may be the same. Gabriel rebuilt the icehouse in 1817 to be thirteen square feet.<sup>28</sup> Around this time, he was an incorporator of the Morris Turnpike, now Morris Avenue in front of the mansion.<sup>29</sup> Gabriel reconfigured the 1790s fence on June 20, 1818, employing a mason and one assistant for twenty-three days.<sup>30</sup> Gabriel planted two hawthorns this year and transferred sheep from the courtyard to the road lot as mowers for the "turf."<sup>31</sup> In 1819, he built a 328-gallon stone cistern to collect rainwater from the mansion roof for drinking water in the courtyard near the southern kitchen door to replace the spring house windmill that had blown over on December 6, 1818.<sup>32</sup> Gabriel removed some of the 1793 lombardy poplars on March 1 of this year and fashioned an eighteen-foot long water trough for the cow house from one of the trees.<sup>33</sup> He mowed the turf that year with a scythe and fertilized the lawn with manure.<sup>34</sup>

Gabriel made many changes to the landscape during the 1820s. He 'headed down' many of the remaining poplars on April 29, 1820, and removed them sometime after.<sup>35</sup> In 1822, he likely planted two hawthorns on the estate and three in the garden.<sup>36</sup> He designated the garden parterres as east and west squares, each square being about one quarter of a square acre (about 10,890 square feet or 104 feet by 104 feet).<sup>37</sup> The 1819 cistern collapsed in 1823, and Gabriel rebuilt it in August.<sup>38</sup> The same year, Gabriel planted a lilac border and ten locust trees somewhere on the estate, a horse chestnut and paper mulberry scions in the garden, and purple jasmine scions by the front and back doors of the mansion hall.<sup>39</sup> In 1824, he planted one white thorn somewhere on the estate, grapevines on the mounds left by the poplars in the courtyard, and weeping willows in the "gangway" or driveway just outside the courtyard to the east.<sup>40</sup>

In 1825, Gabriel purchased a hotbed frame with wooden covers on hinges from Greenmine and planted sweet scented shrubs and flowering almonds under the front windows of the mansion.<sup>41</sup> In 1826, Gabriel planted multiflora roses, one under each of the windows of the drawing room and dining room.<sup>42</sup> The widow Ford died the same year having lived in the mansion since it was built.

Gabriel had relied mostly on indentured servant or slave labor until 1825, when he began hiring a gardener annually. The extent of the Fords' slave labor is unknown, but gradual manumission was passed into New Jersey law in 1804, slavery outlawed in 1846, and total abolishment of slavery in 1865 with the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.<sup>43</sup>

Fewer changes were made in the landscape during the 1830s and 1840s. In 1835, Gabriel built a milkhouse and established a plant nursery behind a wood house (locations unknown).<sup>44</sup> By 1836, he had built a nineteen-by-ten-foot shed on the estate.<sup>45</sup> Four line engravings of the mansion, made between 1844 and 1851, show several large poplar trees in front of the mansion surrounding the trapezoidal front lawn (Figure 10).<sup>46</sup> The lawn was surrounded by a picket fence atop a stone foundation with a central gate along Morris Avenue that may have opened to a walkway to the front door. No walkways or driveways are evident here, but the fence may conceal them. The illustrations also show the “shed or lean-to” that was attached to the kitchen and a small outbuilding with a gable roof behind the courtyard’s west fence. In 1840, Gabriel constructed a root cellar in the garden and diagrammed his garden squares of which the size and layout had not changed since the 1820s.<sup>47</sup>

Gabriel straightened and channeled a watercourse that drained the property into the ravine northwest of the mansion. The ditching may have been done in conjunction with the relocation of the Morris and Essex Railroad (ca. 1838-1850) to the southern portion of the Ford property where it was in full view from the mansion. The watercourse made two right-angled turns on the south side of the road before passing under the railroad tracks.

Gabriel Ford died in 1849 leaving most of his estate to his son, Henry A. Ford, and a life-interest to his widow, Frances. During his lifetime, Gabriel made many changes to the landscape (Table 1).

Table 1. Gabriel Ford Landscape Activity: 1805-1849.

YEAR	ACTION	SOURCE
1813	Planted the courtyard with potatoes	Massey 1975:7
1813	Improved 1780 stable with new sides, roof and addition	Massey 1975:7
ca. 1813	Filled the icehouse pit	Massey 1975:7
1814	Sowed courtyard with flax, clover, and timothy seed	Massey 1975:7
1814	Planted 2 larch trees	Massey 1975:6
1814	Maintained a parterre garden (mainly vegetable, but ornamentals too) to side or behind mansion, divided in quarters by a crosswalk and enclosed by a post and rail fence	Massey 1975:8
1814	Used manure and crop rotations to maintain soil	Massey 1975:8
1814	Used an artificially heated planting flat (hotbed) for plant propagation	Massey 1975:8
1814	Maintained a root cellar	Massey 1975:8
1814	Planted a Canadian dogwood, clithera (Clethra?), broom, and magnolia in the lowest garden square, west of the middle walk	Massey 1975:8
1815	Built a smokehouse	Massey 1975:7
1816	Painted the fence and outbuildings white	Massey 1975:8
1816	Planted several white pines and two horse chestnuts on the estate	Massey 1975:6
1816	Planted rosy efsia, hibiscus, and sweet-scented shrubs in the garden	Massey 1975:8
1816	Ordered 8 horse chestnuts, 6 mountain ashes, 2 chestnuts, 4 beure pears, and 2 lindens from the Prince Nursery to plant along the courtyard border	Massey 1975:6
1816	Diagrammed a 3/8-acre lot bordered by pecan and pear cribs, a smokehouse, and a privy	Massey 1975:8
1817	Rebuilt icehouse to be 13 square feet	Massey 1975:8
1818	Reconfigured the 1790s fence	Massey 1975:7
1818	Planted 2 hawthorns	Massey 1975:7
1818	Transferred sheep from the courtyard to the road lot to maintain the turf	Massey 1975:7
1818	Spring house windmill destroyed by wind	Massey 1975:7
1819	Built a stone cistern in the courtyard near the southern kitchen door (stored 328 gallons of rainwater from roof)	Massey 1975:7
1819	Removed some of 1793 lombardy poplars	Massey 1975:7
1819	Scythe was used for mowing the turf	Massey 1975:7
1819	Lawn was fertilized with manure	Massey 1975:7
1820	"Headed down" and removed many of the remaining lombardy poplars	Massey 1975:7
1822	Planted 2 hawthorns on the estate and 3 in the garden	Massey 1975:7
1822	Designated garden parterres as east and west squares, each being ¼ square acre (ca. 10,890 square feet or 104 by 104 foot)	Massey 1975:8
1823	1819 cistern collapsed and was rebuilt	Massey 1975:7
1823	Planted a lilac border and 10 black locusts on the estate	Massey 1975:8
1823	Planted a horse chestnut and paper mulberry scions in the garden	Massey 1975:8
1823	Planted purple jasmine scions by front and back doors of hall	Massey 1975:8
1824	Planted a white thorn on the estate	Massey 1975:7
1824	Planted grapevines on the mounds left by the poplars in the courtyard	Massey 1975:7
1824	Planted weeping willows in the gangway just outside the courtyard	Massey 1975:7
1825	Began hiring an annual gardener	Massey 1975:9
1825	Purchased a hotbed frame with hinged wooden covers	Massey 1975:9
1825	Planted sweet-scented shrubs and flowering almonds under the front windows of the mansion	Massey 1975:8
1826	Planted multiflora roses, one under each window of the drawing and dining rooms	Massey 1975:8
1835	Built a milkhouse	Massey 1975:8
1835	Established a plant nursery behind the woodhouse	Massey 1975:8
1836	Maintained a 10 by 19 foot shed	Massey 1975:9
1840	Built a root cellar in the garden	Massey 1975:9
1840	Diagrammed the garden squares, and the size had not changed since the 1820s	Massey 1975:9

*HENRY A. FORD YEARS (1849-1873):* Henry Augustus Ford (1793-1872) became an attorney and counselor like his father Gabriel and was active in county, state, and national affairs. He and his wife, Jane Hosack Millen, first occupied a house on the corner of South and De Hart Streets in Morristown with their twelve children. They moved to the Ford Mansion upon Gabriel Ford's death but rented the premises to others on at least two occasions, including once to son-in-law J. Lovell Canfield.<sup>48</sup> Henry's mother, Frances, was devised the use and possession of all the lands and tenements, so she probably continued to live in the mansion as well.<sup>49</sup> While Henry's ancestors had an office in the mansion, he appears to have kept his office in the South Street house after moving to the mansion as indicated by Smith's 1850 Morristown map (Figure 11).<sup>50</sup> By Gabriel Ford's will, Henry inherited all of the estate north of Morris and Washington Avenues, comprising about forty acres.<sup>51</sup> In the settlement, the remaining land south of the avenues, well over 200 acres, was subdivided and passed to other owners.<sup>52</sup> Henry did retain two small tracts of this land known as the barn and spring lots.

Henry Ford was not a wealthy man despite his prominence.<sup>53</sup> He appears to have maintained his father's landscape rather than making radical changes to it.<sup>54</sup> Nevertheless, some improvements can be attributed to him. Maps of the 1850s reveal that land use patterns on the Ford property had changed relatively little since the early 1800s. According to the 1850 Smith map of Morristown, wide angled driveways flanked the trapezoidal front lawn, and outbuildings occupied the same three locations as on the 1804 survey. The map also depicts wooded land north of the mansion and open land south of Morris Avenue. A large, rectangular plot west of the mansion may have been an orchard or a permanent pasture with irregularly placed trees. The topography across the northwestern corner of this plot sharply sloped into a ravine that drained a channeled watercourse.

The 1850 Smith map depicts an extensive complex of outbuildings east of the mansion with a long, narrow range of three buildings aligned with the east end of the kitchen wing's shed appendage that enclosed two sides of the wide-angled east driveway. A short range of two small buildings extended perpendicularly from the north side of the shed appendage forming the west side of an enclosed L-shaped yard or garden. This yard has the same configuration and shape as the ca. 1816 diagram of a 3/8-acre lot in Gabriel Ford's papers. A large, rectangular outbuilding located southeast of the mansion may have been the stable illustrated in the 1804 survey. Another small outbuilding was located at the southeast corner of the stable. South of Morris Avenue in the barn lot, the 1850 map depicts a grouping of three buildings, probably a barn with two smaller structures forming an ell at its southeast corner on the site of the barn shown in the 1804 survey. Enclosed yards adjoin the north and south sides of this complex, and a lane runs from the southwest corner of the complex to the

railroad. The 1850 map locates a small dwelling, identified “H.A. Ford” southwest of the mansion on the north side of Morris Avenue. This dwelling probably was the farmhouse depicted at that site on the 1804 survey, or its successor.

The Morris and Essex Railroad, south of Morris Avenue, was in full view from the mansion. The 1854 Tuttle survey of the southeastern portion of the Ford farm designates a large lot south of the railroad as “pasture,” one between the railroad and Washington Avenue as “meadow,” and the small plot between Washington Avenue and Morris Avenue as a “buckwheat” field (Figure 12).<sup>55</sup>

Gabriel Ford’s widow, Frances, died in 1853. The family disappeared from agricultural censuses after her death, suggesting that she may have been instrumental in the estate’s agricultural production.<sup>56</sup> Henry continued gardening and began to keep records of the property in 1856.<sup>57</sup> He ordered garden seed from Hosack on April 18 and purchased lima bean and sweet corn seed on May 16.<sup>58</sup> In June of 1858, Henry planted West Indian parsnip.<sup>59</sup> He also planted many vegetables and fruits in 1859 (Table 2). From this evidence it is likely that Henry maintained a kitchen garden somewhere on the estate, but there is no evidence for the exact location. In 1859, Henry planted two maple trees in the courtyard, one of which took the place of a dead horse chestnut near the mansion.<sup>60</sup>

Table 2. Vegetables and fruits planted by Henry A. Ford in 1859.<sup>61</sup>

beets	muskmelon	salif
bell pepper	naturion (nasturtium?)	squash
cabbage	okra	sweet corn
eggplant	Onion	sweet Mexican corn
grapes	parsnips	tomato
lima bean	raspberry	watermelon

Henry Ford’s ca. 1860 and 1863 applications for fire insurance mention a “shed or lean-to” attached to the kitchen, and the 1850 Smith map of Morristown indicates that the shed abutted the rear wall of the kitchen wing extending about half its length beyond the wing’s east end.<sup>62</sup> This shed may have been nineteen by ten feet in size.<sup>63</sup> While the date of this addition is unknown, it appears in 1840s views of the mansion.

A vignette appearing on the 1861 Morris Township farm map depicts ornamental shrubs in front of the mansion, as well as several trees (Figure 13).<sup>64</sup> Henry installed a water pump or “hydraulic ram” in 1863 to deliver water to the kitchen for storage, and the cisterns were neglected.<sup>65</sup> Mid-nineteenth century engravings of the mansion depict a picket fence set on a stone foundation extending along the road with a two-leaf gate aligned with the front door.<sup>66</sup> The fence turns back to the corners of the mansion’s main block enclosing the trapezoidal front lawn; mature poplar trees



growing along the front and west sides of the fence. According to engravings and photographs, the fence was removed from the east and west sides of the front lawn sometime between 1861 and 1874.

Suburban development began surrounding the Ford estate by the 1860s. In 1860, the southwestern portion of the late Gabriel Ford's estate, an area of about forty acres, was speculatively platted into building lots of varying size fronting on continuations of Hill and Franklin Streets and on the new streets of Franklin Place and Ford Avenue.<sup>67</sup> Although the street pattern was basically rectilinear, the Hill and Franklin Street extensions were curved to avoid small knolls. While possibly a utilitarian design solution, the bends in these two streets may also reveal the influence of naturalistic landscape design.<sup>68</sup> Henry W. Ford, son of Henry A. Ford, acquired thirty-eight acres of the Gabriel Ford estate lying between Washington Avenue and the railroad and built a large brick mansion in the Second Empire style in 1867-1868 employing New York architect Griffith Thomas (Figure 14). This mansion, perhaps the most elaborate and fanciful home ever built in Morristown, was within view of the Ford Mansion. The younger Ford's estate was landscaped and bordered by a half mile of cast iron fencing.<sup>69</sup> Brick outbuildings with slate roofs were located on the estate, and the driveway was lined with oleander trees set in huge tubs.<sup>70</sup>

Henry A. Ford died on April 22, 1872. During his lifetime, Henry made some changes to the landscape (Table 3). His will directed his executors to subdivide and sell the property as lots, reserving "fifteen acres ... in one body to include my residence extensively known as General Washington's Headquarters," together with the surrounding grounds and outbuildings, and further stipulated that the property, when sold, "be sold at public auction to the highest bidder."<sup>71</sup> The property surrounding the mansion lot was mapped and laid out in forty-seven building lots and streets including Washington Place and Lafayette Place. His will directed that "the barn and stable [united] lately built," as well as "the Hydraulic Ram," be included with the fifteen acres reserved for the mansion.<sup>72</sup> The barn and stable may have been replacements for the barns on the south side of the road separated from the homestead in the divisions of Gabriel Ford's estate.<sup>73</sup> The ram or water pump presumably was the one installed by 1863 that brought water into the mansion. Henry Ford's will also mentioned "the old garden spot with fruit, the Pomarium and Lawn in front to the middle of Morris Street."<sup>74</sup> In order to make the sale as profitable as possible however, the fifteen-acre house lot was further subdivided with only three acres set aside with the headquarters. The subdivision was surveyed by J. Frank Johnson, and the Headquarters property was sold at public auction on June 25, 1873.<sup>75</sup> Between 1872 and 1873, newspapers carried articles calling for the preservation of one of America's "sacred places" inspiring a public outcry.<sup>76</sup>

Table 3. Henry A. Ford Landscape Activity: 1849-1872.

YEAR	ACTION	SOURCE
1856	Ordered garden seed from Hosack including lima bean and sweet corn seed	Massey 1975:9
1858	Planted West Indian parsnip	Massey 1975:9
1859	Planted onion, lima bean, bell pepper, watermelon, sweet Mexican corn, okra, tomato, salif, squash, muskmelon, cabbage, sweet corn, parsnips, beets, eggplant, naturion (nasturtium?), raspberry, and grape seeds or plants	Massey 1975:9
1859	Planted two maple trees in the courtyard, one replaced a dead horse chestnut near the mansion	Massey 1975:9
1860	Subdivided the southwestern portion of the Ford property for building lots	Bertland 1981:29
1861	Maintained ornamental shrubs and trees in front of the mansion	Hughes 1861
1863	Installed a "hydraulic ram" (water pump) to deliver water to kitchen for storage (neglected the cistern)	Massey 1975:10
1872	Will mentions "the old garden spot with fruit, the Pomarium and Lawn in front to the middle of Morris Street"	Jacobs 1993:37

### LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

Morristown remained as a centralized settlement for a rural agricultural community, but speculative subdivisions appeared as the village grew and evolved into a town. By the 1860s, the vicinity of the Ford Mansion was taking on a suburban character. The Ford estate was a typical New Jersey farm in both size and layout with divided fields dedicated to crops or pasture and gardens and outbuildings clustered near the mansion. The mansion's front lawn was enclosed by a trapezoid-shaped picket fence by 1790 and surrounded by a semicircular drive. This courtyard contained trees such as lombardy poplars. There was an orchard and garden northwest of the mansion that contained such plants as Rousselet pear trees, a woodland northwest of this cultivated area, and meadows and cleared fields south of Morris Avenue. A stable was located east of the front lawn, a farmhouse west of the front lawn, and a barn south of the front lawn on the south side of the road.

Between the 1790s and 1840s, Gabriel Ford experimented with gardening at the estate, planting potatoes and then flax, clover, and timothy seed in the front lawn. He removed many of the lombardy poplars from the courtyard and planted horse chestnut, mountain ash, chestnut, beure pear, and linden trees in a symmetrical pattern around the lawn's perimeter. He also planted sweet scented shrubs near the mansion and reconfigured the picket fence on a stone foundation around the front lawn. A parterre garden to the side or behind the mansion was abundant with vegetables as well as with ornamental trees and shrubs.

In 1849, Henry A. Ford inherited a subdivided estate retaining only the portions of the homestead lying north of Morris and Washington Avenues. The remaining lands to the south, well over 200 acres, were subdivided and passed to other owners with the exception of the barn and spring

lots. Much of the land to the southwest was speculatively platted into building lots with rectilinear streets that curved as needed according to the topography. Henry A. Ford's son, Henry W., built his large estate on a portion of this land lying between Washington Avenue and the railroad. The land north of the Ford Mansion remained as a woodland, and Henry, Sr. probably kept an orchard west of the mansion. There was an L-shaped range of outbuildings off the northeast corner of the kitchen wing. This cluster was surrounded by a yard and is likely to have remained from Gabriel's tenure or before. Henry also maintained an L-shaped cluster of barn buildings on the barn lot south of Morris Avenue. Henry cultivated many vegetables on his farm including lima bean, sweet corn, and beets. He maintained the trapezoidal front lawn replacing a dead horse chestnut tree with two maples. Henry's will subdivided the land further calling for only fifteen acres to be retained with the mansion and sold to the highest bidder, but ultimately the executors retained only three acres with the mansion. Newspaper articles called for the preservation of one of America's "sacred places" inspiring a public outcry. The threatened subdivision and sale of the Ford Mansion in Morristown galvanized several prominent local men to found the Washington Association for the express purpose of acquiring and preserving the venerated property.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Much of this section was excerpted and modified from Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Bertland 1981:28,29.

<sup>3</sup> National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Tempe Wick Road/Washington Corners Historic District. 1999:33. Harding and Mendham Townships, Morris County, New Jersey.

<sup>4</sup> Schmidt, Hubert G. 1973. *Agriculture in New Jersey: A Three-Hundred-Year History*, 67. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

<sup>5</sup> Schmidt 1973:67-70.

<sup>6</sup> Schmidt 1973:133.

<sup>7</sup> Wacker 1995:109.

<sup>8</sup> Bertland, Dennis N. and Robert P. Guter. 1986. *The Architecture of Morristown and Morris Township*. I:29,36. The Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township, Newark, New Jersey.

<sup>9</sup> Schmidt 1973:121,122.

<sup>10</sup> Bertland 1981:11,12.

<sup>11</sup> Bertland 1981:13.

Kalata, Barbara N. 1983. *A Hundred Years, A Hundred Miles: New Jersey's Morris Canal*, 15,299. Morris County Historical Society, Morristown, New Jersey.

<sup>12</sup> Perry 1963:Part 1:1-2.

<sup>13</sup> Gabriel Ford Papers -c1814 "Memorandum" in:

Guter, Robert P. 1983. *Historical Data Investigation, The Jacob Ford, Jr. Mansion, Washington's Headquarters: Prepared for the Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey*. National Park Service, WASO/NESO.

Massey 1975:5.

<sup>14</sup> Survey of the Ford farm and houses made in 1804, probably in preparation for Gabriel Ford's purchase of the entire estate from his siblings. Copy in the Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives .

Pilch, Henry W. 1981. Tracing of an "Old Map of the Ford Homestead Farm" [sic], after Anonymous 1804 Survey. Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township.

Marshall, Charles. 1942. *Preliminary Report on Collection of Research Data on Old Property Lines, Streets, Roads, Buildings, and Other Structures in Morristown and Vicinity During the Colonial-Revolutionary War Period*, Research & Survey-Project 33-Marshall Report on Old Property Lines (March 3, 1942) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes. [Tract #61 property, the Theodosia Ford Property. The following description of this tract is taken from the 1804 survey, a copy of which was used in an 1877 abstract of title prepared by Foster and Thomson, Attorneys and Counselors at Law. The phraseology has been "amplified and unified" for clarity by Charles Marshall:

This survey calls for a tract beginning at a "butternut" tree standing on the banks of Whippany River at a point in the lands belonging to the heirs of John Ford, thence south 43 degrees west 2013 feet, along the John Ford line (2) south 28 degrees 30 chains east 594 feet along the line of Doctor Timothy Johnes (3) south 76 degrees 45 chains east 97.68 feet, this and the following course being along the line of the Stillwell property, (4) south 14 degrees 45 chains west 265.98 (5) south 83 degrees east 327.36 feet along Stillwell and Dr. Jabez Campfield (6) south 26 degrees west 1152.36 feet along Nathan Ford's line (7) south 49 degrees east 1638.78 feet along Alexander Carmichael's line (8) south 49 degrees east 1638.78 feet along Alexander Carmichael's line (9) south 41 degrees west 396 feet along Carmichael to Samuel Tuthill's property (10) south 49 degrees east 2135.76 feet along the Samuel Tuthill line (11) north 41 degrees east 2923.8 feet to the property of Benjamin Lindsley, thence along his property the following courses to the beginning (12) north 49 degrees east 2741 feet, (13) due north 528 feet (14) north 30 degrees west 297 feet (15) north 29 degrees east 363 feet (16) north 17 degrees west 231 feet (17) north 20 degrees east 198 feet (18) north 43 degrees east 264 feet (19) north 27 degrees west 132 feet to the beginning.

<sup>15</sup> Massey 1975:5.

<sup>16</sup> Massey 1975:6.

<sup>17</sup> Jacob 1993:21.

<sup>18</sup> Jacob 1993:21.

Stewart 1968:49,83.

<sup>19</sup> *A History of Morris County* 1914:56 quoted in:

- Jacob 1993:22.
- <sup>20</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>21</sup> Massey 1975:6,7.
- <sup>22</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>23</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>24</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>25</sup> Massey 1975:7,8.
- <sup>26</sup> Massey 1975:6,8.
- <sup>27</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>28</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>29</sup> Lindsley, James Elliot. 2000. *A Certain Splendid House*. The Washington Association of New Jersey, Morristown, NJ; p. 25.
- <sup>30</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>31</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>32</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>33</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>34</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>35</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>36</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>37</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>38</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>39</sup> Massey 1975:7-8.
- <sup>40</sup> Massey 1975:7.
- <sup>41</sup> Massey 1975:8-9.
- <sup>42</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- Perry 1963, Part I:2.
- <sup>43</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft, Part 2:3.
- Massey 1975:9.
- Cape May's Role in History: Pathway to Freedom [Website]. 2002. Available: <http://www.capemay.com/ARCHIVES/slavery.html>.
- <sup>44</sup> Massey 1975:8.
- <sup>45</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>46</sup> Barber and Howe 1844:386.
- Lee and Shepard. ca.1850. *The Pictorial History of the American Revolution*, p. 218. Boston.
- CA.1850 Line engraving of *Present Residence of Honorable Judge Ford*. Engraving by J. Andrews after the drawing by W. Croome. Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives 2773 and Photograph 6696A1.
- Lossing 1851:309.
- <sup>47</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>48</sup> Jacob 1993:22,23.
- <sup>49</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>50</sup> Smith's 1850 Morristown map. Morristown National Historical Park Archives.
- <sup>51</sup> *A Report on the Historical Data Collected on the Washington Headquarters to May 15, 1934*, CCC Guide Handbook, Morristown, NJ CCC CO. 241 Morristown, NJ folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives Box 5 Central Files Series Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1940.
- <sup>52</sup> Tuttle, R.K. *Map of a Part of The Farm Late of Hon. G.H. Ford Dec'd, 175.54 acres surveyed September 1854*. Hughes, Michael. 1861. Farm Map of Morris Township, Morris County, N.J. Philadelphia: Friend and Aub.
- <sup>53</sup> Jacob 1993:124.
- <sup>54</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft, Part 2:7.
- <sup>55</sup> Pilch, Henry W. 1932. Tracing of the *Map of a Part of The Farm Late of Hon. G.H. Ford Dec'd, 175.54 acres surveyed September 1854 by R.K. Tuttle*. Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township.
- <sup>56</sup> Arato, Christine. 2001 Draft. *Morristown National Historical Park Administrative History Outline*. Boston: National Park Service, Boston Support Office.
- <sup>57</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>58</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>59</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>60</sup> Massey 1975:9.
- <sup>61</sup> Massey 1975:9.

<sup>62</sup> Smith, M. 1850. *Map of Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey*. New York: Marcus Smith.  
Hughes 1861.

Jacob 1993:95.

<sup>63</sup> Massey 1975:9.

<sup>64</sup> Hughes 1861.

<sup>65</sup> Massey 1975:10.

<sup>66</sup> Barber and Howe 1844.

<sup>67</sup> Bertland 1981:29.

<sup>68</sup> Bertland 1981:29.

<sup>69</sup> Lindsley, James Elliott. 1974. *A Certain Splendid House: The Centennial History of the Washington Association of New Jersey*, 35-38. Morristown, NJ: The Washington Association of New Jersey.

<sup>70</sup> Article by Winifred Purcell, *Morristown Daily Record*, June, 1948, in Lindsley, James Elliot. 2000. *A Certain Splendid House*. The WANJ, Morristown, NJ; p. 36.

<sup>71</sup> Jacob 1993:37.

<sup>72</sup> Jacob 1993:37.

<sup>73</sup> Hughes 1861.

Smith 1850.

Tuttle 1854.

<sup>74</sup> Jacob 1993: 37.

Massey 1975:9,10.

<sup>75</sup> *A Report on the Historical Data Collected on the Washington Headquarters to May 15, 1934*.

Massey 1975:10.

<sup>76</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP 2001 Draft:18.



Figure 8. Ca. 1800 Extent of Gabriel Ford's estate, post-1873 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives, digitally enhanced by OCLP, 2003).

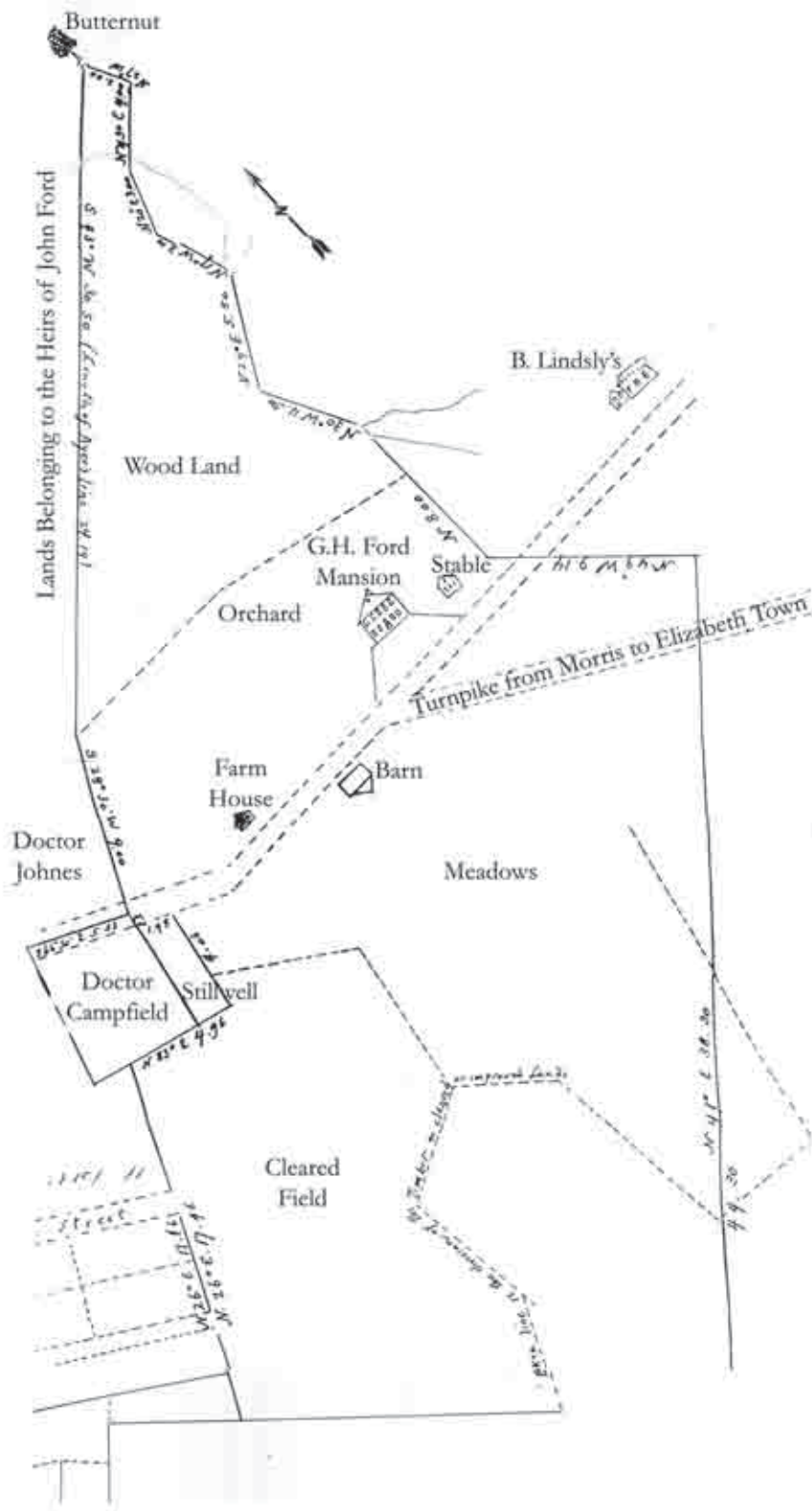


Figure 9. "Copy of Old Map of the 'Ford Homestead Farm' made in 1804," tracing by Henry W. Pilch (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





A. Washington's Headquarters ca. 1839



B. Washington's Headquarters ca. 1845



D. Washington's Headquarters 1851



C. Washington's Headquarters ca. 1848

Figure 10. Mid-nineteenth century line engravings of the Ford Mansion (note the poplar trees) (A. Sparks, 1839; B. Sears, ca. 1850; C. J. Andrews from drawing by W. Croome; and D. source unknown, Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

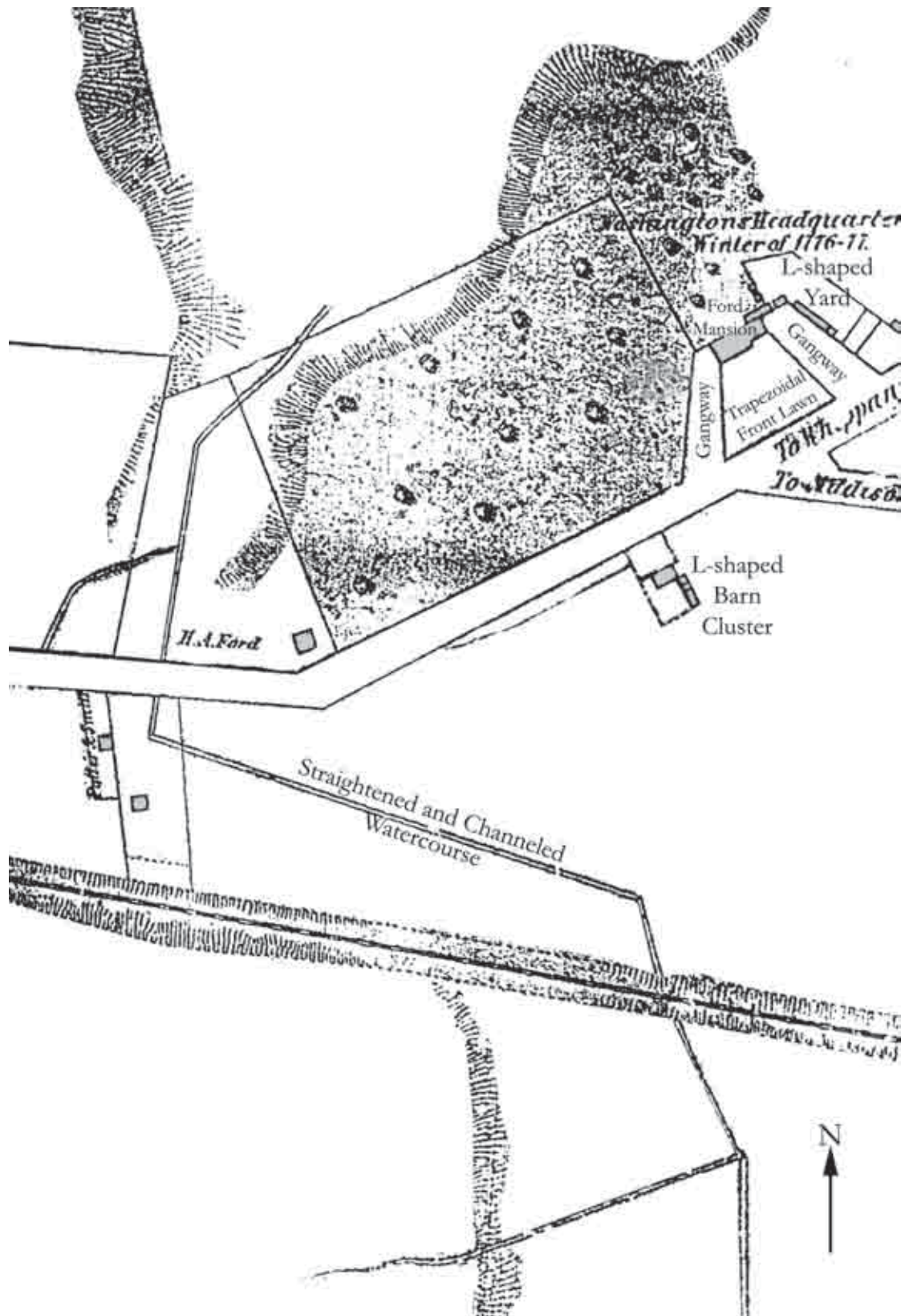


Figure 11. Smith Map of Ford estate, 1850 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives, digitally enhanced by OCLP, 2003).

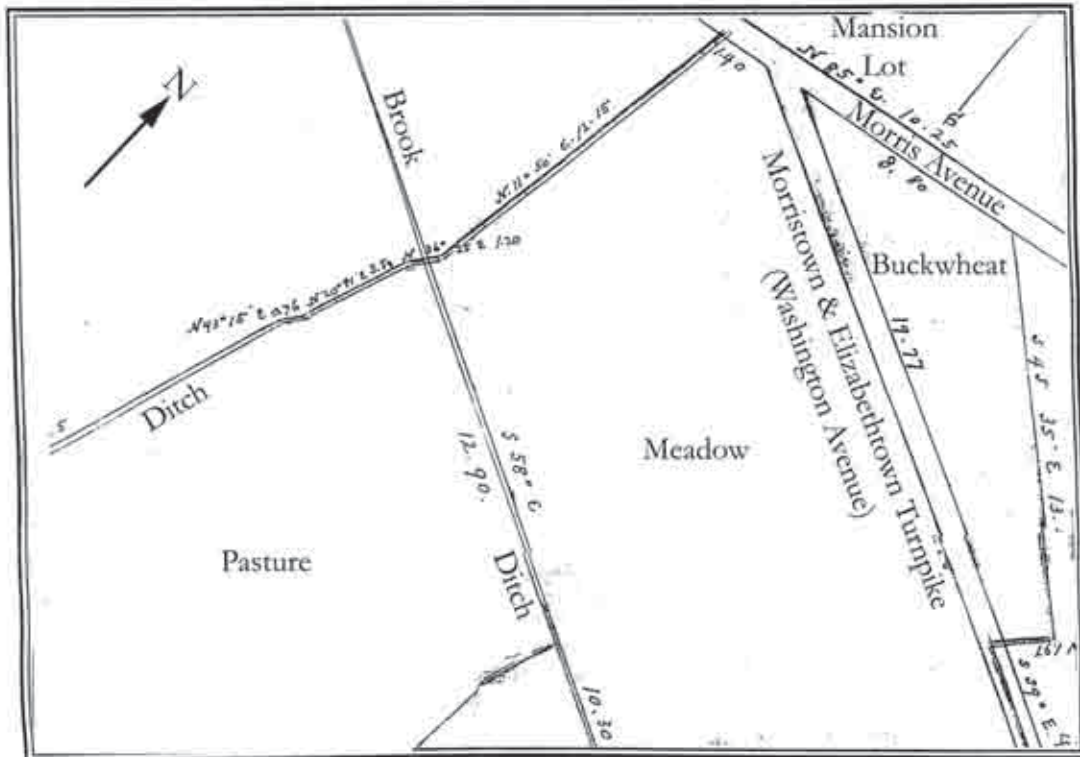


Figure 12. "Map of a Part of The Farm of the Late Hon. G.H. Ford Dec'd 175.54 acres sureveyed September 1854 by R.K. Tuttle," traced by Henry W. Pilch (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 13. Hughes vignette of Ford Mansion, 1861.

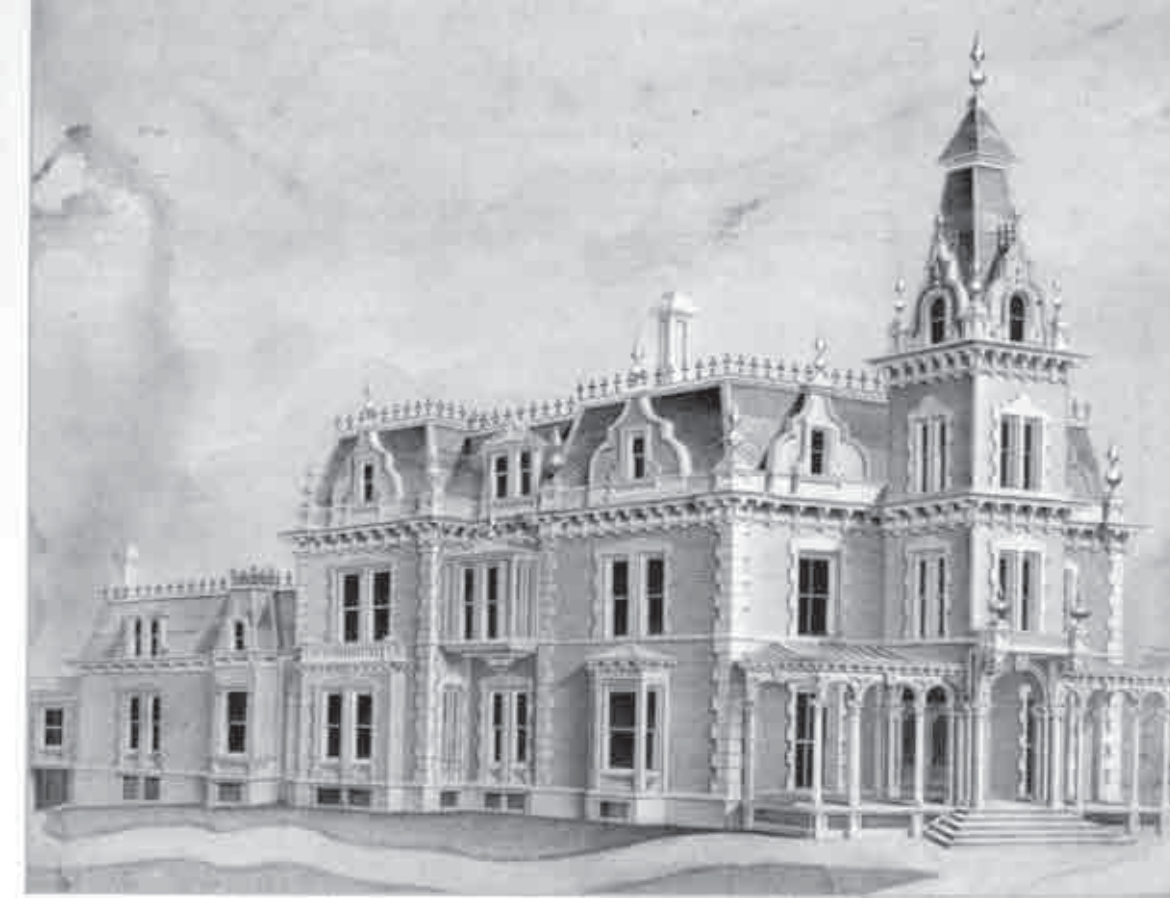


Figure 14. Henry W. Ford estate, 1868 (located south of Morris and Washington Avenues)  
(Lindsley, 2000).

## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY (1873-1933)

### CULTURAL CONTEXT<sup>1</sup>

By the mid-1800s, Morristown and its environs had emerged not only as a destination for visitors attracted by its healthy climate and pastoral surroundings, but more importantly as a place of large country estates. With the arrival and expansion of the railroad (the Morris and Essex Railroad, later the Delaware Lackawanna & Western Railroad or the DL&W), wealthy newcomers flocked to the area in increasing numbers during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and gradually supplanted the rural agricultural population. Land use and settlement patterns changed as marginal farmlands were abandoned, and small farms were consolidated into large estates. The community of country places came to be known as the Mountain Colony. At the same time other European immigrants, most notably Italians, were attracted to the area, joining free blacks and Irish as workers in a growing service industry.<sup>2</sup> Although some service workers lived with their employers, most settled in small working-class neighborhoods. While large estates increasingly characterized much of the surrounding countryside, property in and around Morristown was subdivided for residential development ranging from villa plots of several acres for the wealthy to smaller house lots for the working and middle classes. Distinctive commercial and residential neighborhoods developed as artisans, merchants, and professionals no longer had their workshops, stores, and offices in their houses or adjoining buildings.

The region's circulation patterns also changed during the period. Throughout the nineteenth century, rectilinear street patterns characterized most residential subdivisions. Although curvilinear elements were incorporated into street and subdivision patterns earlier on occasion, it was not until the platting of the Jardine property in 1895 that a Morristown developer entirely abandoned the rectilinear grid. The layout of the Jardine subdivision, located on the north side of Morris Avenue a short distance west of the Ford Mansion, capitalized on the site's terrain with small irregularly-shaped lots fronting two winding roads that encircle the property's small hill. By the early twentieth century, curvilinear street patterns dominated many of the subdivisions that were rapidly transforming the rural landscape into more densely built suburban residential neighborhoods.<sup>3</sup> Although most rural roads remained unpaved throughout the period, paved streets, often lined with curbs and sidewalks, came to characterize the region's towns, especially with the advent of the automobile in the early twentieth century. Paved roads proliferated in New Jersey during the second and third decades of the twentieth century with the development of the state highway system.<sup>4</sup>

Romantic Revival taste dominated local architecture and landscape design during the second half of the nineteenth century. Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne style houses, often-eclectic interpretations, appeared not only in rural locations but also in town where, large and small, they lined newly developed streets. Carriage houses and other outbuildings often were detailed in complementary fashion. A birds-eye view of the vicinity of the Ford Mansion in Morristown illustrates a variety of gabled and mansard roof structures as well as outbuildings that existed at that time.<sup>5</sup>

Concurrently, the geometrically planned gardens of earlier generations were supplanted by more open designs incorporating expansive lawns, informally grouped trees and shrubs, and curvilinear paths and driveways. Changes in land use and other occurrences affected the region's vegetation during the period. After the amount of cultivated land had reached its peak in the middle of the nineteenth century, agricultural lands were increasingly allowed to revert to forest. The chestnut trees which had been a distinctive element of the region's forests were decimated by a blight which struck in the early twentieth century, and the elms which shaded many streets and lawns were subsequently lost to Dutch elm disease.<sup>6</sup> Landscape plantings and horticultural specimens, often of exotic origins, proliferated in the grounds and gardens of Morristown's country places.

In addition to its natural beauty and country places, Morristown continued to be famous for its Revolutionary War associations. Widely disseminated popular works like a history of New Jersey written by John Barber and Henry Howe in 1844 fostered Americans' appreciation and reverence of their Revolutionary heritage. Joining the leadership of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association in the 1850s, private groups formed after the trauma of the Civil War, and in increasing numbers during the first decades of the twentieth century, to save the houses of American patriots and other historic shrines. The value of the Ford Mansion had already been recognized publicly as it had been mentioned in a number of books and periodicals before the Civil War, including a lengthy article in *Harper's Weekly* in 1859.<sup>7</sup> Another headquarters of Washington had been saved in 1850, in Newburgh, New York. The threatened subdivision and sale of the Ford Mansion in Morristown galvanized several prominent local men to found the Washington Association for the express purpose of acquiring and preserving the venerated property.<sup>8</sup> A new appreciation of the country's early architectural heritage followed the Centennial Exposition of 1876, an event held in Philadelphia that launched the Colonial Revival and preservation movements, interest in the Revolutionary era, and a greater appreciation of the nation's colonial past. With interest in George Washington still running high at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, each of the eastern states recreated Washington associated places in their state exhibits. New Jersey reproduced Washington's

Headquarters at Morristown, while Virginia reproduced Mount Vernon (see Figure 22).<sup>9</sup> By the turn of the century, the revival of earlier classically-based styles had eclipsed Victorian romanticism and eclecticism.

#### WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS PROPERTY

Upon Henry A. Ford's death in 1872, the Ford Mansion was to be auctioned off to the highest bidder, and the receipts were to be divided among his children. On June 25, 1873, within a year of Henry's death, the property was offered at a private sale after being mapped and laid out into streets, avenues and forty-seven building lots fronting three proposed streets surrounding the mansion's three-acre lot. Only nineteen of the building lots were sold at this sale.<sup>10</sup> The Ford Mansion lot, as surveyed by J. Frank Johnson, was listed as 253-feet by 544-feet deep (about three acres) and was sold for \$25,000 to a group of men who soon formed the Washington Association of New Jersey (WANJ) (Figures 15-19).<sup>11</sup> The purchasing group included four prominent New Jersey residents: Theodore Randolph (former New Jersey governor), General Nathaniel Norris Halsted (wealthy Newark drygoods merchant), the Hon. George Halsey (active in the New Jersey Historical Society), and William Van Vleck Lidgerwood (businessman who spent his boyhood years in Morristown).<sup>12</sup> With the acquisition of Washington's Headquarters, these men intended to promote the restoration the mansion and its surrounds to their appearance at the time period of Washington's occupancy and to open the property to the public. The installation of cannon facing Morris Avenue in front of the Ford Mansion was among the first improvements the Washington Association made in 1873 (Table 4).<sup>13</sup>

Table 4. Some of the cannon displayed on the Washington's Headquarters property during the WANJ tenure.<sup>14</sup>

One six-pounder on a block carriage captured from a British vessel by Jerseymen in 1780 at Perth Amboy. - Presented by the Township of Woodbridge.
One four-pounder sent to Capt. Nath'l Camps in defense of Newark by orders of General Washington \
- Presented by his descendant Bruen H. Camps on behalf of that city one hundred years later.
Four brass six-pounders with ammunition wagons and equipment. - From the State of New Jersey.
Two iron six-pounders with ammunition wagons. - From the State of New Jersey.
The "Crown Prince" gun captured from the British at Springfield, NJ, then used as an alarm gun at Short Hills until the end of the Revolutionary war. - Donated to WANJ in 1890.
Two brass guns from the Heritage Estate.
One old iron gun.
Two brass guns from the Kountze Estate.
Two World War I guns.

The Washington Association of New Jersey was incorporated by act of the state legislature on March 20, 1874 to preserve and take title to the property and officially took title in 1877. The act stipulated that the mansion be kept "open to the public, free of charge, at all appropriate times" and

provided limited state funding for its maintenance.<sup>15</sup> Individual stock shares were \$100, and there was a maximum of 500 shares. Membership was for life, and when a member died only a male descendent could inherit the stock. Women could purchase shares, but not inherit them. In order to get the state to take ownership and spend money on maintenance, the Washington Association devised a plan: If there were no male heirs after five years, the share(s) became the property of the state.

During the Washington Association's ownership, the mansion was maintained and kept open to the public as a museum. A large and unusual assortment of items came into the museum's possession as gifts, bequests, and by other means. Because the Washington Association lacked experts in determining the historical significance and association of items within the museum collection, the Ford Mansion came to be affectionately known as "Morristown's Attic." The collection included maps, paintings, books, spurs, and canteens among many other objects.

The rear appendage (shed or lean-to) attached to the kitchen wing described in Henry Ford's early 1860s application for Rahway Mutual Fire Insurance (Company) was torn down in 1875 by the Washington Association, as it was determined to postdate the Revolution.<sup>16</sup> The Washington Association also razed many of outbuildings in the complex northeast of the mansion. The rear property lines were set with Norway spruce in 1875 with the intention of establishing a permanent hedge, the landscape was graded and improved with flower beds, and a driveway was built to circle the mansion.<sup>17</sup> The driveway entered at the lower (west) gate, encircled the mansion, and went directly to the site of a barn east of the mansion (midway between the future sites of the caretaker's cottage and Lafayette Hall).<sup>18</sup> A ship mast flagpole was placed in the front lawn sometime prior to 1880 (Figure 20).

During the 1880s, the directors, realizing it would be critical to protect the historic estate from residential encroachment, began to purchase neighboring subdivided properties including an 80 by 275-foot lot to the east purchased this year (Figure 21).<sup>19</sup> After each purchase, the new property was graded and landscaped to match the immediate landscape of the mansion. Private homes were constructed on many of the subdivided lots encircling the Washington's Headquarters property though. The present-day Dick house and the late Thompson house were the largest of these houses built and the closest to the Ford Mansion. The Dick house was constructed northeast of the mansion in 1885 on one of these lots as a 2.5 story frame, Queen Anne Revival style, and wood shingle clad structure. In 1892, the Thompson house was built just south of the Dick house along Washington Place. It was a 2.5 story frame, rectangular-plan, gambrel-roofed, and clapboard clad structure.



In 1885, the Washington's Headquarters property was "wholly rearranged and regraded, an entire change made in roadways and walks, all having been laid out anew and constructed in a most substantial manner."<sup>20</sup> While regrading, the Washington Association constructed a thorough drainage system with large-tile-pipes and flagged cesspools.<sup>21</sup> The Washington Association planted hundreds of shade and evergreen trees and shrubs with the intention of making Washington's Headquarters "one of the most beautiful spots in New Jersey," and the entire landscape was enclosed with a "good and substantial fence."<sup>22</sup> Many dead or diseased trees were removed, other trees were transplanted, and over two hundred young trees were planted, mostly spruce and maple. The front fence was raised to meet the new grade and repaired and repainted, while a chestnut post and picket fence was built around the sides and rear of the lot. The Washington Association constructed two new separate gravel entrances from Morris Avenue. The western entrance served pedestrians and the eastern entrance served carriages. The two paths merged just south of the kitchen wing forming an asymmetrical semicircular route in front of the mansion. The paths were constructed with over 200 loads of gravel placed over many loads of small foundation stones. The Washington Association constructed a straight path from the rear door of the mansion to the back of the lot with a parterre garden to its east stocked with plants of "the olden time" including many ornamental flowering plants (Table 5).<sup>23</sup> While intended to be "of late eighteenth-century type," the garden was ornamented with an eclectic collection of historical artifacts including "an old Presbyterian church steeple, Parson Johnes's horse trough, and an old fire engine" (Table 6).<sup>24</sup> The garden also included many ornamental flowering plants. The Washington Association built a tool shed and a carriage shed east of the garden. The western half of the rear landscape was covered with lawn, and may have been the location on which a fifty-foot square tent was placed for annual meetings. The Washington Association likely moved the modest two-story frame caretaker's cottage from another property and placed it east of the mansion in 1886 and attached a tool/store house and horse shed to the structure.<sup>25</sup> Robinson's 1887 atlas depicts the two sheds, the caretaker's cottage, and the semicircular front driveway.<sup>26</sup>

Table 5. Flowering plants growing in the Washington's Headquarters garden in 1887.<sup>27</sup>

ageratum	coreopsis	larkspurs (perennial and annual)	poppies
asters	dahlias	lilies	roses from Mt. Vernon
bachelors buttons	dills	lupines	scarlet sage
calendula	fever few	marigold	statice
canterbury bells	foxglove	nasturtium	sweet fennel
chinese pinks	garden rocket	peonies	sweet herbs
chrysanthemums	geraniums	phlox dos in var.	sweet William
cither wood	hollyhocks in var.		

In 1888, the Washington Association began holding its popular annual meetings on Washington's Birthday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, to avoid heat associated with the previously held summer meetings.<sup>28</sup> They also 'restored' the front porch and steps of the Ford Mansion this same year, necessitating the removal of a balustraded piazza or low railing that surrounded the main building. It was found to be dilapidated and dangerous, and its removal allowed for much more light and air to permeate the cellars. The railing, which is only visible in 1878 and 1882 engravings, was probably constructed by the Washington Association between 1874 and 1878, and thus its removal was thought to restore a more similar appearance to that during Washington's occupation.<sup>29</sup> Two cobble stone gutters were constructed this same year along the entire length of the center path of the garden north of the mansion, the terraces around the mansion were regraded and sodded, and new walkways were constructed on these terraces.<sup>30</sup>

In 1892, the Washington Association improved the appearance of the property's street frontage and semicircular drive by installing cobbled gutters and by laying out new gravel walks with cobbled gutters around the mansion (Figure 23).<sup>31</sup> The following year, the Washington Association reset the rear fence surrounding the property and repaired the gun carriages and caissons.<sup>32</sup> The Washington Association purchased Mr. Frances G. Seymour's property, east of the mansion at the corner of Morris Avenue and Washington Place, in 1894.<sup>33</sup> The acquisition of this lot gave the Washington Association "a frontage of 603 feet on Morris Avenue, being the entire block from Lafayette Avenue [removed for I-287] to Midland Avenue [now Washington Place], with a frontage of 350 feet on the former street and 275 on the latter."<sup>34</sup> Lafayette Hall, a modest frame building of vernacular design, was erected east of the Ford Mansion in 1896 on the newly acquired land to provide the Washington Association with meeting rooms.<sup>35</sup> It appears to have replaced one of the sheds depicted in the 1887 atlas. The Washington Association held annual patriotic meetings in the hall with keynote addresses being given by such notables as former Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William H. Taft.<sup>36</sup>

The 1900 plan of the Washington's Headquarters property illustrates the asymmetrical, semicircular path in the front lawn (1900 Period Plan and Figure 24).<sup>37</sup> The eastern portion was wider and branched southeast of the mansion to the caretaker's cottage and to Lafayette Hall. The semicircular path and the property edge along Morris Avenue were lined with large deciduous trees (Figures 25 and 26). The western edge of the former Seymour property east of the mansion appears to have been bordered by a row of evergreens, perhaps some of the Norway spruce trees planted in 1875. The west lawn was mostly clear, but there were some large clusters of trees. An inner and outer path circled the mansion, and a long linear path led from the mansion's backdoor to the back of the

property (Figure 27). The linear path was bordered by trees that formed an allée north of the garden. The parterre or ‘Memorial Garden’ was located east of this path. The garden was a rectangle surrounded by a path with a circular path in the center. Four paths radiated from this circle to the garden’s corners. A row of sugar maple trees, parallel to the linear path, grew in the middle of the west lawn along a former subdivision property line. Shrubs, scrub vegetation, or woodland lined the Washington Association property lines to the north.

In 1934, Patrick Glancy, a caretaker of Washington’s Headquarters from 1884 to 1938 described the Washington Association era landscape.<sup>38</sup> He recalled the removal of a water tank from the mansion’s second floor that was fed by the hydraulic ram well on the old spring lot, remnants of which were still evident south of Division Street. He remembered the privy, erected at the time of the mansion, being moved from its original site to another on the property and its original brick and stone-lined cesspool being covered with a flagstone and a layer of sod. Glancy also recalled the ship mast flagpole standing opposite the mansion’s front door in the lawn being restored as necessary until it was replaced in another location (unknown) during the early-twentieth century. A stone-lined and covered cesspool stood to the left of the front kitchen door, and Glancy believed it was originally a well for household water. In a 1934 interview, Louise C. Ferris, the oldest living lineal descendent of Jacob Ford Jr. living at the time, recalled this cesspool as having been a cistern, as historic records also seem to suggest.<sup>39</sup> Mrs. Ferris also recalled a cesspool at the rear of the mansion situated slightly north of the willow tree marked by sunken turf on the far side of the gravel walk. Apple trees grew close to this large cistern and were part of the orchard that contained varieties such as ‘Black Apple,’ Red Streak’ (probably ‘English Red Streak’), ‘Pearmain’ (including ‘Summer Pearmain’), ‘English Codling,’ and ‘English Russet’ (maybe the same as ‘Russeting’).<sup>40</sup> Ferris remembered the walkway from the Morris Avenue gate to the front door of the mansion being much more abrupt and direct in its approach, without the sweeping curve as installed by the Washington Association, perhaps as suggested by mid-nineteenth century line engravings. She also remembered this path as having been lined with cherry trees. Miss Minnie C. Hotchkiss, a volunteer docent, also shared her recollections about the Headquarter’s landscape of her youth during the Washington Association tenure:

It seems as if I have always lived in the Headquarters, for when as a small child growing tired of playing in my own yard, my cousin and I would wonder up to the shaded walks back of the old building...

There were wooden benches for the visitors and plenty of apples which fell from the trees along the gravel walks. We were allowed to eat all we wished just so long as none were carried off the grounds. Patrick the faithful caretaker would stop his weeding in the old fashioned flower garden to chat with us and remind us not to walk on the grass which he kept in such beautiful condition. No doubt Miss Leddel the hostess in the headquarters for many years must

have become weary of being bothered by our frequent visits, but she was always smiling and gracious...

On the big day February 22<sup>nd</sup> the families fortunate enough to live on Morris Street gathered near their front windows to watch the Washington Association members walk from the special train up the street in their silk hats, fur overcoats – many swinging walking sticks – to the luncheon and address by some prominent man given in the Lafayette Building on the grounds of Headquarters...<sup>41</sup>

In 1904, a new picket fence was constructed from the caretaker's cottage to the barn northeast of the mansion along the Pinney and Thompson property lines.<sup>42</sup> Electric lamps were installed on the property in 1909 replacing the gas lamps whose lines were capped.<sup>43</sup> The Thompson house garage was constructed ca. 1910 in the southwest corner of the Thompson property northeast of the Ford Mansion.

Although a few lots were sold and one house built, the present day Dick house, the subdivision surrounding Washington's Headquarters, part of the "Estate of Henry A. Ford," remained largely undeveloped for many years.<sup>44</sup> Between 1887 and 1910, five substantial houses, including the late Thompson House, were built along Washington Place (originally called Midland Avenue) and seven more modest dwellings, including three duplexes, constructed on scattered other lots.<sup>45</sup> Small houses were erected on many of the remaining lots in subsequent years.<sup>46</sup> After World War I, the nineteenth-century villas along Morris Avenue east of Washington's Headquarters were subdivided and developed with the notable exception of "Acorn Hall," now owned by the Morris County Historical Society. The former Dodge property just east of Washington Place was platted in 1924 as a subdivision of small lots, most of which faced the new U-shaped street called Harding Terrace; it was soon built up with Dutch colonial style houses and other modest period revival dwellings. Around the same time, Georgian Road was cut through "Fair Oaks" between Morris and Washington Avenues southeast of the Washington's Headquarters property, and by 1927 sixteen dwellings had been erected on the former Stone family estate here.<sup>47</sup>

After World War I, the Washington Association experienced financial difficulties, in part because visitation at the headquarters tripled while purchases and maintenance costs increased (Figure 28). Much of the maintenance work was associated with the landscape. In 1926, the fence and boardwalk were repaired, tree-surgery was applied where needed, boxwood shrubs and lawn seed were planted, and a lawnmower and five lawn chairs were purchased (Figure 29).<sup>48</sup> In 1927, the fence was again repaired, and the walks were changed in front of the boxwood trees (location unknown).<sup>49</sup>

In 1928, a small park was created as a memorial to George Washington in the small triangular lot between Morris and Washington Avenues at their intersection. Dr. Henry N. Dodge donated this lot, part of the land he had acquired around 1871, to Morristown for the park. The land had housed the encampment of Washington's guard during the winter of 1779-1780. Morris and Washington Avenues were single lanes and the lot had once been much higher, but Dr. Dodge graded it down and used the soil to level Washington Avenue between 1871 and 1875.<sup>50</sup> Miss Ellen Mabel Clark, Dodge's daughter, commissioned the impressive bronze equestrian statue of Washington, the work of Brooklyn sculptor Frederick George Richard Roth.<sup>51</sup>

The Washington Association celebrated the sesquicentennial of Washington's encampment in 1929 with ceremonies including a Colonial Revival pageant at the Headquarters.<sup>52</sup> Period photographs show the eastern façade of the kitchen covered in ivy. Two large trees flanked the mansion's front stairs on the south side of the curving walkway, and sparsely planted and tightly cropped shrubs such as yew dotted the foundation. Various artillery pieces were peppered around the closely trimmed lawn including near the southeastern corner of the kitchen wing.<sup>53</sup>

Members of the Washington Association and of garden clubs valued heritage plants, cuttings, or seedlings obtained from historic properties. For example, some roses planted (location unknown) during the late-nineteenth century came from Washington's Mount Vernon home. The association was not always direct, and often it was the product of myth or legend. Ivy growing along and on the east side of the kitchen wing during the Washington Association tenure came from a cutting taken by Mrs. E. Guston from the burial ground of Christ Church in Philadelphia where the Washington family could have viewed it growing on the wall while sitting in their pew.<sup>54</sup> There was a flurry of planting during the bicentennial of Washington's birth in 1932. A small elm planted on the estate northwest of the mansion in 1932 by the Morristown Garden Club was the "grandchild" of the Cambridge elm, under which Washington reputedly assumed command of the Continental Army.<sup>55</sup> Other plantings during bicentennial of Washington's birth included a slip of boxwood from Mount Vernon, two Virginian boxwoods planted on either side of the front entrance, a Euonymous grown from a slip taken from a shrub at Washington's mother's home, and an oak tree from Mount Vernon presented by the Morristown Chamber of Commerce. Non-heritage vegetation planted during the year included two cedar trees, two spruce trees, one hemlock tree, and several boxwood shrubs, all donated by local citizens.<sup>56</sup>

In addition to cannon and heritage plants, many other objects were displayed on the property during the Washington Association tenure. Some of these objects were functional, while others were meant to evoke a sense of history by adding to the monumental landscape.

Table 6. Objects displayed or used on the Washington's Headquarters property during the Washington Association tenure.<sup>57</sup>

Small tent with poles and pins (stored in shed)
Large tent with poles, pins, blocks, ropes, etc. (stored in shed)
Twelve wooden seats (24 at one point stored in shed or on grounds)
Two iron frame seats
Weathervane – from the building occupied by William Alexander (Lord Stirling) at the time of the Revolution.
Hand fire engine – the first used in Morristown*
Timber from the old mill where most of the powder was made for the army during the war of the revolution*
Timber from old court house and jail of Morris County used in revolutionary times*
Musket case left in camp of the continental army on Jockey Hollow road in 1780*
Stone used by the Indians in colonial days for grinding corn
Bark of the gum tree in general use for household purposes in revolutionary days*
Waffle irons of the last century
Crutches said to have been used by wounded soldiers of General Washington's army*
Flax brake*
Spinning wheel for wool*
Swifts*
Horse trough in front of the "Parson Johnes" house on Morris Street-frequently used by General Washington and his officers in watering their horses.
Anvil block – from the Lord Stirling iron works used at Hibernia New Jersey during the Revolutionary War
Sedan chair owned and used by Dr. Elias Boudinot
Upper portion of the spire or steeple of the 1792 Old First Presbyterian Church placed in the garden in 1893, moved from Headquarters property to Church grounds ca. 1940
Stepping stone for carriages
A good assortment of plants from The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds, 1876 Washington, DC

\* Removed from the landscape and transferred to Ford Mansion attic by 1933.

The collapse of Wall Street in 1929 came hard upon Washington Association members. The State of New Jersey had a difficult time providing its annual grants, which ensured free visitor access to the mansion and property. Washington Association leaders also questioned recent trustee actions to further the Association's aims and programs, and whether a firm sense of purpose and responsibility was still held by the members. The need for change was evident, and at this time there was local and national talk of creating a National Historical Park in Morristown. In 1932, the NPS initiated a meeting to determine if the Washington Association would consider adding the Headquarters to the proposed National Historical Park. The trustees were enthusiastic about the proposal, and transferred the property to the NPS in 1933. Popularity of historic sites throughout the U.S. increased with the American celebrations of Washington's bicentennial and the American Revolution sesquicentennial during this period.

## LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

Large estates increasingly characterized much of the surrounding countryside, also known as the Mountain Colony, but property near the Ford Mansion was subdivided for residential development ranging from villa plots of several acres for the wealthy to smaller house lots for the working and middle classes. As Morristown grew, the subdivided suburban lands became more urban in character. Henry A. Ford's property was subdivided into forty-seven building lots fronting three proposed streets. Only three acres were retained with the Ford Mansion, which the Washington Association of New Jersey purchased in 1873. To prevent residential encroachment, the Washington Association began to purchase neighboring properties, grading and landscaping them to match the Headquarters property. However, a few houses like the Dick house and the Thompson houses were constructed on subdivided Ford property adjacent to the mansion. The Washington Association wished to restore the now public mansion and property to its late-eighteenth century appearance at the time of Washington's occupancy. The Association removed the shed or "lean-to" from the kitchen wing, installed cannons and a ship mast flagpole in front of the mansion, planted hundreds of shade and evergreen trees, and enclosed the property with a fence. The Washington Association improved the paths and drive with gutters, cobbling, and trees and added a spur on the east side that lead to a new complex of buildings that replaced the L-shaped cluster of outbuildings that once stood northeast of the mansion. The new buildings included a caretaker's cottage, a tool/storehouse building, and Lafayette Hall. The Association constructed a straight path lined with trees from the rear door of the mansion to the back of the lot with a parterre garden to its east. The garden was intended to be representative of the late-eighteenth century, but it was ornamented with artifacts including a church steeple and a fire engine. An inner and outer path circled the mansion and connected to the linear path to the garden.

The Washington Association of New Jersey owned and managed Washington's Headquarters between 1873 and 1933. This cultural landscape report presents a 1900 Period Plan that depicts landscape features midway through this period. The year 1900 was chosen, because a detailed landscape survey was prepared then by the Washington Association. Later NPS era plans elude to Washington Association era features, but not with sufficient detail to create a later plan for the period. In any event, the landscape likely changed little between 1900 and 1933.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Much of this section was excerpted and modified from Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Bertland 1981:14-19.

<sup>3</sup> Bertland 1981:26-36.

<sup>4</sup> New Jersey State Highway Engineer. 1926. Report of the State Highway Engineer to the New Jersey State Highway Commission. Trenton, New Jersey.

<sup>5</sup> Fowler, T.M. 1876. *Bird's Eye View of Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey*. G.H. Vogt, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township.

<sup>6</sup> Ehrenfeld, Joan G. 1977. Vegetation of the Morristown National Historic Park: Ecological Analysis and Alternatives: Final Report, 119,132. National Park Service, Northeast Support Office.

<sup>7</sup> Tuttle, Joseph F. 1859. Washington at Morristown During the Winters of 1776-77 and 1779-80. *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* 18:105.

Morristown National Historical Park Integrated Cultural Resources Report Draft 2001:84.

<sup>8</sup> Jacob 1993:47-55.

<sup>9</sup> Marling, Karal Ann. 1988. *George Washington Slept Here: Colonial Revivals and American Culture, 1876-1986*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Morristown National Historical Park Integrated Cultural Resources Report Draft 2001:85.

<sup>10</sup> *True Democratic Banner*, June 26, 1873 in Lindsley, James Elliot. 2000. *A Certain Splendid House*. The WANJ, Morristown, NJ; p. 45.

<sup>11</sup> Massey 1975:10.

<sup>12</sup> Massey 1975:10.

Perry 1963, Part I:6.

<sup>13</sup> Massey 1975:3.

<sup>14</sup> R3 Ledger Book, inside front cover, Museum Acquisition Records, N.D., Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 29.

R4 Ledger Book, Grounds Section, through 1933, WANJ Collection, Morristown National Historical Park Archives, Box 29, Museum Acquisition Records, N.D.

<sup>15</sup> Jacob 1993:47-55.

<sup>16</sup> Perry 1963, Part I:8.

<sup>17</sup> Weig, Melvin J., Research Notes on Repairs and Alterations to the Ford House 1875-1933, from the printed report of the Executive Committee made to the Trustees of the WANJ on November 2, 1875, Minutes of the WANJ, p. 19, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>18</sup> WANJ Executive Committee Report, June 20, 1894, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>19</sup> Massey 1975:11.

Morris County, New Jersey, Deed X-10, p. 401.

<sup>20</sup> WANJ Executive Committee Report, June 24, 1886, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>21</sup> Report of the Board of Trustees, July 1, 1885, Minutes of the WANJ, p. 118-119, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>22</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft, Part2:12.

<sup>23</sup> Washington's Headquarters Map ca.1900. The Washington Association of New Jersey. Morristown National Historical Park Archives. This map states 1883-1884, but Robinson's atlas indicates post 1887.

WANJ Executive Committee Report, June 24, 1886.

<sup>24</sup> Lathrop, J.M., and Thomas Flynn. 1910. *Atlas of Parts of Morris County, New Jersey*, 16. Philadelphia: A.H. Mueller Company.

Robinson 1887:3.

Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000, Part 2:12.

<sup>25</sup> Report of the Executive Committee of the WANJ June 24, 1886, Minutes of the WANJ, p. 135, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown



National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>26</sup> Robinson, E. 1887. *Robinson's Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey*. New York: E. Robinson. Reprinted 1979, 1990, Morris County Historical Society.

<sup>27</sup> Old Fashioned Flowering Plants Grown in the Garden of the Washington's Headquarters Season of 1887, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1937) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132). Original list is in W.L. King Scrapbook, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 2, WANJ 1873-1889.

<sup>28</sup> Lindsley 2000:75.

<sup>29</sup> Executive Committee Report, June 28, 1888, WANJ, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>30</sup> Report of the Executive Committee of the WANJ June 28, 1888, Minutes of the WANJ, p. 163, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>31</sup> Massey 1975:11.

Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000, Part 2:3.

<sup>32</sup> WANJ Executive Committee Report, June 21, 1893, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>33</sup> Massey 1975:1.

Morris County, New Jersey, Deed H-14, p. 159.

Washington's Headquarters Map ca.1900.

<sup>34</sup> WANJ Executive Committee Report June 20, 1894, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>35</sup> Massey 1975:11.

<sup>36</sup> Morristown Record October 17, 1928, Historical File-Research and Survey-sites/buildings-Washington's Headquarters-research notes part 1 (1 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>37</sup> Washington's Headquarters Map. ca. 1900.

<sup>38</sup> Result of Interview with Patrick Clancey, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>39</sup> Result of Interview with Mrs. Louise C. Ferris, Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, April 20, 1934, Ford Mansion-Interviews/Notes (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>40</sup> MA Blake, Chief in Horticulture, State of NJ Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, NJ to Herbert E. Kahler, Morristown National Historical Park memorandum, August 24, 1939, Research and Survey folder, Washington's Headquarters-correspondence (1937-1949) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes.

<sup>41</sup> Recollections of Miss Minnie C. Hotchkiss Concerning Washington's Headquarters 1939, Historical File-Research and Survey-sites/buildings-Washington's Headquarters-research notes part 1 (1 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>42</sup> Report of the Executive Committee the WANJ June 18, 1904 p.3, In Publications of the WANJ Vol II 1899-1910, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>43</sup> Reports and Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the WANJ, June 16, 1909, p. 4 in Publications of the WANJ Volume IV 1899-1910, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>44</sup> Robinson 1887:3.

<sup>45</sup> Lathrop and Flynn 1910:16.

<sup>46</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1948-1990. MORR/337/2017C/Road and Trail System.

<sup>47</sup> Bertland 1981:36,56.

Lindsley 1998:36.

<sup>48</sup> Reports and Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the WANJ, June 26, 1926, p. 3 in Publications of the WANJ Volume IV 1923-1932, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>49</sup> Reports and Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the WANJ, June 25, 1927, p. 3 in Publications of the WANJ Volume IV 1923-1932, Historical File-Research and Survey – Washington's Headquarters Research Notes Part 1 (2 of 2) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 31, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>50</sup> Charles S. Marshall, Junior Historian, to Elbert Cox, Park Superintendent, memorandum, October 5, 1937, Re. An interview with Miss Dodge (Dr. Henry Dodge's daughter), Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1937) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>51</sup> Cavanaugh 1986:263.

<sup>52</sup> Morristown Recalls Its Past. *New York Sun*, November 26, 1929.

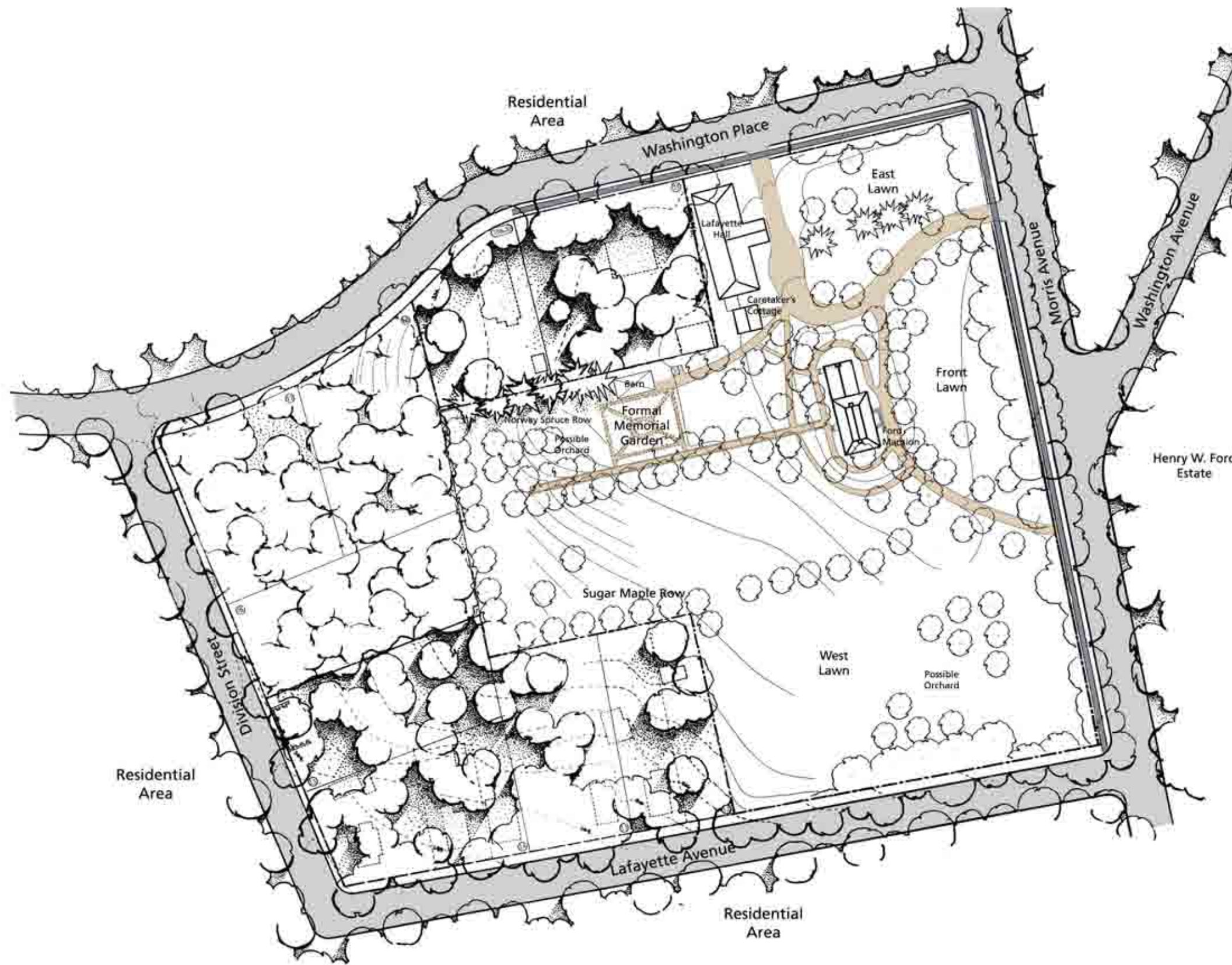
<sup>53</sup> 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coming of the Continental Army to Morristown 1779-1929 Souvenir Program, Publications-Morristown Brochures, Pre-NPS folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

<sup>54</sup> R4 Ledger Book, p.203, Museum Acquisition Records, N.D., Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 29.

<sup>55</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to the Historians memorandum, March 16, 1938, Historical File-Research Reports-Washington's Headquarters (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes.

<sup>56</sup> Charles S. Marshall, Jr. Historian, to the Superintendent memorandum, March 18, 1938, Historical File-Research Reports-Washington's Headquarters (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes.

<sup>57</sup> R4 Ledger Book, Grounds Section, through 1933, WANJ Collection, Morristown National Historical Park Archives, Box 29, Museum Acquisition Records, N.D.



## 1900 Period Plan

Cultural Landscape Report  
Volume 1  
Washington's Headquarters Unit  
Morristown National  
Historical Park  
Morristown, New Jersey

Produced by

National Park Service  
Olmsted Center for  
Landscape Preservation

### Map Sources:

Information presented in this plan is based on 1900 WANJ Plan, 1935 Plot Plan (MOR-10388), 1937 Grading, Planting, and Construction Details (MOR-2004), and the 1941 Headquarters Area Master Plan (MOR-2068).

Additional historic photo analysis completed by the Olmsted Center, 2001-2002.

### Notes:

Plan prepared using Adobe Photoshop 7 by Chris Stevens, NPS.

Scale in Feet

0 25 50 75 100



### Legend:

	Deciduous Tree	<b>Subdivision Property Owners</b>
	Coniferous Tree	
	Paved Road	12. Anderson (south half) & Rosenblat (north half)
	Gravel Path with Cobble Gutters	13. Dooling
	Lawn	14. Anderson
	Washington's Headquarters Property Line	15. William E. Ford
		16. Emily L. Ford
		17. Eliza Canfield
		18. William E. Ford
		19&20. Pinney
		21. Thompson



Figure 15. "Washington's Headquarters at Morristown New Jersey," 1874 (*Appletons' Journal*, Vol. XII, New York, August 1, 1874).



Figure 16. Taylor painting of Ford Mansion, 1875 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

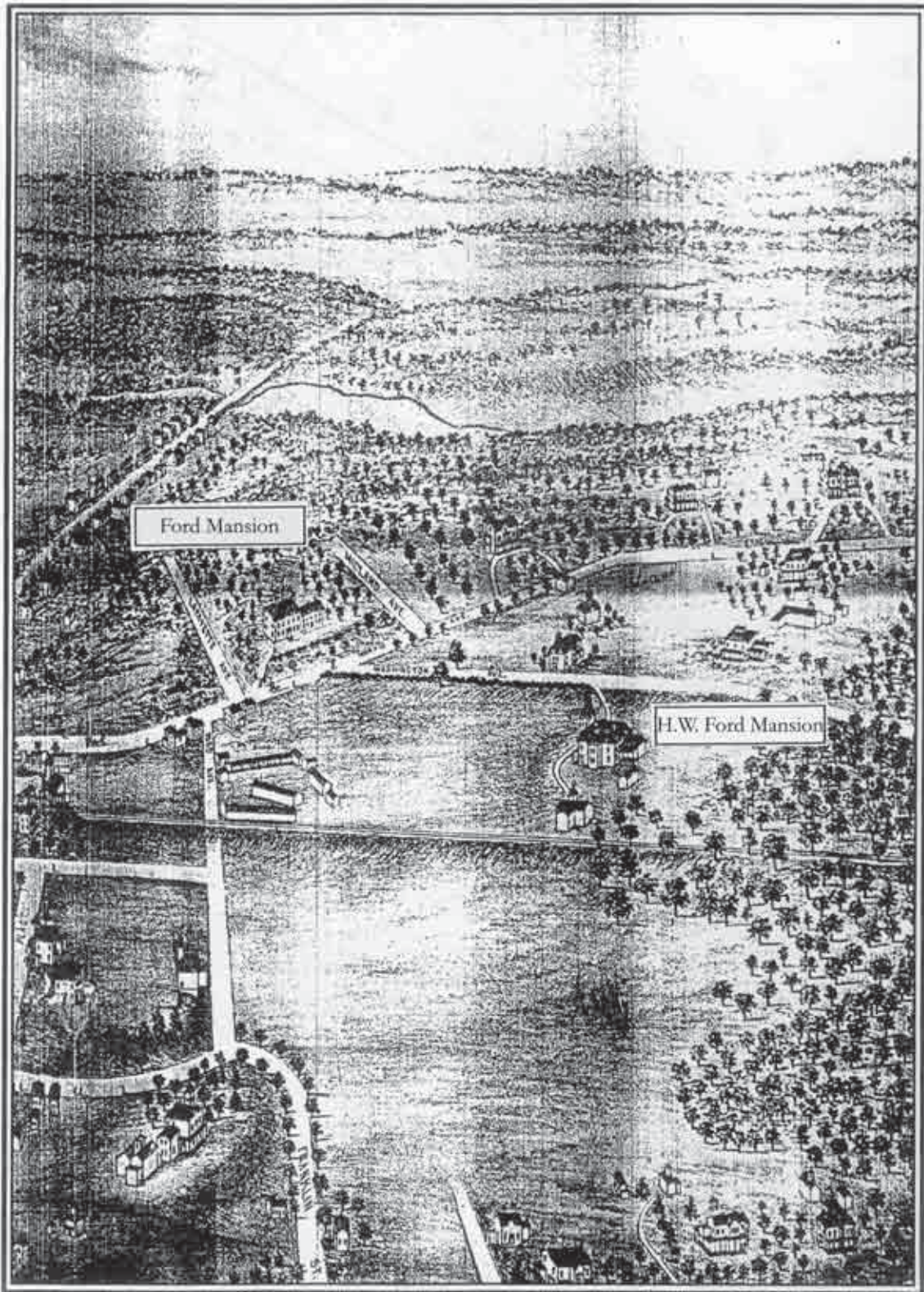


Figure 17. Fowler's birdseye view of the Ford mansion, 1876 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

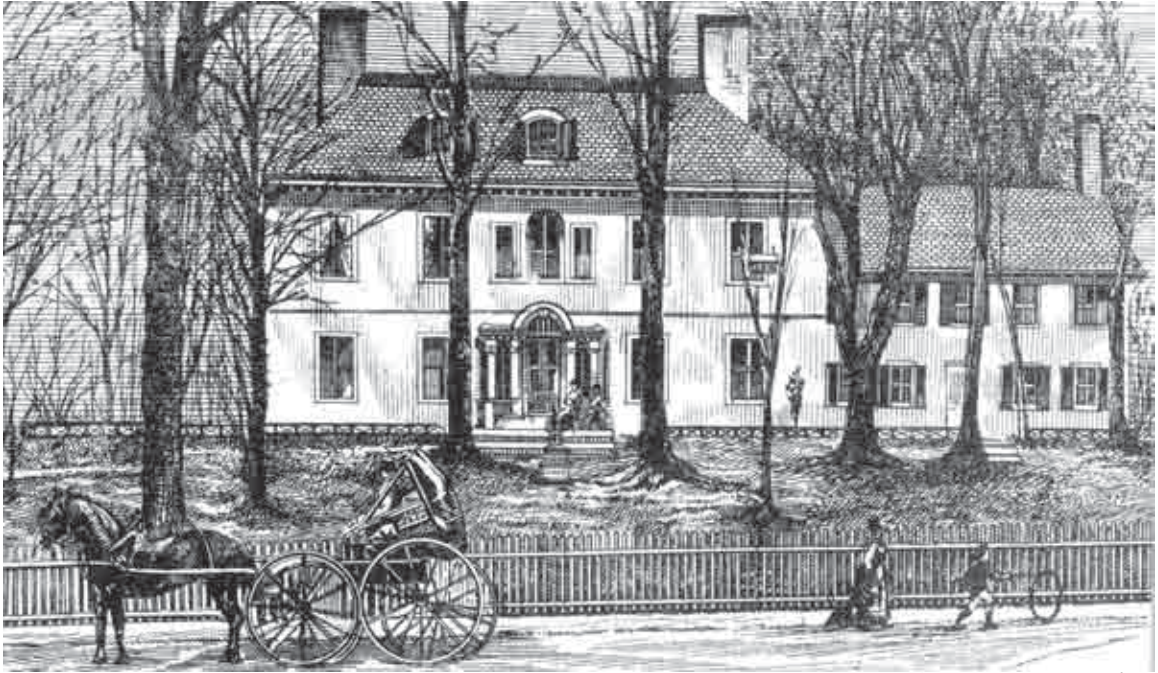


Figure 18. Engraving of the Ford Mansion, 1878 (*Daily Graphics*, 1878 courtesy of the Morristown/Morris Township Library in Lindsley, 2000).



Figure 19. Ford Mansion front lawn, 1880 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 20. Ford Mansion front lawn, 1882 (Hustle in Arbogast, 1985).

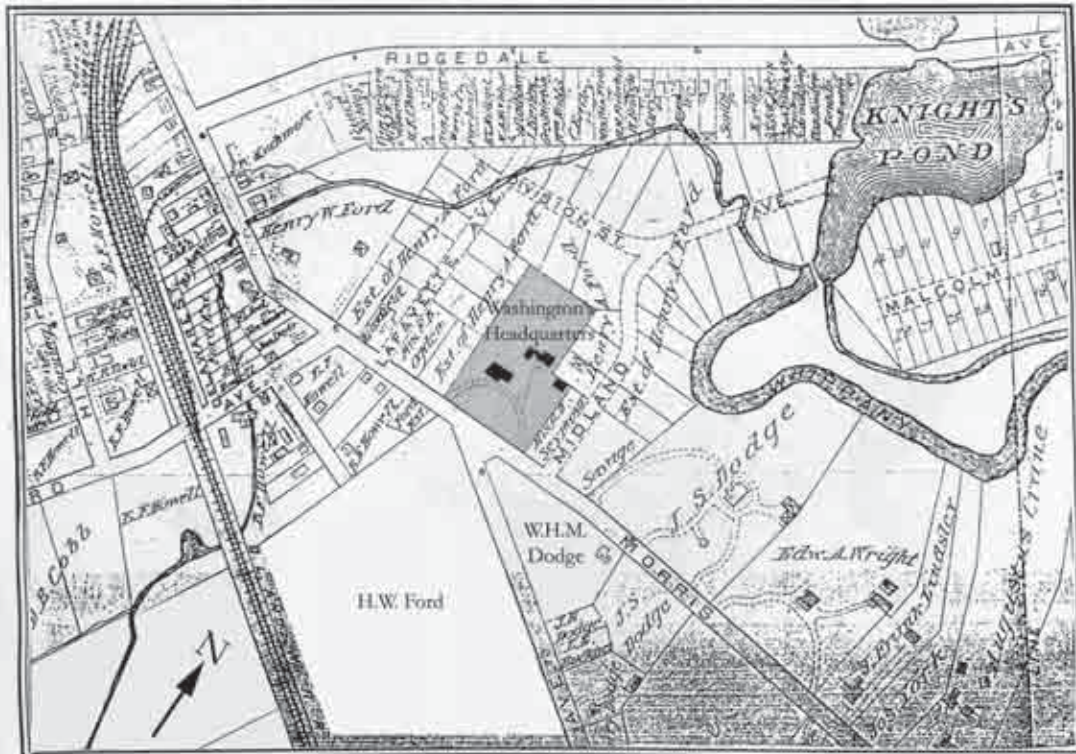


Figure 21. Robinson Atlas, 1887 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives, digitally enhanced by OCLP, 2003).



Figure 22. Replica of Ford Mansion at World Exposition, 1893 (Paul V. Galvin Library, Digital History Collection, <http://comumbus.gl.iit.edu/dreamcity/00034054.html>).



*Path leading from Washington's Headquarters, Morristown, N. J.*  
Figure 23. Front lawn landscape, c. 1900 (Lindsley, 2000).



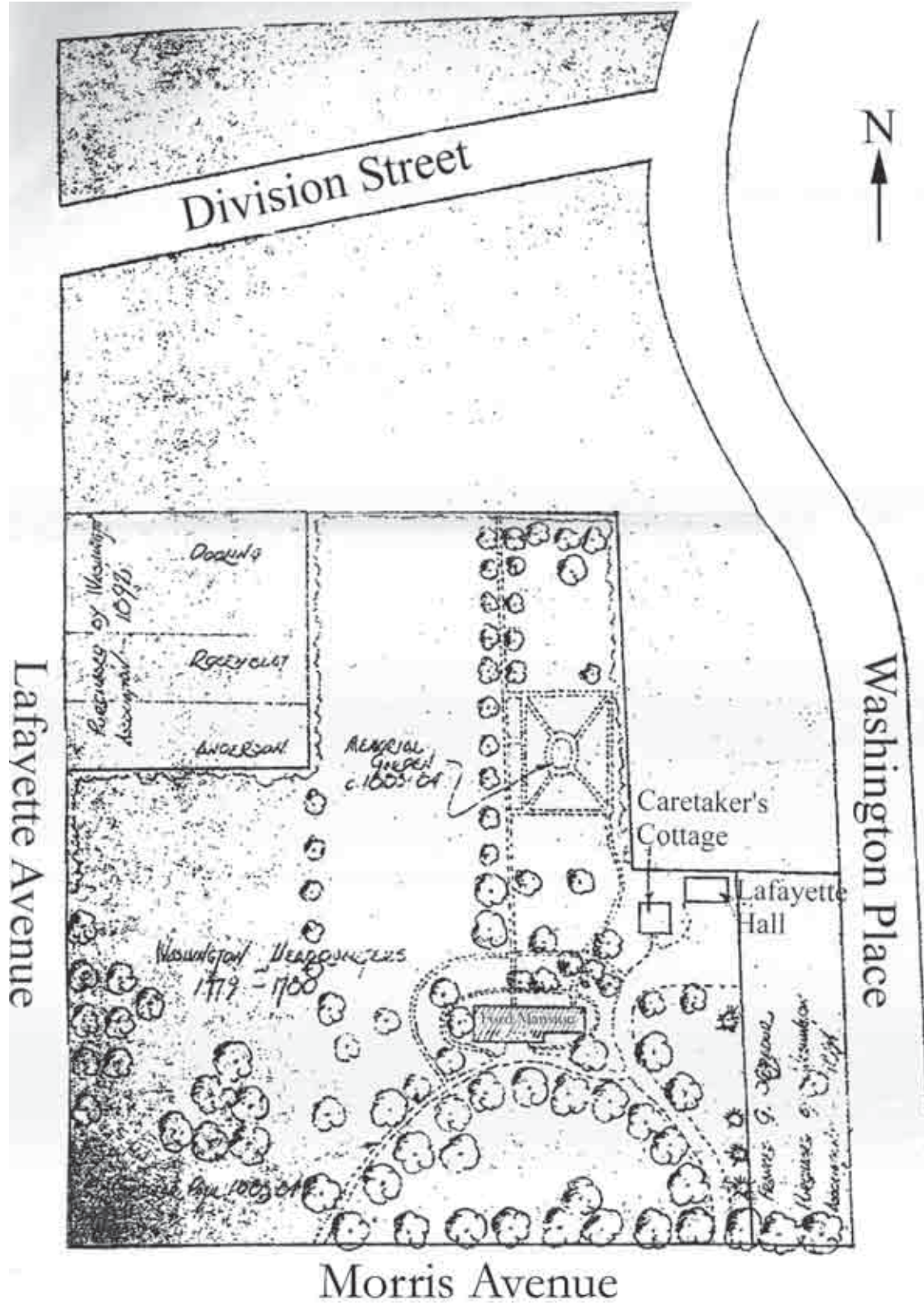


Figure 24. Washington Association of New Jersey survey, 1900 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 25. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, ca. 1900 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 26. Ford Mansion front lawn, 1901  
(HABS. American Memory,  
The Library of Congress  
National Digital Library,  
<http://memory.loc/cgi-bin/ampage>).

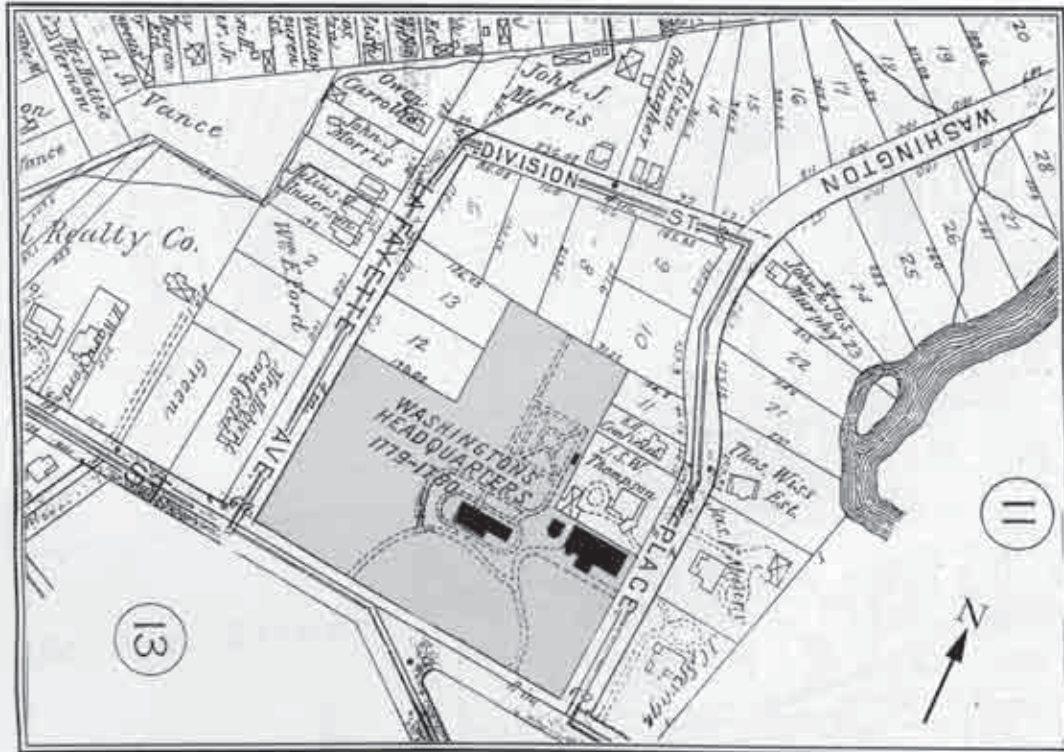


Figure 27. Map detail of vicinity of Washington's Headquarters, 1910 (Lathrop and Flynn Atlas, 1910, digitally enhanced by OCLP, 2003).

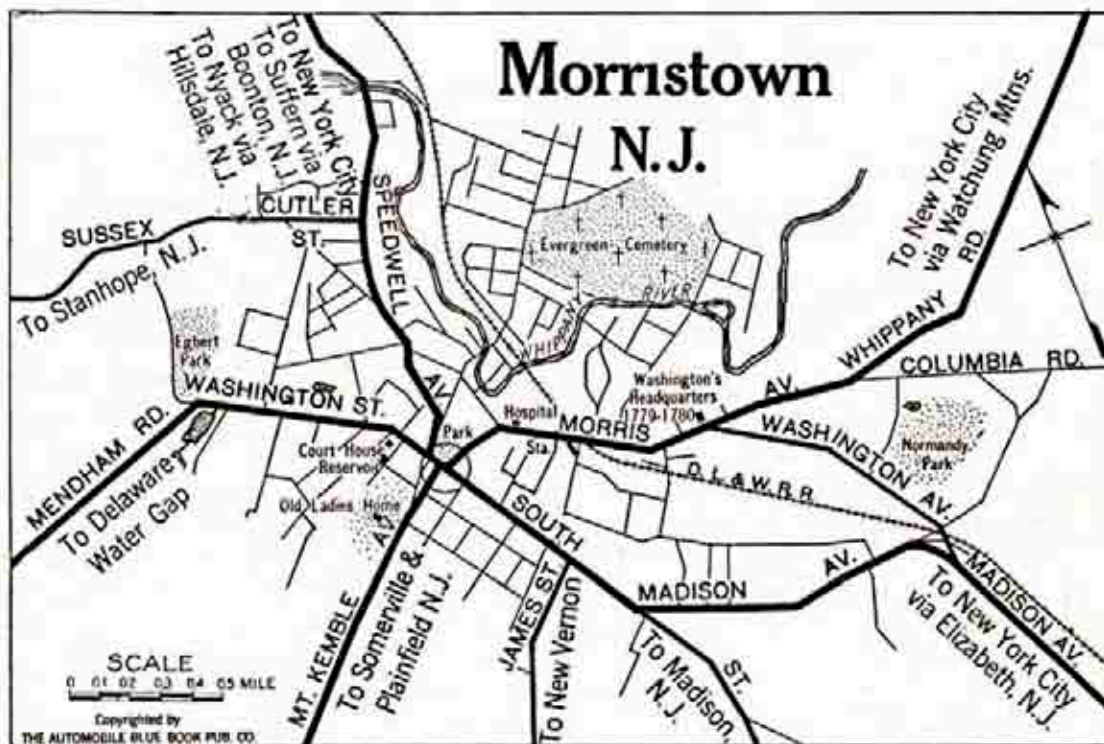


Figure 28. Map of Morristown, 1920 (The Automobile Blue Book Pub. Co., Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 29. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, 1924 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

## PARK DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (1933-PRESENT)

### CULTURAL CONTEXT

The National Park Service (NPS) was created in 1916 to administer the nation's scenic and natural treasures. By the 1920s, the American public generally accepted the idea that the federal government should have control over certain historic sites, and local groups attempting to memorialize and preserve historic properties increasingly turned to the federal government for assistance.<sup>1</sup> It was largely through the initiative of Horace Albright, who was appointed director of the NPS in January 1929, that the NPS became the federal agency most concerned with preservation of the nation's historical resources. Thwarted at first in an attempt to have historic battlefields and other military parks transferred from the War Department to the NPS, Albright pursued a strategy of creating new historical parks in the East, realizing that he could gain support in Congress from those states without parks, as well as from private preservation groups.<sup>2</sup>

Of the several park proposals reaching the NPS in the early 1930s, including Saratoga, Gettysburg, and Valley Forge, Morristown quickly gained the attention of Albright and his growing staff. They realized the site's historical significance and strong local support boded well for securing congressional approval and funding. Of particular importance to the project's viability was the proffered gift of nearly all the land necessary for the park, first broached at a meeting between Morristown resident and landowner W. Redmond Cross and NPS assistant director Arthur Demaray on March 23, 1931.<sup>3</sup> The Morristown National Historical Park creation bill (No. 14-302) was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on January 18, 1933. On March 13, New Jersey Governor Moore approved a bill passed by the state legislature to relinquish the state's 288 shares in the Washington Association property (38%) to the federal government.<sup>4</sup> On March 22, in one of his final acts before leaving office, President Herbert Hoover approved the Morristown bill that created the first national historical park in the NPS.<sup>5</sup> On May 9, Washington Association stockholders approved the trustees' decision to transfer Washington's Headquarters, its approximate six acres of land, and its Washingtoniana collection to the federal government as part of Morristown National Historical Park (Table 7).<sup>6</sup> Morristown National Historical Park was officially dedicated on July 4, 1933, with about 10,000 visitors and dignitaries attending ceremonies at the headquarters and Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes accepting deeds to property.<sup>7</sup> The ceremony was held in a natural amphitheatre on the property behind the Ford Mansion, with New Jersey Governor A. Harry Moore presiding.<sup>8</sup>

Table 7. The original 5.58 acres of Washington's Headquarters property officially transferred to the NPS by the Washington Association in January of 1935 (see Figure 32).<sup>9</sup>

TRACT NUMBER	DATE OF WANJ ACQUISITION	DESCRIPTION
1	Deed 1-May 1, 1877 Deed 2-June 29, 1877	Washington's Headquarters lot and half of Morris Avenue lying immediately in front thereof (3.06 acres)
2	October 28, 1882	Lot 23 and the westerly half of lot 22 as designated on the 1873 map of the Henry A. Ford estate (22,000 square feet)
3	March 19, 1882	Lots 9 (23,500 square feet), 10 (24,750 square feet), and 11 (19,500 square feet) as designated on the 1873 map of the Henry A. Ford estate
4	March 16, 1894	Lot 24 and the easterly half of lot 22 as designated on the 1873 map of the Henry A. Ford estate (20,556 square feet)

The creation of the park initiated the NPS's dual role as administer of both the scenic and historic treasures of the United States. The congressional act creating the park stipulated that the objects pertaining to George Washington and the Revolutionary War, including manuscripts, books, paintings, and other relics of historical value, were forever to be maintained as a part of the national historical park.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, the park's 1933 authorizing legislation required the NPS to provide a library and museum for the Washington Association's collection, and plans subsequently were developed for a library/ museum/ administration building complex to be located north of the Ford Mansion.

During General Washington's two winter encampments, Morristown was the military capital of the United States. Morristown National Historical Park was established to commemorate the men and events associated with this phase of Revolutionary War history and to preserve for the inspiration and benefit of all Americans the remaining physical evidence of that momentous time and place.<sup>11</sup> The general plan prepared for the park in 1934 summarized the reasons for the establishment of Morristown National Historical Park as twofold:

1. To preserve for posterity a number of buildings, areas, and articles of Revolutionary War interest in as peaceful and natural atmosphere as is possible.
2. To use these remains, together with all museum and library material, in developing a pleasurable educational and scenic program for the visitor, as well as courses of study for the student.<sup>12</sup>

The federal government's efforts to address the economic and social problems of the Great Depression resulted in an unprecedented period of growth for the National Park Service during the 1930s. In particular, the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1933 as part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's employment program was pivotal to the development of the

NPS historical program. NPS administrators took advantage of newly available funds to hire historians and other professionals to staff the program.

Morristown was one of many national parks in which the CCC played an important role in the achievement of the park's development and restoration goals. Organized during the spring of 1933, CCC Company #241 developed and preserved the new national park while camping at Jockey Hollow in the "hospital field" near the First Pennsylvania Brigade area.<sup>13</sup> While initially engaged in road building and woodland maintenance, CCC enrollees also participated in important restoration and reconstruction projects within the park, as well as in archeological investigations. A number of corps members received historical training and served as park guides. CCC landscaping projects within the park were directed by Messrs. Peterson and Earl Atwood, landscape architects with the Eastern Division of the NPS, Branch of Plans and Design, to create "a spot of enduring beauty."<sup>14</sup> Another CCC Company, #1256, operated in Morris County from 1935 to 1937 and was engaged primarily in the control of Dutch elm disease.<sup>15</sup> The termination of the CCC programs in the early 1940s eventually deprived Morristown and other parks of an important source of labor.<sup>16</sup> Earl Atwood moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and became the city's landscape architect.<sup>17</sup>

As the twentieth century progressed, proliferation of automobiles and improvements to the state road network resulted in growing development pressures throughout Morris County (Figures 30-31). The construction of Interstate 287 parallel to Route 202 in the 1960s, in particular, has stimulated population growth. Exacerbating this trend was the continued decline of the local agricultural economy.

### **Washington's Headquarters Property**

*THE FIRST DECADE (1933-1943):* Historical photographs depict the Headquarters' landscape the NPS acquired and its surrounds (Figures 32-55).<sup>18</sup> In the early 1930s, Washington Avenue was a stately road lined by large trees and an iron fence along the former Henry W. Ford property to the south. The land just east of the equestrian statue of Washington (the site of Washington's Life Guard) was a wooded mound between Morris and Washington Avenues. A white picket fence surrounded the Headquarters' front lawn along the Morris Avenue sidewalk. The sidewalk was paved with bluestone slabs on the property from the Lafayette Avenue intersection to Washington Place where it turned and continued just past the caretaker's cottage. The semicircular walkway in front of the mansion was asymmetrical, and gates marked its connections with Morris Avenue. A Murdock iron drinking fountain was located between the curb and sidewalk near the eastern gate. Walkways and driveways were gravel and lined with a cobblestone gutter on each side. A set of granite carriage steps



stood southeast of the kitchen wing at the point where the driveway split from the semicircular path and turned east fronting Lafayette Hall to Washington Place. A stone hitching or gate post stood farther along the east side of this driveway. Boxwood or yew shrubs grew against the mansion foundation and were pruned into balls. A small sign described the boxwood by the kitchen wing as being from the home of George Washington at Mount Vernon. These shrubs were protected with burlap or canvas tents during the cold months, and when snow covered the ground, wooden planks were laid atop the walkways. Lafayette Hall stood east of the mansion, and the caretaker's cottage was behind and between the two buildings. Two large Norway spruce trees were growing in front of Lafayette Hall, and numerous other trees, mostly sugar maples or horse chestnuts, grew along the walkways. With the trees located around the perimeter, the front lawn was open and bright. A cannon was located southwest and another southeast of the mansion in the front lawn until 1937. Three cannons sat by the western façade of the mansion enclosed by a wire fence within the gravel elliptical path, but only one remained by 1937. Two signs and a few barberry shrubs were located beside these guns. Lord Stirling's weathervane still stood southwest of the mansion in 1937. A row of wooden T-shaped utility poles ran north to south a little west of the mansion. A picket fence and tree row ran along the property line behind the Lafayette Avenue homes northwest of the mansion, and a uniform row of large sugar maple trees grew just east of this line. A small one-story house stood near this line on the George Anderson lot. A picket fence, a sparse privet hedgerow, and a row of Norway spruce trees delineated much of the eastern property line. A substantial house stood on the Pinney lot (the current Dick house) with a small garage in the southwest corner of the lot, and a large house stood on the Thompson lot with a large garage to the west. A small wooden barn from the Washington Association era stood on NPS land west of this property line between the Pinney and Thompson houses.

Junior landscape architect Edward E. Atwood compiled a general plan in 1934 to determine the purpose and policies of the new park. He divided the park into three units: the Ford Mansion, Fort Nonsense, and Jockey Hollow, with the Ford Mansion unit evolving as the park headquarters. Atwood's plan called for the future acquisition of the entire block historically occupied by the Ford Mansion, noting that it originally had been surrounded by "extensive acreage."<sup>19</sup> The NPS stewardship brought an infusion of capital improvements to the Washington's Headquarters Unit, and much of the initial construction, landscaping, and archeological work was done by the CCC.

Before completing any major restoration or rehabilitation, the NPS investigated the historical condition of the property completing interviews and other historical research, and the park's

historical assistant, Clifford R. Stearns, determined that it would be impossible to restore the landscape to its eighteenth century condition stating:

The present landscape plan of the mansion is not original. As new needs have developed, as new land has been purchased by the Association and as roads have been changed in the vicinity, the driveway and walk have been altered, trees and shrubbery moved, an orchard taken out, the old cistern covered and the old ram used to pump water from the spring lot removed. If desirable, it might be possible to reconstruct the landscape as of the middle of the nineteenth century. I believe it would be impossible to secure data for a genuine restoration of the landscape as of the eighteenth century.<sup>20</sup>

The NPS began planning for a “specially-constructed fireproof building,” which the Washington Association had long desired to store and house the important collection of Washingtonia that came with the acquisition of the Washington Headquarters.<sup>21</sup> It would be the first museum constructed for a national historical park. A few sites were considered for the structure, including land south of the Morris and Washington Avenue intersection, part of Henry W. Ford’s former estate. The land sloped continuously south away from the intersection and was covered with vegetation, including Ailanthus, elm, locust, maple, pin oak, and white pine trees with young briar, forsythia, ash, maple, and oak scrub vegetation nearest the intersection. The land was cleared farther south.<sup>22</sup> Plans for this site were soon abandoned due to the logistics of having visitors cross the busy avenues between the proposed museum and the Ford Mansion.

On October 2, 1934, design plans were announced for the new museum-administration building to be located north of the Ford Mansion in the vicinity of the Washington Association’s “old fashioned garden.” A three-building complex connected by covered arcades was planned (Figures 56-58). The west wing would serve as a library, with reading and study rooms to accommodate sixty people, and the east wing as a museum.<sup>23</sup> John Russell Pope, a noted Neo Classical architect, supervised plans for the museum. Pope donated his services, and the NPS employed two of his furloughed assistants.<sup>24</sup> Some of Pope’s most notable designs include the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the National Archives Building, and the National Gallery of Art, all located in Washington, DC and all also designed in the decade before Pope’s 1937 death. In designing the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Pope was inspired by Jefferson’s Monticello and the University of Virginia Rotunda and incorporated similar proportions, columns, and a dome. With the Morristown project, Pope designed the museum in a Georgian neoclassical style to recall George Washington’s Mount Vernon home in Virginia, incorporating similar covered arcades, wings, symmetry, and a cupola (Figure 59). Pope also designed

the museum to complement and harmonize with the Ford Mansion. He took advantage of the topography, subordinately siting the museum near the bottom of the slope behind the mansion, so the museum would not be visible from Morris Avenue and only the cupola could be seen from parts of the front lawn.

Continuing its patronage, the Washington Association tried to acquire all the museum land for the NPS, but it was unable to obtain the necessary parcel required to construct the east wing. The landowner, George Pinney, refused to sell twenty-five feet from the rear of his property, requesting purchase of the entire property instead of including his house (the current Dick house).<sup>25</sup> Pinney's purchase price suggestions of \$20,000 to \$40,000 were too steep for the Washington Association, forcing them to abandon plans.<sup>26</sup> Pinney's neighbor, Mr. Thompson, also held out for an unreasonable purchase price for his property.<sup>27</sup> Rather than cancel construction, NPS officials instructed the Pope-led team to formulate three sets of alternative specifications: construction of the original three-unit complex, construction of the main building with omission of wings, or construction of the main building and the west wing.<sup>28</sup> Meanwhile, the NPS explored the option of "taking" the land required, including the rear portions of lots 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, and 21 (Table 8).<sup>29</sup> Pope and the NPS were incredibly reluctant to compromise his original design, but the decision was made to construct only the main building and to implement the remainder of the original plan at a later date pending funding and land acquisition.<sup>30</sup> The Washington Association also had difficulty acquiring the land necessary to provide access from Lafayette Avenue and Washington Place to the auditorium entrance at the rear of the central museum building. This access was necessary to provide public access to the auditorium when the museum was closed.<sup>31</sup> The south (front) entrance served the museum and the auditorium, while the north (rear) entrance served the administrative offices (and the auditorium when the museum was closed).

Table 8. Privately held lots within the legislative boundaries of the Washington's Headquarters Unit desired by the NPS for construction of the museum complex (see Figure 32).<sup>32</sup>

LOT NUMBER	YEAR OF TRANSFER TO NPS	DESCRIPTION
12	-----	Privately held, southern half from George J. Anderson and northern half from Rachael Rosenblat (includes two houses and one outbuilding)
13	-----	Privately held by James Dooling (included house)
14	-----	Privately held, subdivided into three lots owned by Julius A. Anderson and Alfred W. Anderson (included three houses and one outbuilding)
15	-----	Privately held by the Morristown Trust Company with Francis Gualdo Ford as trustee with power of sale under William E. Ford's will
16*	1935	Deeded to the National Park Service by the Ford Realty Company, organized by Emily L. Ford's children
17*	1937	Corner lot deeded to the National Park Service by Emily L. Phillips
18*	c.1937	Deeded to the National Park Service by the Morristown Trust Company with Francis Gualdo Ford as trustee under William E. Ford's will
19	-----	Privately held by George M. Pinney, refused to sell
20	-----	Privately held by George M. Pinney, refused to sell ( included house a.k.a. Dick house and garage)
21	-----	Privately held Josephine C. Thompson, refused to sell (included Thompson house and garage)

\* Acquired by NPS from Ford family heir(s).

In 1938, the central block of the Colonial Revival museum building was completed under the auspices of the Public Works Administration (PWA) for a cost of \$139,275. It was dedicated the same year. In addition to museum space, the building provided an auditorium and office space.<sup>33</sup> As part of the construction process, a large trench was dug between the new museum building and the rear of the mansion near their west facades before the landscaping work was completed.<sup>34</sup> The trench was lined with a concrete conduit for the steam heat system and other utilities, including the mansion's water supply and the lawn's sprinkling system.<sup>35</sup> The museum officially opened to the public in 1939, and on Washington's birthday of this year, 2050 visitors passed through the museum.<sup>36</sup> The park posted new hanging signs to direct visitors to Washington's Headquarters and to the other park units. The signs were prepared by the CCC, and the lettering was modeled on a style of letters found in local cemeteries. The town aided by posting signs at the entrance to town and in the local business center.<sup>37</sup>

Restoration efforts began on the Ford Mansion in 1934, marking a milestone in NPS procedure as every restoration plan carried a full set of historical and structural justifications for each decision. Once the Washingtonia collections were relocated to the new museum building in 1938, restoration of the mansion proceeded under the direction of Thomas Waterman.<sup>38</sup> The Ford Mansion was laid structurally bare in order to study and re-create its assumed 1779-80 appearance. The wooden flagpole in front of the mansion was painted with white lead and linseed oil paint in 1935

and replaced with a steel flagpole in 1939.<sup>39</sup> Waterman and Norman T. Newton (Resident Landscape Architect, NPS Branch of Plans and Design) approved the installation of brown sandstone steps at the mansion, “despite the bluestone flagging on the walks and the limestone on the Museum.”<sup>40</sup> The two rear 1904 dormers and the three front dormers were removed in 1938.<sup>41</sup> Washington’s Headquarters reopened to the public on August 19, 1938.<sup>42</sup> The restoration was completed by 1940.<sup>43</sup>

The NPS utilized Lafayette Hall as a workshop for the PWA experts who were heading up the restoration efforts (Figure 60). In 1935, the NPS announced a plan to maintain a “central permanent laboratory” of over sixty workers at Morristown National Historical Park to prepare museum exhibits for eastern parks, and the lab was to be temporarily located in Lafayette Hall.<sup>44</sup> The site was selected because of its proximity to New York City’s important libraries, museum records, and art collections. Operations at the museum laboratory were curtailed, however, due to limited PWA funding, and the staff was limited to fifteen, the minimum needed to complete Department of the Interior (DOI) exhibitry. The park later transferred park projects to facilities in the new museum building, after which Lafayette Hall was to be razed.<sup>45</sup> Lafayette Hall was demolished early in 1941, and the site was soon backfilled with topsoil.<sup>46</sup> The foundation stone from this building was used in the construction of a park incinerator at the utility group in Jockey Hollow.<sup>47</sup> The two Norway spruce trees growing in front of the hall remained, one surrounded by a ring of shrubs. The adjoining caretaker’s cottage was retained for park housing.<sup>48</sup>

Landscape architect Norman T. Newton supervised landscape planning and design, and Edwin Atwood assisted with preparing the grading plans in 1936 (Figures 61-62). One of Newton’s most notable designs was the 1939 *Master Plan* for Liberty Island where he designed a processional that framed views of the Statue of Liberty. At Washington’s Headquarters, he also employed the Beaux Arts style typically associated with monumental and classical structures and with the Renaissance gardens of Italy and France where axuality, symmetry, and hierarchy were paramount.<sup>49</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox asked Newton to briefly explain, interpret, and justify his landscape plans to assist with fundraising efforts. Cox specifically asked Newton to explain his use of precedent, feeling, etc., since there was very little evidence of the original plan. Newton’s intent for the landscape is strong and clear in the following excerpt from a fundraising letter Cox wrote to Mrs. Elliot Averett of the Morristown Garden club after receiving Newton’s response:

With the addition of the Historical Museum, the problem of treating the grounds of the Ford Mansion has taken on a new aspect. In order to provide a proper relationship between the two buildings, it has been found advisable to study the entire tract as one composition. The aim, therefore, is to develop a harmonious unity with a two-fold purpose: to meet

the utilitarian needs of the public and at the same time to recapture the spirit and charm of the historic period.

The immediate surroundings of the Ford Mansion are to be treated with the almost romantic simplicity of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, with the sweep of green lawn as the dominant note. As a few strategic points beside the house, flowering dogwood and clumps of box will serve as the only necessary transition from the green of the turf to the canopy of trees overhead.

The rear of the Ford Mansion and the front of the Historical Museum will be simply and boldly connected by a broad walk under sugar maples [white oaks were planted instead], with a broken row of box clumps further emphasizing the axis. It is planned to add other trees outside the flanking rows of box in order to soften the composition and to avoid any sense of weakness in the connection between the two buildings.

The shaded central walk will lead from the Ford Mansion to the Museum in front of which is a sunny flat area. In this there will be a simple garden designed as an extremely simple parterre of box-edged rectangular compartments filled with 18<sup>th</sup> century perennials or dark green groundcover. At present the proposed wings of the Museum have not been built; their eventual addition will complete the desired sense of enclosure for the garden.

Throughout the entire scheme careful attention has been given to the specification of plant materials typical of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, with special emphasis on these types native to the country about Morristown.<sup>50</sup>

Newton's 1937 plans were influenced by Pope's classic vision for the landscape as expressed in his plans.<sup>51</sup> Pope had sited the museum building on axis with but below the grade of the mansion and flanked the terminus of this axis with the proposed library and museum wings. Pope envisioned the space enclosed by his proposed three-building museum complex as a sunken lawn connected by stairs from the perimeter walkway that surrounded it. Newton did not sink the central lawn, but he graded the land to form a terrace that appears sunken along the eastern side and southern side where he planned to construct a retaining wall. The land to the west sloped away from the terrace, while the museum building acted as a retaining wall along the northern side. Newton designed a parterre garden for the space with all walkways flanked with hedgerows punctuated with larger specimens at the corners. Newton, perhaps inspired by the former Washington Association formal garden, intended this garden to be a crossroads for visitors coming to and from the mansion, the museum, and its two proposed wings. Although only the central museum block was built, Newton's plan for the parterre was installed as intended, except the broad east-west path that would have linked the proposed wings and the southern retaining wall were not built and fewer hedgerows were planted. The resulting bright parterre garden was only pierced by the axial walkway to the mansion and enclosed by the museum's south façade and a common privet hedge of two hundred shrubs. The privet hedge was probably planned to take the place of the unbuilt library and museum wings and to provide the parterre with a sense of enclosure. Hedges were initially planned to line the rectangular and axial walkways within the parterre garden, although the hedge was only planted along the outside of this walkway. The two open squares of the parterre were planted as lawn, and four existing large

trees in the southeast corner were to be balanced with a new sugar maple tree near the southwest corner of the parterre. On his plans, Newton labeled the small barn building just south of the southeast corner of the parterre and Lafayette Hall as temporary existing buildings and planned to screen the former building with a thick clump of mock oranges. A CCC crew razed the barn in May of 1939 (Figure 63).<sup>52</sup>

Newton's symmetrical design linked the museum to the mansion with a central axial path leading from the south entrance of the museum to the north entrance of the mansion. There were two sets of stairs along the path at its steepest parts, one at the southern edge of the parterre and the other just north of the mansion along a bank with five-inch risers and fifteen-inch treads. This path roughly followed the route of the Washington Association era path leading to the formal garden but was shifted slightly northwest to align perfectly with the central axis. The new path was punctuated with vegetation, including an alleé of ten evenly spaced white oak trees that framed views as visitors walked between the two buildings. A non-continuous boxwood hedgerow flanked the outside of this alleé, and a pair of dogwoods marked each end. The trees were to be planted first to determine if the alleé would be sufficient without the boxwood. If necessary, boxwoods were to be planted in single row clusters of variable length in order to connect the foundation plantings of the mansion with the parterre garden hedges. An existing row of sugar maple trees, a remnant property line border from the Washington Association era, grew west of the alleé and the parterre garden.

Pope may have intended to leave the concentric elliptical paths from the Washington Association era around the mansion, but Newton's plan replaced these with one rectilinear walkway. Five sets of stairs with short walkways connected the mansion to the landscape. Both designers planned simple, almost symmetrical foundation plantings, with larger shrubs or small trees punctuating the building entries and corners. Newton reworked the semicircular walkway in front of the mansion, transforming its asymmetrical shape into a true semicircle that symmetrically straddled the main axis and planned for new and existing trees to surround the crescent-shaped front lawn with an opening down the center for views of the mansion from Morris Avenue. The east and west ends of this walkway were flanked by two common privet shrubs and had steps that connected them to the sidewalk along Morris Avenue. Newton also planned for a new crossbar fence along Morris Avenue.

Newton planned for a "future parking area" that would stretch from the rear of the mansion north to the former Washington Association formal garden along Washington Place in the vicinity of the Thompson house front lawn. An east-west walkway was planned to lead visitors from the southern end of the lot to the rectilinear walk directly behind the mansion, and another east-west

walk was planned to connect the northern end of the lot to the main axial walk closer to the museum. These paths and parking lot were never built. Pope’s original curving access drive from Washington Place, west to the museum’s service area and north entrance, and north to Division Street, served as the main automobile access to the site with parking along the surrounding streets including the two-way Morris Avenue. The slope that the drive traversed was maintained as a lawn surrounded by trees allowing for clear views of the museum’s north façade from Division Street. The asphalt drive and service area had concrete curbing and gutters (Figure 64). A planned spur from this driveway to the proposed library wing, southwest of the museum, was never constructed. After the removal of a thick grove of locust trees, the museum service area was screened with a naturalistic planting of sugar maples with an understory of serviceberries, dogwoods, and viburnums to the east and the parterre privet hedge to the south.

Newton’s landscape plans called for many new plantings (Table 9). Some trees were to be planted throughout the landscape to balance the density, while most of the trees and shrubs had more specific purposes and locations.

Table 9. Plant list from Newton’s 1937 planting plan.<sup>53</sup>

QUANTITY	SPECIES/COMMON NAME	QUANTITY	SPECIES/COMMON NAME
28	<i>Acer saccharum</i> / sugar maple	2	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i> / Rose-of-Sharon
10	<i>Amelanchier canadensis</i> /shadblow serviceberry	2	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> / eastern red cedar
1000	<i>Buxus suffruticosa</i> / dwarf or edging Boxwood	206	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> / common privet
1	<i>Clematis virginiana</i> / virgin’s bower clematis	20	<i>Philadelphus coronarius</i> / mock orange
41	<i>Cornus florida</i> / flowering dogwood	100	<i>Viburnum acerfolium</i> / mapleleaf viburnum
70	<i>Cornus paniculata</i> / gray-stem dogwood	35	<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> / blackhaw viburnum
2	<i>Hedera helix</i> / English Ivy		

The eighty-one boxwood shrubs of the “central axis” were not originally included on this list, because it was assumed that they would be donated. Dogwoods and boxwoods were planted as punctuation, marking thresholds and corners, including symmetrically placed pairs of boxwood that flanked the main entrances to the mansion and the museum. Symmetrically placed pairs of dogwoods also marked the bottom of the stairs south of the parterre and the top of the stairs north of the mansion along the axial walkways. A dogwood was planted at each of the four corners of the museum building, clusters of boxwoods and dogwoods marked the corners of the mansion’s south façade, and



larger boxwood shrubs marked the corners of the parterre hedges. Balanced foundation plantings consisted of boxwood, dogwood, viburnum, cedar, Rose-of-Sharon, etc.

CCC crews completed much of the Headquarters-museum landscape between 1936 and 1941 in accordance with the approved plans and assisted the caretaker in maintaining the buildings and landscape, but delays in completing the museum slowed much of the landscape progress (Figures 65-69).<sup>54</sup> During this time, a neighbor complained about the caretaker's boat stored on the property, the moss growing in the lawn, the condition of the walks, the eroding cobble gutters, and the weed growth, but Acting-Superintendent Russell Baker decided it was unwise to correct these problems until after the museum was completed.<sup>55</sup> Once landscape work commenced, the land between the mansion and the museum was completely cleared with the exception of a few trees, including the horse chestnut tree near the southeast corner of the parterre garden, the sugar maple row along the former western property line, and the Norway Spruce row along the eastern property line. The gardens installed by the Washington Association were removed, and the sloping property was graded gently toward the museum, concealing the new building's ground story on the south. The land at the mansion's rear entrance was graded steeply away from the mansion, requiring a set of stairs to maneuver the slope before it began the gentle descent to the museum building. The slope of the land created a distinct hierarchical relationship between the mansion and the museum. The property was extensively trenched for utilities and archeology, and the entire property was regraded to different degrees for the new design. Some ornamental vegetation was installed at this time, particularly around the mansion, and an NPS tree crew braced limbs, performed tree surgery, and installed lightning rods to protect three large maples on the property.<sup>56</sup> The NPS also decided to remove the Civil War-era cannon from the property and acquire Revolutionary ordnance in 1937.<sup>57</sup> Three 500-watt floodlights were installed on the front lawn in December of 1937 with town authorization.<sup>58</sup> The floodlights replaced the four one-amp bulbs that had been attached to the Headquarters' sign. In 1938, four street lights were removed due to grading and landscaping around the Headquarters.<sup>59</sup> 1939 photographs show an ornate lamppost along the semicircular walk southeast of the mansion.

Herringbone brick sidewalks with soldier brick edging were installed around the mansion and the parterre and along the axial path that extended from the south entrance of the museum directly to the rear entrance of the Ford Mansion beginning in 1936, with a bulk of the work done by the CCC between 1938 and 1940 (Figures 70-77). Concurrently, the semicircular front drive was realigned symmetrically and resurfaced as a brick walkway also in a herringbone pattern. The bricks were laid atop a six-inch layer of tamped cinders, a three inch layer of cinder concrete, and a one-half-inch sand cushion.<sup>60</sup> Earlier landscape plans called for gravel walkways, but bricks were later chosen.

Similarly, landscape stairs were constructed with bluestone rather than the limestone originally proposed by Newton. The entrance road from Washington Place to Division Street was surfaced with asphalt.<sup>61</sup>

A Colonial Revival crossbar fence with wrought-iron hardware was constructed along Morris Avenue, Lafayette Avenue, and Washington Place to replace the dilapidated picket fence that had been damaged by a car accident in 1935 (Figures 78-80).<sup>62</sup> In 1938, Thomas Waterman and resident landscape architect Newton agreed that the fence design did not need to be scrupulously accurate to any date, because there was probably no fence in this location in 1779, but they also did not want to “erect anything which would conflict in interest with the Ford Mansion.”<sup>63</sup> The Branch of Plans and Design prepared drawings for the fence.<sup>64</sup> Fence sections consisted of two rails inset with a cross bar, and the rounded top rails were designed to shed water. Two sets of gates similar to the fence marked the ends of the semicircular walkway along Morris Avenue. Planners removed the pedestrian gate on Washington Place and the vehicular gates at the rear of the property. They also designed the rails and palings to parallel the grades using a fence at Woodlawn Plantation in Fairfax County (home to Washington’s mother), Virginia, as an example, and increased the posts from five by five inches to six by six inches with finials to provide a more substantial appearance.<sup>65</sup> The fence was constructed during the winter of 1939 with Emergency Relief Administration (ERA) labor and materials. A smaller and simpler fence was constructed northeast and northwest of the mansion to delineate property boundaries within the unit.

Extensive tree planting was completed in 1939 and 1940 (Figures 81-86). Trees were placed informally around the property, and the formal white oak alleé was planted along the axial walk between the mansion and museum.<sup>66</sup> Park planners desired to plant American elm trees in the alleé and elsewhere, but the emerging Dutch elm disease problem discouraged this choice. One plan had even considered using a small planting stock alternating between elm and another species, and if after five years the disease eradication program would prove successful, the alternate species would be removed by park staff.<sup>67</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox directed the alleé to be planted twenty feet east of the center line of the steam conduit, because only three feet of soil covered the conduit, and oaks were more deeply rooted than elms (Figures 87-88).<sup>68</sup> The twelve white oak trees, donated by the Morristown Garden Club, arrived from the nursery in May of 1939, and Norman Newton, along with CCC foremen Brady and Layton, directed CCC enrollees in unloading and planting.<sup>69</sup> The individual tree locations were staked and excavations made for practically all of the specimen oaks to be planted in the axial treatment of the property. Although the specimens were selected for vigorous growth and symmetry, and special supervision was given to the care of the root system in the handling at the

nursery, most of the trees had failed by the fall of 1939. Historic photographs show foreman Layton trimming one of the oaks only four days after planting and CCC enrollees defoliating some of the trees for unknown reasons only two weeks after planting (Figures 89-90). The CCC replaced the trees in April of 1940 using stock from the Princeton Nurseries of Princeton, New Jersey (Figures 91-92). The lawn was established by this time.

The new landscape design affected many existing trees especially in the parterre area and along the new walkways. Many trees were removed if historians determined that they were not commemorative plantings, including a small Kentucky coffee tree in front of the mansion and another in front of the new museum building.<sup>70</sup> There was speculation that the Kentucky coffee trees were planted by seed around 1900 from seeds gathered from a coffee tree growing at Mount Vernon, but their size indicated otherwise.<sup>71</sup> A small willow tree was removed from the east side of the parterre, while a horse chestnut tree was spared. A small elm and a small beech tree on the property northwest of the mansion were spared, because they were planted in 1932 in Honor of Washington's Bicentennial. The elm (planted by the Morristown Garden Club) was the grandchild (a cutting of a cutting) of the Cambridge elm, under which Washington assumed command of the Continental Army, and the beech was planted by the Daughters of the Cincinnati.<sup>72</sup>

The removal of the specimen boxwood in front of the Ford Mansion was being considered by March 1940, as its appropriateness and winter hardiness were questioned. A dwarf variety of yew, *Taxus cuspidata*, was substituted for boxwood in the formal planting of the parterre garden in front of the museum building. This border planting was completed along the outside of the walkways, the privet shrubs were planted around the parterre's outside perimeter, and the lawn was seeded and raked by the fall of 1940 (Figures 93-94). The remaining materials were purchased with funds contributed by the local garden clubs.<sup>73</sup> In May of 1941, CCC enrollees planted shrubs on the steep bank immediately behind the mansion (Figure 95). Unfortunately dry wells installed in heavy clay soil located in the parterre overflowed during a heavy spring rain causing the bank to collapse. In order to correct this problem, drain lines were extended to connect with the city storm sewer.

Newton paid close attention to design details and requested that the steam pipe conduit be shifted far enough off center in order that the manholes be removed from his proposed flowerbeds.<sup>74</sup> He also requested that the manholes be covered with high-collar cover frames. Newton, dissatisfied with some of the landscape work occurring at Morristown in 1937 and 1938, requested the appointment of a senior foreman (landscape architect) to the CCC staff. Junior Landscape Architect

Luther Nelson was transferred from Saratoga National Historical Park and reported for duty at Morristown on February 8, 1941 to assist with the master plan.<sup>75</sup>

The NPS conducted archeological research at Washington's Headquarters during the 1930s using CCC labor under the direction of NPS foremen and historians (Figures 96-101). The archeology preceded landscaping, planting, and re-seeding the lawn. Exploratory trenches were initially dug gridiron-fashion until topsoil was entirely removed, and any areas showing signs of fill, disturbances, or foundations received further investigation. Archeologists examined the soil strata looking for signs of grade changes, abandoned roads, paths, or fences. They used picks and shovels during trenching, while hand trowels, whisk brooms, hooks, and scrapers were used for more tedious work. Archeologists discovered distinctive color variations in the soil and a buried eighteen-inch-wide splash course of cobble stones against the rear of the foundation and determined that the original grade line was about two feet below the mansion's grade.<sup>76</sup> Old cisterns and building and fence-foundations were also found. They located a ten-by-fourteen-foot stone foundation, parallel to the rear wall of the kitchen wing, located at the northeast corner of the kitchen wing.<sup>77</sup> A ten-by-twenty-five-foot outbuilding foundation was found about fifty feet behind the mansion.<sup>78</sup> Another stone foundation was discovered sixty feet behind the mansion in 1938; it was about twenty-two feet long, six feet deep at one end, and three feet at the other, with two distinct compartments with an access way between them.<sup>79</sup> A seven-foot deep pit with flagstone cover and pebble-lined walls was also discovered northeast of the mansion.<sup>80</sup> An unlined, wooden-based foundation was found northwest of the mansion in 1938.<sup>81</sup> Archeologists found the remains of a stone fence base in 1937 that had extended southwesterly from that corner of the mansion to Morris Avenue.<sup>82</sup> Curving stone pavement was uncovered leading from the southeast corner of the mansion, around the cistern in front of the kitchen, southeast toward Morris Avenue, suggesting the existence of a curving drive or walk that originated at the mansion and lead to Morris Avenue.<sup>83</sup> Provenance was not established for any of these archeological features.<sup>84</sup>

Community members wanted to be involved in the restoration and memorialization efforts. In 1938, Mr. Gualdo Ford wanted to donate a bronze plaque to Jacob Jr. and Theodosia Ford for the Headquarters' property, but Superintendent Cox and landscape architect, Norman Newton, were against creating a precedent in the park for the erection of memorial plaques and monuments. They believed that memorial plaques were against the park goals, and allowing even one might start a trend that could alter the entire park.<sup>85</sup> The NPS "is especially anxious to retain the natural appearance of the park which is the reason for the general policy for the restriction of signs, markers and monuments."<sup>86</sup> In 1939, the Morristown Garden Club was "anxious to raise funds to restore the

beautiful garden plans of Colonial days,” since the original planting had disappeared many years earlier, and they viewed the planting that existed in 1939 as “unworthy of such a famous and historic mansion.”<sup>87</sup> The park steadfastly maintained the integrity of Newton’s plans, and nothing came of the garden club’s wishes.

The fledgling park developed a “Motor Vehicle Historic Tour Route” that circled Washington’s Headquarters, then lead to downtown Morristown (via Morris Street) where it circled the town green (labeled Park Place) and branched to the other historic areas of the park (see Figure 30). One route lead to Fort Nonsense while another lead to Jockey Hollow (via Western Avenue) to Guerin Farm, Wick Farm, Kemble Plantation, and other military sites. The total Historic Tour Route was 9 miles long (0.8 miles from Headquarters to Park Place, 0.7 miles from Park Place to Fort Nonsense, 3.3 miles from Ft. Nonsense to Jockey Hollow, and 4.2 miles of tour roads within Jockey Hollow). The DL& W Railroad Station was located along Morris Avenue a little west of the Headquarters. Route 24 followed Washington Avenue, and US-202 followed the routes of Speedwell Avenue and Mt. Kemble Avenue.<sup>88</sup>

Superintendent Elbert Cox transferred to Colonial National Historical Park in 1939, and Mr. Kahler relocated from St. Augustine, Florida to replace him as superintendent.<sup>89</sup> The concept of a three-building complex was still being considered in the 1941 *Master Plan* for the Washington’s Headquarters Unit, but a number of adjacent properties remained in private ownership.<sup>90</sup> Newton had designed the landscape around the museum with the intention that the Pope plan’s wings would one day be installed. The covered arcades would have helped visitors negotiate the steep bank, the wings would have served as retaining walls, and the parterre would have been an open quadrangle for visitors. By 1941, trees covered much of the unit and the surrounding privately held properties. The parterre garden, the crescent-shaped front lawn, and a lawn west of the mansion remained the most open portions of the unit. Trees tightly surrounded the unit’s perimeter. Most of the trees within the unit were deciduous. Planting resumed in the Washington Headquarters-museum area by spring of 1941, although delays occurred due to bankruptcy and default of the nursery under contract to supply the plant material. By the summer of 1941, new topsoil had been placed along either side of the connecting allée, and the area was seeded. A grading plan and construction details were also drawn for the undeveloped sloping section north of the museum/administration building.<sup>91</sup> Designs specified the slope to be planted with lawn and surrounded by trees. A three-sided retaining wall was built just west of the unit’s Division Street entrance to hold back the bank and save a tree exposed during grading. Additional parking for fourteen automobiles was proposed for the north side of the entrance drive near the Washington Place egress. Two dry wells were planned along the north side of

this parking lot, one for museum foundation drainage and the other for museum roof drainage. A service building was planned for the east side of the service court by the museum.

December 1941 marked America's entry into World War II (Figures 102 and 103). The first decade of the NPS stewardship began with Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes accepting the deed to Washington's Headquarters amidst 10,000 visitors and much fanfare. The period closed by the end of 1942 with Secretary Ickes discouraging visits to national parks by train or automobile in order to conserve petroleum products for the war efforts.<sup>92</sup> The park had also lost its CCC labor force, with many men joining the war. The CCC disbanded altogether in 1942. The 1942 Period Plan depicts the landscape features at the close of this period, reflecting the 1941 Headquarters Area *Master Plan* and all of the CCC accomplishments.

*MAINTENANCE (1943-1970)*: For almost the next thirty years, the Washington's Headquarters unit landscape changed little and experienced no more than routine maintenance. In 1943, the half-mile of iron paling fence around the thirty-eight-acre Henry W. Ford Mansion south of the Headquarters on Washington Avenue was contributed to the war effort, in 1947 the property, the last portion of the original 200 acres still owned by the Ford family was sold, and in 1948, the mansion was demolished and the property subdivided and developed.<sup>93</sup> The Headquarter's museum and library wings were still being proposed in 1946 as part of the *Master Plan*.<sup>94</sup> Park planners hoped for the unit to include all of the land bounded by Morris Avenue, Washington Place, Division Street, and Lafayette Avenue, and for the property to be devoid of all buildings except for the mansion, the museum, and its two proposed wings. The property was planned to be mostly covered with trees, with a crescent-shaped lawn in front of the mansion and two north – south oriented lawns east and west of the central alleé.

Photographs from the 1950s and 60s show that the landscape had remained true to Newton's design and had matured.<sup>95</sup> The rows of trees along Morris Avenue and Washington Place (mostly sugar maples) were mature and dense, and the crossbar fence was in good condition (Figures 104-108). Gates marked the ends of the semicircular walkway along Morris Avenue. The street sidewalks were made of a single row of large bluestone slabs. Where the paving ended along Washington Place, a graded terrace covered with lawn served as a walkway. The turf was well kept all over the property. The mansion had sparse foundation plantings with a large yew by the southwest corner, and clusters of mature shrubs grew close to the northwest corner of the mansion. A single row of large trees randomly flanked the curvilinear walk with none growing in the center nearest the front stairs to the mansion. A planting bed extended from the southeast corner of the kitchen wing, due south, along

the walkway to the curvilinear walk and contained a dense planting of yew shrubs. There was a dogwood tree growing along the west side of this hedge. The west lawn was open green with large individual trees or tree clusters (Figure 109). A mature white oak alleé and yew hedge flanked the brick axial path that lead from the rear of the mansion to the museum (Figures 110-114). Pairs of dogwood trees flanked the north and south ends of the alleé, and yew shrubs surrounded the stairs that lead up the terrace to the mansion (Figure 115). The dense trees and shrubs and the closely cropped turf surrounding the axial path framed views of the museum and the mansion guiding visitor procession. Photographs and a 1952 grounds rehabilitation plan indicate that the parterre garden had been installed slightly differently than planned (Figures 116-117).<sup>96</sup> The parterre garden was enclosed with a square-cut privet hedge to the north, west, and south, while a vine-covered fence marked the eastern boundary with the private properties. Here, behind the Dick and Thompson houses, a row of large Norway spruces marked the property line. All of the open areas were covered with lawn, and the rectangular walkway was surrounded only to the outside by a Japanese yew (*Taxus cuspidata*) hedge rather than boxwood. This hedge opened along the central axial walkway and lead to the museum's southern doorway where two large yew specimens flanked the doorway. Larger yew specimens also punctuated all of the hedge corners within the garden. The rehabilitation plan called for sixty new yew shrubs to replace dead or dying portions of the hedge (Figure 118). Four large trees, including a horse chestnut tree, growing near the southeast corner of the parterre created shade that particularly made the yew hedge thin in this area. A tree, perhaps the sugar maple specified in earlier plans, was growing near the southwest corner of the parterre just outside the privet hedge. Dogwood trees marked the four corners of the museum and large yew shrubs flanked the northern doorway. Here the graceful, curving driveway came from Washington Place to the east and exited to Division Street to the north (Figure 119). This area was thickly covered with a forest of young trees.

The caretaker's cottage was remodeled during the 1950s. The fourteen-space parking lot that was proposed in 1941 for the northern side of the entrance drive near Washington Place was finally built in 1954 (Figures 120 and 121).<sup>97</sup> Lloyd W. Smith, former Washington Association president, willed his extensive book (mainly Americana) and Washingtonia collection to Morristown National Historical Park in 1955. In 1957, a library addition was constructed at the northwest corner of the museum building to house this celebrated collection, temporarily eliminating the need for a separate library building.<sup>98</sup> The Washington Association purchased two adjacent parcels of property on Division Street and Washington Place and donated them to the NPS during the 1960s.

Rehabilitation of the Ford Mansion was approved as part of the Mission 66 program of the park.<sup>99</sup> Architect George L. Wren's 1963 *Historic Structure Report Part II* presented an outline of

necessary structural repairs and proposed changes to several features of the 1939 restoration. The caretaker's cottage garage was constructed as a supply storage shed for the mansion's 1963 rehabilitation, and later moved to a location adjacent to the caretaker's cottage and sided to match the cottage. A replacement caretaker's cottage was planned at the headquarters as part of Mission 66, but it was never built. The sandstone stairs in front of the mansion were replaced with wood stairs and railing thought to be more historically accurate (Figure 122).

In the 1950s, the New Jersey State Highway Department announced plans for realignment of Route 202 (future I-287) through Morristown as a measure of "traffic relief" for Morris County. Plans included a depressed section along Morris Avenue, passing between the George Washington School and the Washington's Headquarters unit. Mayor Edward Mills proposed a compromise route, bypassing central Morristown to the east (via Sneed's Crossing), noting the proximity of the proposed route to Washington's Headquarters and the potential impact.<sup>100</sup> The alignment was shifted to the west during the 1960s to take less of the Headquarters property.<sup>101</sup> The state of New Jersey began to acquire right of way for construction of Interstate-287 during the mid-1960s.<sup>102</sup> By 1965, the state had purchased the seven privately owned properties (encompassing Lots 10-15) between the unit and Lafayette Avenue and Division Street and speculated their eventual donation to the park. Lafayette Avenue and much of Division Street would be removed by the future construction, and plans were being initiated to alter the entrance drive as a result. The remainder of Division Street became the southern edge of a new proposed parking lot, Washington Place became a southerly one-way street, and the new highway interchanges were still in the planning stages.

**RADICAL CHANGES (1970-1980):** The Washington Headquarters landscape was altered dramatically during the 1970s as described in the *Development Concept Plan* of 1973 (Figures 123 and 124). Any eighteenth-century landscape restoration was determined to be infeasible, because to recreate the scene would require the reconstruction of a number of outbuildings and the elimination of many surrounding homes and an interstate highway.<sup>103</sup> I-287 was under construction by 1973, and it influenced the sensitivity, the scale, and the character of this historic site, creating complicated traffic patterns, changing orientation, and fragmenting this historic site from the surrounding community (Figure 125).<sup>104</sup> The arrival of the highway had a strong impact on Washington's Headquarters, especially with its jarring visual intrusion and noise pollution and resulted in reactionary landscape renovations (Figure 126).

In 1973, plans called for expansion of the museum, because it could only accommodate 100 visitors per hour, while the mansion could accommodate 150 visitors per hour.<sup>105</sup> The east and west



museum wings proposed since 1934 appear to have been dropped from plans by this time. The 1973 *Development Concept Plan* stated that with one exception, all trees and shrubs that existed on the site resulted from the plantings installed at the turn of the century and during the 1930s and 40s. A row of sugar maple trees, planted about 20 feet on center, remained about 50 feet west of the museum and 150 feet northwest of the mansion and were likely a former property line planting from the Washington Association era. Many of the trees along the semicircular walkway, Morris Avenue, and along the axial walk in particular remained from the CCC plantings. A dense stand of maple, oak, and ash trees grew west of the museum on the steep terrain. The plan called for further planting of indigenous trees and shrubs in dense groupings to properly screen out the visual and audible interstate highway. The one-hundred foot flagpole (fourteen-inch diameter tapering to three inches, topped with a ten-inch brass ball) was removed in 1971. It was replaced in 1973 with a seventy-five-foot flagpole.

During construction of the highway in 1973, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) proposed to the NPS that a segment of the interstate be covered to include pedestrian space with a planted area, parking spaces for visitors to Morristown National Historical Park, and pedestrian access between the cover and the park. The 2.25-acre cover would extend northward from the existing Morris Avenue (eastbound) about 630 feet and would be 200 feet wide over the depressed highway. The idea faced much criticism, although the concept called for strict and imaginative design standards. Opponents noted that the north end of the proposed cover would rise over sixteen feet above the surrounding land and seem like a huge box culvert appearing “enormous, concrete, bulky, corpulent, massive, and distracting, dwarfing the scale of everything surrounding it and could indeed be a worse travesty than the proposed interstate itself.” The NPS planning team believed that the cover should all be pedestrian space with no parking, so the NJDOT assured the NPS that the state would donate a 0.7 acre parcel north of Division Street, bounded by I-287, westbound Morris Avenue, and Washington Place, for visitor parking, thereby eliminating the need for parking on top of the cover. The cover was never built, and upon the completion of the interstate, the state of New Jersey deeded this parcel to the park. Initial parking lot plans called for grading and a sixty-three car/ four-bus parking lot to be screened with vegetation.<sup>106</sup>

Many new circulation alternatives were explored. Washington Place, a one-block-long, local street that primarily served local residents, was tapped for automobile access and egress to and from the proposed visitor parking lot. Before I-287 was constructed, Morris Avenue was a two-way (east and west) road with curbside parking in front of the mansion. It was converted to a one-way eastbound route after I-287, and to carry traffic back to the Morristown central business district, a

new westbound Morris Avenue, named Lafayette Avenue, was constructed 400 feet north of the museum.<sup>107</sup>

To avoid the possibility of Washington's Headquarters becoming just another stop along an interstate highway, the *Development Concept Plan* proposed that the visitor's experience be preceded by:

“A period of time that allows him to adjust his senses from that of the sensory-depriving experience of the automobile and the interstate highway, and develops a transition of mood from that of twentieth-century concrete, cars, and chaos to a mood that responds to the eighteenth-century needs, urgencies, and struggle for “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

The “natural” grove of maple, oak, and ash trees on the slope between the parking lot and the museum was planned to serve as a transition zone as visitors moved from the openness of the interstate and the parking lot through the dense tree cover. It was hoped that this passage would calm visitors' senses from the urgencies of the automobile and help set the stage for the experience to follow. The museum was to be the transition phase to prepare visitors for the eighteenth-century experience by introducing them to the park by providing information, orientation, interpretation, comfort facilities, and a sales shop.

Morristown's 1975 *Interpretive Prospectus* affirmed the desirability of some type of landscape “restoration” based on the available, though “incomplete and fragmentary,” knowledge of the property noting that

“It is unlikely that new historical sources will be discovered: therefore any attempted historic-grounds restoration will have to be based on available documentation. The documentation available is far too incomplete and fragmentary to approach even a tentative knowledge of the appearance of the Jacob Ford Jr. property as it was in 1779-80...Conjecture and imagination would only create a “we-think-it-could-have-looked-like-this” restoration that would be historically dishonest, and create a visitor impression that we cannot say is accurate.”

The Historical Grounds Survey of Washington's Headquarters was prepared in 1975, but eighteenth-century source material was limited to official documentation of improvements made at the public's expense during the encampment. The survey called for the fencing to be removed along Morris Avenue and replaced with the style built by Gabriel Ford, and for the turf to be maintained as an unimproved lawn, rather than as manicured turf.<sup>108</sup>

By 1975, the houses along Division Street had been razed, the portion of the street closest to the highway had been removed, and the land had been graded. In September of 1975, the NPS finally constructed the visitor parking area in the parcel north of the museum under archeological supervision (Figures 127-132).<sup>109</sup> The parking lot was designed to hold sixty-three automobiles and included four angled bus spaces along the Washington Place edge. The lot's perimeter and the triangular island were planted with trees. Concrete sidewalks were placed around the lot, and a brick-clad concrete retaining wall was built at the southern edge of the lot to hold back the slope. Asphalt pedestrian paths climbed from the southeast and southwest corners of the parking lot, to a central point on the slope, where they converged, and lead to the museum's entrance. The portion of the entrance drive from the former Division Street to the north entrance of the museum was removed, and the remainder of the drive was used as a driveway from Washington Place. The limestone patio by the northern museum door was then expanded north to fill the void left by the removed portion. Two types of signs, directional and parking, were designed for the unit, and two of each were installed at or near the unit due to the complexity of the travel pattern.<sup>110</sup> Crews dug trenches around the museum building to connect old and new drainage pipes this same year.<sup>111</sup>

When Morris Avenue had two-way traffic and parking, visitors didn't realize there was a historical museum behind the mansion, but now with the new road system and parking lot, they came to the museum first. After exiting the museum, visitors would follow the axial walkway to the rear door of the mansion. It was recommended that the axial walk between the mansion and the museum be obliterated and new unidirectional-serpentine paved paths be installed to lead visitors from the museum closer to the front entrance of the Ford Mansion.<sup>112</sup> The museum's north entrance (basement level) would become the main entrance once the parking lot was constructed. Visitor's would then exit out the former main entrance (south façade) and take the eastern serpentine path toward the mansion's front door. After touring the mansion, visitors would exit from the rear and take the western serpentine path back toward the museum's north entrance and the parking lot. The 1976 *Master Plan* proposed diverting emphasis from the Ford Mansion to the rest of the park to alleviate heavy use. With the museum's entrance and exit revised, the plan called for the museum building to be remodeled, taking into consideration the new circulation pattern, because the northern museum entrance formerly opened into offices, workshops, and storage rooms. The plan also called for the mansion to be refurbished.

The park erected a steel maintenance shed at the southwest corner of the parking lot in 1976.<sup>113</sup> This year portions of the herringbone brick walkways installed by the CCC were removed and

regraded to erase all traces, notably the rectilinear walkway with its yew hedge in front of the museum and most of the axial walk, from the parterre garden to the mansion.<sup>14</sup> The privet hedge that once surrounded the parterre garden only remained along the northern edge. Park staff thinned the alleé trees and planted small trees, including hedge maples and dogwoods along the former path in order to blur the symmetry and discourage visitors from walking along the axis (Table 10). A pair of serpentine macadam paths was created to replace the axial walk.<sup>15</sup> The eastern portion was considered to be temporary until the Thompson property could be acquired, by which time planners hoped to replace it with a more geometric, arching path. Planners proposed for the walkways to be six foot wide bituminous concrete, but asphalt was used instead. The steam line, constructed by the CCC between the museum and the mansion for heat and utilities, was abandoned by 1976. An air conditioning unit was sited northeast of the mansion between the mansion and the caretaker's cottage and was screened with dense shrubs including rhododendrons.<sup>16</sup> Rhododendrons were also planted around utility areas (transformers or condensers) and at the junction of the east and west serpentine walks with the semicircular walkway to screen them from the mansion. Numerous other plants were installed to hide twentieth-century intrusions.

Table 10. Plants installed in 1976.<sup>17</sup>

QUANTITY	SPECIES/COMMON NAME	QUANTITY	SPECIES/COMMON NAME
4	<i>Acer campestre</i> / hedge maple	10	<i>Rhododendron arborescens</i> / sweet azalea
5	<i>Cornus florida</i> / flowering dogwood	10	<i>Rhododendron calendulaceum</i> / flame azalea
4	<i>Cornus mas</i> / Cornelian cherry dogwood	20	<i>Rhododendron catawbiense</i> / catawba rhododendron
10	<i>Hammamelis virginiana</i> / common witchhazel	15	<i>Rhododendron nudiflorum</i> / pinxterbloom azalea
10	<i>Ilex glabra</i> / inkberry	10	<i>Rhododendron vaseyi</i> / pinkshell azalea
10	<i>Pieris floribunda</i> / mountain pieris	200	<i>Hemerocallis flava</i> / lemon daylily

Despite the new paths, the regrading, and the new plantings, visitors continued to walk along the central axis between the museum and the mansion after the walkway was removed. It was the shortest route, and the remaining large trees from the alleé guided visitors. One employee grew so frustrated by this, that one night under the cloak of darkness, he transplanted a large shrub from the side of the property into the middle of this path.<sup>18</sup>

**MODERN TIMES (1980-PRESENT):** Compared to the previous decade, the 1980s and 1990s were quiet years at the Headquarters with few changes occurring except for routine maintenance. A fiftieth anniversary gala was held at the headquarters on July 2-4, 1982, with many celebratory and

educational functions held on the property with such dignitaries as Governor Thomas Kean and former NPS director Conrad Worth attending.<sup>119</sup> The NPS acquired the remaining two adjacent properties within the block by 1985; the Thompson house at 14 Washington Place was demolished, and the Dick house at 22 Washington Place was retained for staff housing.<sup>120</sup> Preparation of a general management plan (GMP) was initiated in 1999, and a conceptual plan for expanding the museum building was prepared by ICON Architects, the Boston Support Office, and Morristown National Historical Park staff.<sup>121</sup> The draft GMP identified numerous shortcomings in the 1976 *Master Plan*:

- Management of the park's cultural landscapes at Washington's Headquarters, since cultural landscapes were not recognized as resources at the time,
- Protection of solitude, tranquility and scenic beauty of park lands given the introduction of I-287, eight lanes of traffic running adjacent to Washington's Headquarters, and the increase in airplane overhead air traffic, and
- Expanding the role of the museum in orientation and interpretation of the park and Morristown as a whole.<sup>122</sup>

In advance of museum building rehabilitation, NPS Northeast Region staff planned an initial phase of resource evaluation, including a historic structures report, cultural landscape report, preliminary archeological assessment, and continued development of the park's long range interpretive plan. Beginning in 2000, an integrated cultural resources report, which included an overview and assessment of archeology, an overview of the park's cultural resource research program, a cultural landscape report, and narratives of the history of Morristown, was coordinated by the University of Massachusetts. These studies identified two additional areas of significance for Morristown resources in addition to the American Revolution: Morristown's Country Place era, centering on park resources in addition to the American Revolution, and the Park Service's early historic preservation and memorialization efforts during the 1930s. A cultural landscape inventory was completed for Washington's Headquarters in 2004, and research for this cultural landscape report for Washington's Headquarters was initiated in November 2001. These studies explore significance and integrity of the cultural landscape and will guide the park in future rehabilitation efforts.

In 2002, the park resurfaced the asphalt paths and removed two spruce trees from in front of the museum's south façade. Currently, visitors enter Washington's Headquarters from the lower north parking lot and travel to the north entrance of the museum by way of asphalt-paved footpaths that also connect the museum and the mansion. A portion of the brick path that once directly connected the two buildings remains in the parterre. New vegetation has been planted randomly

throughout the site, and the view between the museum and mansion has been obscured by small trees. Most of the central area is covered by the large canopies of large white oak trees. Shrubs are located around both of the buildings, and grass is mowed to maintain a manicured appearance.

The museum, now eligible for listing on the National Register, houses administrative offices, an auditorium, exhibits, meeting rooms, and the library. The mansion is open to the public as a historical museum, depicting life in the mansion at the time of the encampment. The mansion is now furnished with authentic pieces of the 1780 period or earlier, thus showing the general appearance of the mansion during Washington's occupation. The main difference between the mansion's mid-nineteenth-century appearance and today's is the absence of dormer windows.<sup>123</sup>

#### LANDSCAPE SUMMARY

Immediately after acquiring Washington's Headquarters in 1933, the Morristown National Historical Park planned to acquire all of the parcels in the block occupied by the Ford Mansion. This task was gradually accomplished throughout the twentieth century with the assistance of the Washington Association of New Jersey (WANJ).

The NPS built a historical museum north of the mansion during the 1930s. The Colonial Revival building was designed by John Russell Pope and was meant to harmonize with the mansion and gesture to Washington's Mount Vernon. The plans originally called for a central museum and administration building flanked by a museum wing and a library wing connected by covered arcades, but the required property could not be obtained, and only the central block was built. Lafayette Hall and the Washington Association garden were removed, and the land was gently graded to conceal the lower portion of the museum along the south façade, in front of which a parterre garden was installed.

An axial path led from the museum's front door, along the property, up a steep set of stairs to the rear door of the mansion. This path was paved with bricks in a herringbone pattern as was the semicircular drive in front of the mansion. A white oak allée flanked by other white oak trees and a shrub hedge bordered the axial path. Ornamental vegetation was planted around the foundation of the mansion, and the new parterre garden was lined with yew and privet hedges. The NPS constructed a Colonial Revival crossbar fence along Morris Avenue, removed the Civil War-era cannon from the property, and conducted archeological research that located many outbuildings. The resulting landscape was Beaux Arts in nature, elegantly linked the museum and the mansion, and was reminiscent of the former Washington Association landscape.

Interstate-287 was completed along the western side of the Headquarters property in 1973. The intrusion complicated traffic, changed orientation, and fragmented the historic site from the community. The road also added tremendous noise pollution. Morris Avenue was converted to a one-way eastbound route, and a new Lafayette Avenue westbound route was constructed behind the museum. NJDOT donated a parcel of land between the westbound Morris Avenue and the museum for a visitor parking lot. Washington Place became the main street for access and egress to and from the new lot. This dramatically changed the circulation system within the unit. The rear (north) side of the museum became the new 'front.' Visitors entered the basement door after passing through a thick grove of maple, oak, and ash trees planted to conceal the highway and prepare visitors for a historic experience. The museum was remodeled, transforming the basement into the main visitor orientation, shop, and exhibit area. Visitors exited upstairs out of the former front entrance. The two-way linear path and allée of trees that led visitors to the rear of the mansion was obliterated, and two one-way curvilinear paths were installed that led visitors to the front of the mansion and from the rear of the mansion back to the museum, blurring the visual connection. Trees and shrubs were planted informally around the landscape. The NPS also erected a steel maintenance shed at the southwest corner of the parking lot.

The park's *General Management Plan* was completed in 2003. Much landscape research was conducted to inform this plan and the museum building rehabilitation, including this cultural landscape report and a cultural landscape inventory for Washington's Headquarters. These studies explore significance and integrity of the cultural landscape and will guide the park in future rehabilitation efforts.

## ENDNOTES

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<sup>1</sup> Hosmer, Charles B., Jr. 1981. *Preservation Comes of Age, From Williamsburg to the National Trust, 1926-1949*. Volumes I and II:471,478-498. Charlottesville, VA: The University Press of Virginia, for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Hosmer 1981:476,477.

<sup>3</sup> Hosmer 1981:516-519.

<sup>4</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP 2001Draft:21.

<sup>5</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP 2001Draft:21.

<sup>6</sup> Votes to Transfer Washington House, *Newark Evening News*, May 9, 1933.

<sup>7</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP 2001 Draft:22.

<sup>8</sup> *Ickes to Dedicate Park on Tuesday*, New York Times July 2, 1933, CCC at Morristown – Newspaper Articles Folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 5, Central Files Series, Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1940.

<sup>9</sup> G.A. Moskey to Superintendent Elbert Cox memorandum, January 25, 1935, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

Nathan R. Margold, Solicitor, to Secretary of the Interior memorandum, January 18, 1935, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

1873 Survey Map of subdivided Henry A. Ford Estate by J. Frank Johnson.

Property Tract Map of WANJ Property transferred to NPS in 1933 (on trace paper, associated with deed), Title Abstract-Washington's Headquarters (WANJ) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

Revised Map of the Henry A Ford Estate, Morristown, NJ, Division of Estate July 31, 1873, Drawn by George W. Uoivell, November 28, 1892, Morristown National Historical Park administration file cabinets.

Indenture (Deed from WANJ to USA (NPS)) July 1, 1933, Title Documents Regions Files folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

The First Tract – (Headquarters – 3.06 acres and ½ of Morris Avenue immediately in front of the Headquarters) Four Founders of WANJ, George A. Halsey (Abbie C.), Nathaniel N. Halsted (Nancy W.), Theodore F. Randolph (Mary F.F.), and William VanVleck Lidgerwood – Deed May 1, 1877 (recorded July 3, 1877 in Book S-9 on pages 573 etc. Morris County.) Granted and released by Henry A. Ford heirs and devisees, Frances G. Seymour (George D.), Jane M. Ogden (Frederic B.), Eliza H. Canfield (Joseph Lovell), Henry W. Ford (Emily L.), Millen Ford (Sarah C.), Emily H. Canfield (Hobart), and William Eugene Ford (Caro) by deed confirmed June 29, 1877 and recorded July 23, 1877 in Book T-9 on pages 414 etc. Morris County.

The Second Tract (Lot No. 23 and the westerly half of Lot No. 22 on 1873 Johnson survey map – containing 22,000 square feet) Conveyed to WANJ by Henry W. Ford (Emily L.) by deed October 28, 1882 and recorded December 9, 1882 in Book X-10 on pages 401 etc. Morris County

The Third Tract (Lot No.9 (23,500 square feet, Lot No. 10 (24,750 square feet), and Lot No. 11 (area unknown?) on 1873 Johnson survey map) Conveyed to WANJ by Albert H. Vernam (Emmie G.) by deed dated March 19, 1892 and recorded March 21, 1892 in Book Q-13 on pages 89 etc. of Morris County. (Lot 9 was conveyed to Vernam by Jane H. Ogden and husband by deed dated August 9, 1890 in Book A-13 of Deeds, pages 506 etc.) (Lots 10 & 11 was conveyed to Vernam by Mary A Easton by deed dated Feb. 29, 1892 recorded in Book P-13 of deeds pages 156 etc.)

The Fourth Tract (Lot No. 24 and the easterly half of Lot. No. 22 on 1873 Johnson survey map – 20,556 square feet) Conveyed to the WANJ by Frances G. Seymour (widow) by her deed dated March 16, 1894 and recorded March 28, 1894 in Book H-14 on pages 159 etc.

<sup>10</sup> Development Concept, Washington's Headquarters Unit, Morristown National Historical Park, June 1973:2. Denver, CO: Denver Service Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, NESO.

<sup>11</sup> Morristown National Historical Park 1962 Park Brochure.

<sup>12</sup> Atwood, Edward E. 1934. Morristown National Historical Park: The General Plan, 6. July. Box 1, CRM Archives (Central Files). Morristown National Historical Park.

<sup>13</sup> Management Assistant to Superintendent, Morristown National Historical Park, 14 July 1983, Civilian Conservation Corps Activities in Morris County Memorandum, CCC History-Memoranda Folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 5, Central Files Series, Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1940.

<sup>14</sup> *The 24<sup>th</sup> Co. of the CCC Came to Morristown This Day*, Morristown Record July 5, 1933, CCC at Morristown – Newspaper Articles Folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 5, Central Files Series, Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1940.

<sup>15</sup> Civilian Conservation Corps Activities in Morris County Memorandum.

<sup>16</sup> Hosmer 1981:532-536.

Rutsch and Peters 1976:461.

<sup>193</sup> Melvin J. Weig to Warren D. Beach, May 1, 1983, memorandum, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Correspondence Folder – Weig, Wirth, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 6, Central Files Series, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Morristown National Historical Park, 1983.

<sup>18</sup> Photographs 85-1802, Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>19</sup> Atwood 1934:9.

<sup>20</sup> A Report on the Historical Data Collected on the Washington Headquarters to May 15, 1934 Dated May 17, 1934 by Clifford R. Stearns Historical Assistant, Ford Mansion-Report on Historical Data Collected Data Collected-C.R. Stearns (1934) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>21</sup> Hosmer 1981:519-20.

Atwood 1934.

<sup>22</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1934 Jan. 1. MORR/337/6021/1Page/Topography-ProposedMuseumSite/N/-.

<sup>23</sup> Park Museum and Library Plans Announced Today, *Morristown Daily Record*, Oct 2, 1934.

<sup>24</sup> Famous Architect to Aid, *Morristown Daily Record*, Mar. 4, 1934.



<sup>25</sup> One Resident Holding Up Museum Project, *Morristown News*, Jan 24, 1935.

Superintendent Cox to the NPS Director memorandum, January 11, 1935, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

“Discussion was continued, the question of what to do, the subject. It was explained to the committee that to draw the wings of the building in closer to the main unit or otherwise to change the plans could not be considered, that it was the feeling of the Service that all or none of the building should be built, and to change this plan would require special approval of the Director of the PWA. Other suggestions made were the following:

1. Buy a strip off the back of the Pinney and Thompson properties sufficient to permit the construction of the wing, leaving the property otherwise intact.
2. Induce the town of Morristown to aid in the purchase of the properties by using a certain fund, if said fund could be used for such purposes.
3. Pay the \$12,000 for the Thompson property and offer Pinney a lesser figure for his property with the provision that the building be erected, thereby using a strip along the backside, and Mr. Pinney be given a life tenure right in remainder of the property.

Otto R. Eggers, Office of the John Russell Co., to Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect NPS memorandum, July 17, 1934, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

“This letter acknowledges the receipt of a plot plan of the land surrounding Washington’s Headquarters showing the “Taking Lines” outlining the property necessary to carry out the proposed scheme for the museum. This drawing is numbered M-06049.” Map prepared by Mr. McCollum.

Clyde Potts to Verne Chatelaine, National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, letter, July 16, 1934, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

From Mr. McCollum’s “taking lines” maps we need six pieces: 1 and 2 are needed for the Library; 3 and 4 are needed for the museum proper, and 5 and 6 are needed for the easterly wing. 5 and 6 are difficult – Thompson and Pinney – would require removal of Pinney garage and reconfiguration of driveway.

<sup>26</sup> Superintendent Cox to the NPS Director memorandum, January 11, 1935, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

<sup>27</sup> VG Setser, Historical Technician, to Arno B. Cammerer, Director Office of National Parks, letter, January 31, 1934, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

Thompson lot - 150 by 155 feet: assessed value in books of Town of Morristown \$1500 for land and \$5000 for buildings total 6500 for dwelling, land and garage. Mr. Thompson said land worth \$14,000 because historical and he had offers from people who wished to build bungalows there.

<sup>28</sup> Apt to Erect Only Part of Museum Here, *Morristown Daily Record*, Feb. 13, 1935.

<sup>29</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1934 July 1. MORR/337/6048/1 Page/ Proposed Taking Lines at Washington's Headquarters/S/161.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1935 Jan. 1. MORR/337/1100/1Page/PlatofWashingtonHeadquartersSquare/S/21.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1941 Jan. 1. MORR/337/2068/1Page/Area Site Plan-Headquarters Area/S/161.

<sup>30</sup> Delay Award Contract for Museum Work, *Morristown Daily Record*, 1935.

Bids for Museum Here to Go Out on April 1, *Morristown Daily Record*, Mar. 27 1935.

<sup>31</sup> Otto R. Eggers, Office of the John Russell Co., to Thomas C. Vint, Chief Architect NPS memorandum, July 17, 1934, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

<sup>32</sup> Nathan R. Margold, Solicitor, to Secretary of the Interior memorandum, June 10, 1935, Files Received from NE Region, 1970 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

1873 Survey Map of subdivided Henry A. Ford Estate by J. Frank Johnson.

Abstract of the Title of the Washington Association of New Jersey, Title Abstract-Washington’s Headquarters (WANJ) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

“Pursuant to the “Trust-Deed” a map and plot was drawn by J Frank Johnson, surveyor, and this was afterward filed in the office of the County Clerk. About three acres in one tract were allotted as a suitable message to “Washington’s Headquarters” [Henry A. Ford had mentioned 15 –20 acres to go with house]. This tract was offered in a public venue at “Headquarters” on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1873.”

Property Tract Map of WANJ Property transferred to NPS in 1933 (on trace paper, associated with deed), Title Abstract-Washington's Headquarters (WANJ) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 25, Central Files Series, Title Documents, 1933-1972.

Revised Map of the Henry A Ford Estate, Morristown, NJ, Division of Estate July 31, 1873, Drawn by George W. Uoivell, November 28, 1892, Morristown National Historical Park administration file cabinets.

<sup>33</sup> Arborgast, David. 1985. *Inventory of Structures, Morristown National Historical Park*, 295. National Park Service, Division of Cultural Resources, NARO.

Atwood 1934:3,10.

<sup>34</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to O.G. Taylor, Chief Engineer, NPS, memorandum, January 25, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>35</sup> Technical Specifications for Steam and Condensate Piping between Museum and Washington Headquarters Building. Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1937) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>36</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP 2001 Draft:22.

Photograph 6719, Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>37</sup> Put Up Directional Signs for Park, *Morristown Daily Record*, Jul 27, 1937.

<sup>38</sup> Perry 1963, Part 1:3.

<sup>39</sup> Elbert Cox, Park Superintendent, to D.S. Enslee memorandum, June 24, 1935, Washington's Headquarters– Correspondence (1935) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

Photograph 7029, Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>40</sup> Norman Newton, Resident Landscape Architect, to Superintendent Elbert Cox memorandum, October 4, 1938, Washington's Headquarters– Correspondence (1938) July – December folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>41</sup> Holland, Francis R., Jr. 1959. *Historic Structures Report, Part 1, Ford Mansion, Morristown National Historical Park*, 15. National Park Service, WASO/NESO.

<sup>42</sup> Washington's Headquarters opened to the public August 19, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>43</sup> Hosmer 1981:618.

<sup>44</sup> Planning for Laboratory, *Morristown Daily Record*, Apr 4, 1935.

<sup>45</sup> Museum Work at laboratory Ends on First, *Morristown Daily Record*, Jul 18, 1935.

<sup>46</sup> Report(s) to the Regional Chief of Planning, Region One Headquarters by Ralph W. Emerson, Resident Architect, Branch of Plans & Design February 24, 1941 and August 27, 1941.

<sup>47</sup> Report to the Regional Chief of Planning, Region One Headquarters by Ralph W. Emerson, Resident Architect, Branch of Plans & Design February 24, 1941.

<sup>48</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft:22.

<sup>49</sup> Berg, Shary Page. 1999. *Liberty Island, Statue of Liberty National Monument, Cultural Landscape Report*. National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>50</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to Mrs. Elliott Averett letter, February 16, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

Superintendent Elbert Cox to Norman T. Newton, Resident Landscape Architect, NPS, 101 Park Avenue, New York City memorandum, February 14, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>51</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1934 May 1. MORR/337/1037/5 Sheets/Historical Museum/M/-.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1937 Sept. 1. MORR/337/2003/1 Page/General Outline Plan/Washington's Headquarters and Historical Museum/S/160.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1937 Sept. 1. MORR/337/2004/3 Pages/Grading, Planting and Construction Details/ Washington's Headquarters/S/21.

<sup>52</sup> Photograph 6864, Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>53</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1937 Sept. 1. MORR/337/2004/3 Pages/Grading, Planting and Construction Details/ Washington's Headquarters/S/21.

<sup>54</sup> Elbert Cox, Park Superintendent to Henry C. Pitney, Secretary WANJ memorandum, June 26, 1936, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1935) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

Photographs 6240-7881. Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>55</sup> Russell Baker, Acting Park Superintendent to NPS Director (attn. Mr. Chatelain) memorandum, August 19, 1936, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1936) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>56</sup> Jockey Hollow Lightning Rods to protect Finer Trees in Park, *NEN*, Sep 4, 1936.

<sup>57</sup> Act Quickly If You Would Like to Acquire a Cannon, *Morristown Daily Record*, June 18, 1937.

<sup>58</sup> William McCarthy, engineer, to Elbert Cox, Park Superintendent, memorandum, December 3, 1937, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1937) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters 1933-1999 (File 620-132). The floodlights were 500 wattage, manufactured by Westinghouse Co., Type W.B., Style #349785-A. They were painted inside and out, and their reflectors were polished with silver polish.

<sup>59</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to Jersey Central Power & Light Company letter, March 18, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132). The contract, I-1p-6532, was canceled, and pole nos. JCP 314M, JCP 315M, and JCP 316M were to be removed immediately, and pole no. JCP 313M was temporarily retained, because it carried the time clock and switch.

<sup>60</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1939 Nov. 1. MORR/337/2052/1Page/Details for Steps and Walks/ Washington's Headquarters and Museum/S/48A.

<sup>61</sup> Elbert Cox, Park Superintendent to WANJ memorandum, November 5, 1936, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1936) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>62</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1939 April 1. MORR/337/1126/1Page/Fence for Washington's Headquarters/S/21.

<sup>63</sup> Carl P. Russell, Region One Regional Director (Richmond) to NPS Director memorandum, June 29, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>64</sup> E.M. Lisle, Acting Associate Regional Director, Region One Richmond, to Morristown National Historical Park Superintendent memorandum, April 21, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1939 April 1. MORR/337/1126/1Page/Fence for Washington's Headquarters/S/21.

<sup>65</sup> W.G. Carnes, NPS Acting Chief of Planning, to Superintendent Elbert Cox memorandum, August 18, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) July-December folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>66</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft:22,28.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection, Details for Steps and Walks, Washington's Headquarters & Museum, Morristown National Historical Park, 1938, MOR/337/2052.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection, Fence for Washington's Headquarters, Morristown National Historical Park, 1938, MOR/337/1126.

<sup>67</sup> Ralph W. Smith to Superintendent Elbert Cox memorandum, March 15, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>68</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to O.G. Taylor, Chief Engineer NPS, memorandum April 13, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>69</sup> Photographs 6822-6863, Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

<sup>70</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to the Historians memorandum, March 16, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) January-June folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>71</sup> Charles S. Marshall, Jr. Historian, to the Superintendent memorandum, March 18, 1938, Historical File-Research Reports-Washington's Headquarters (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes.

<sup>72</sup> Superintendent Elbert Cox to the Historians memorandum, March 16, 1938, Historical File-Research Reports-Washington's Headquarters (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 32, Central Files Series, Research and Survey: Guernin House, Road Returns, Misc. Notes.

<sup>73</sup> Report to the Regional Chief of Planning, Region One Headquarters by Ralph W. Emerson, Resident Architect, Branch of Plans & Design March 16, 1949; April 20, 1940; June 24, 1940; July 24, 1940; August 24, 1940. Morristown National Historical Park Archives.

<sup>74</sup> Bill O'Neil to Superintendent Cox memorandum, August 4, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) July-December folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>75</sup> Monthly Narrative Report to Chief Architect, Dec. 20-Jan. 25, 1937; Feb. 21 to March 20, 1938; April 21 to May 20, 1938.

<sup>76</sup> Weig, M., *Archeological Excavations at Washington's Headquarters Reveal Interesting Information*, October 16, 1937, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 18, Central Files Series, Archeology, 1933-1986.

<sup>77</sup> MORR National Historical Park Arch Map No 206 referenced in:

Holland 1959, Part 1:29.

<sup>78</sup> Holland 1959 Part 1:28.

<sup>79</sup> MORR National Historical Park Arch Map No 205 in:

Holland 1959, Part 1:28.

<sup>80</sup> MORR National Historical Park Arch Map No 201 in:

Holland 1959, Part 1:28.

<sup>81</sup> MORR National Historical Park Arch Map No 201 in:

Holland 1959, Part 1:28.

<sup>82</sup> Holland 1959, Part 1:28.

<sup>83</sup> Massey 1975:5.

Drawing: Washington's Headquarters, 1938 Excavations at Ford Mansion, Archeological Field Notes, Ford Mansion 1986 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 18, Central Files Series, Archeology, 1933-1986.

<sup>84</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft, Part3:16.

<sup>85</sup> Superintendent Cox to Mr. Gulado Ford, Brook Ford Farm, Eatontown, NJ, August 8, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) July-December folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>86</sup> Superintendent Cox to Mr. Gulado Ford, Brook Ford Farm, Eatontown, NJ, August 8, 1938, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1938) July-December folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>87</sup> The Morristown Garden Club leaflet, January 3, 1939, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>88</sup> Morristown National Historical Park NJ Brochure (with bust of Washington) and Morristown National Historical Park NJ Brochure (with Jockey Hollow hut), Publications-Mini folder, 1930s and 40s, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

<sup>89</sup> Superintendent Cox to Mrs. Paul Moore letter, March 15, 1939, Washington's Headquarters – Correspondence (1939) folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 15, Central Files Series, Washington's Headquarters, 1933-1999 (File 620-132).

<sup>90</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1941 Jan. 1. MORR/337/2068/1Page/Area Site Plan-Headquarters Area/S/161

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1941 Jan. 1. MORR/337/2069/1 Page/Headquarters Area Utilities/M/-

<sup>91</sup> Report to the Regional Chief of Planning, Region One Headquarters by Ralph W. Emerson, Resident Architect, Branch of Plans & Design February 24, 1941; April 24, 1941; May 27, 1941; August 27, 1941. Morristown National Historical Park Archives.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1941 June 1. MORR/337/2061/1 Page/ Grading Plan-North End Headquarters Area/S/21

<sup>92</sup> Ickes Urging People Not to Visit Parks, *Morristown Daily Record*, June 14, 1943.

<sup>93</sup> Bertland 1981:36,56.

Lindsay 2000:38.

<sup>94</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1946 April 1. MORR/337/1068/1Page/Administration-Museum Development of the Ford House Area/S/160.

<sup>95</sup> Photographs 2188-2401. Photograph Collection, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives.

Morristown National Historical Park Brochure 1950-1960s, Publications-Mini Folder, ca. 1950-60, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

Morristown National Historical Park Guide Book, 1967, Published by WANJ, Publications-Mini Folder, ca. 1950-60, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 27, Central Files Series, Title Documents, Publications.

<sup>96</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1952 Feb. 1. MORR/337/2020/1Page/Grounds Rehabilitation-Headquarters Area/S/48A.

<sup>97</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1954 June 1. MORR/337/2076/1 Page/Parking Area-Washington Headquarters/S/21.

<sup>98</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft:13.

<sup>99</sup> Holland 1959, Part 1:1.

<sup>100</sup> Suggested Realignment Route 202 Just Beyond Town Border by Mills, *Morristown Daily Record*, c. 1950 (undated clipping in Morristown National Historical Park Archives).

<sup>101</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1957-1990. MORR/337/3011P/ Vicinity Washington's Headquarters Land Status Plats – NPS.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1966-1990. MORR/337/3034/Land Use, Management Zoning, and Land Classification.

<sup>102</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1965 Dec. 1. MORR/337/7005/1Page/Boundary-WashingtonsHeadquarters/S/21.

<sup>103</sup> Development Concept 1973:2,5,19.

<sup>104</sup> Development Concept 1973:5.

<sup>105</sup> Development Concept 1973:8,11,15.

<sup>106</sup> Development Concept 1973:5,6,11,20.

<sup>107</sup> Development Concept 1973:6.

<sup>108</sup> Massey 1975:11.

<sup>109</sup> Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft:15.

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1974 May 01. MORR/337/41008/2 Pages/Parking Area and Entrance Trail/Washington's Headquarters/S/188.

<sup>110</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1975 March 1. MORR/337/41011/1 Page/Directional Signs-Washington's Headquarters Unit/S/188.

<sup>111</sup> Bauxar, Deborah K., Archeologist, DSC, Journal of Archeological Supervision of Construction at the Morristown NHO, Morristown, NJ, H2215 Ford Mansion Jockey Hollow (Visitor Center Tour Road) 1975 folder, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 18, Central Files Series, Archeology, 1933-1986.

<sup>112</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1974 May 1. MORR/337/40009/1 Page/Circulation Plan/Washington's Headquarters Unit/S/188

DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1975 March 1. MORR/337/41015/1Page/Walkways for Visitor Circulation/Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>113</sup> Final Master Plan: Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey, 6. NESO, Nov. 1976.

<sup>114</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1975 March 1. MORR/337/41015/1Page/Walkways for Visitor Circulation/Washington's Headquarters.

<sup>115</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1976 Oct. 1. MORR/337/41017/6 Pages/Trails and directional Signs/Washington Headquarters, Jockey Hollow/S/162.

<sup>116</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1976 Sept. 1. MORR/337/41007/47 Pages/Museum & Ford Mansion Remodeling/S/161.

<sup>117</sup> DSC-TIC Plan Collection. 1976 Oct. 1. MORR/337/41017/6 Pages/Trails and directional Signs/Washington Headquarters, Jockey Hollow/S/162.

<sup>118</sup> Olsen, Eric. November 15, 2001. Interviewed by Chris Stevens, OCLP, at the Wick Farm 4:00 PM.

<sup>119</sup> Morristown Daily Record, September 12, 1982, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Clippings, Morristown National Historical Park CRM Archives, Box 6, Central Files Series, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Morristown National Historical Park, 1983.

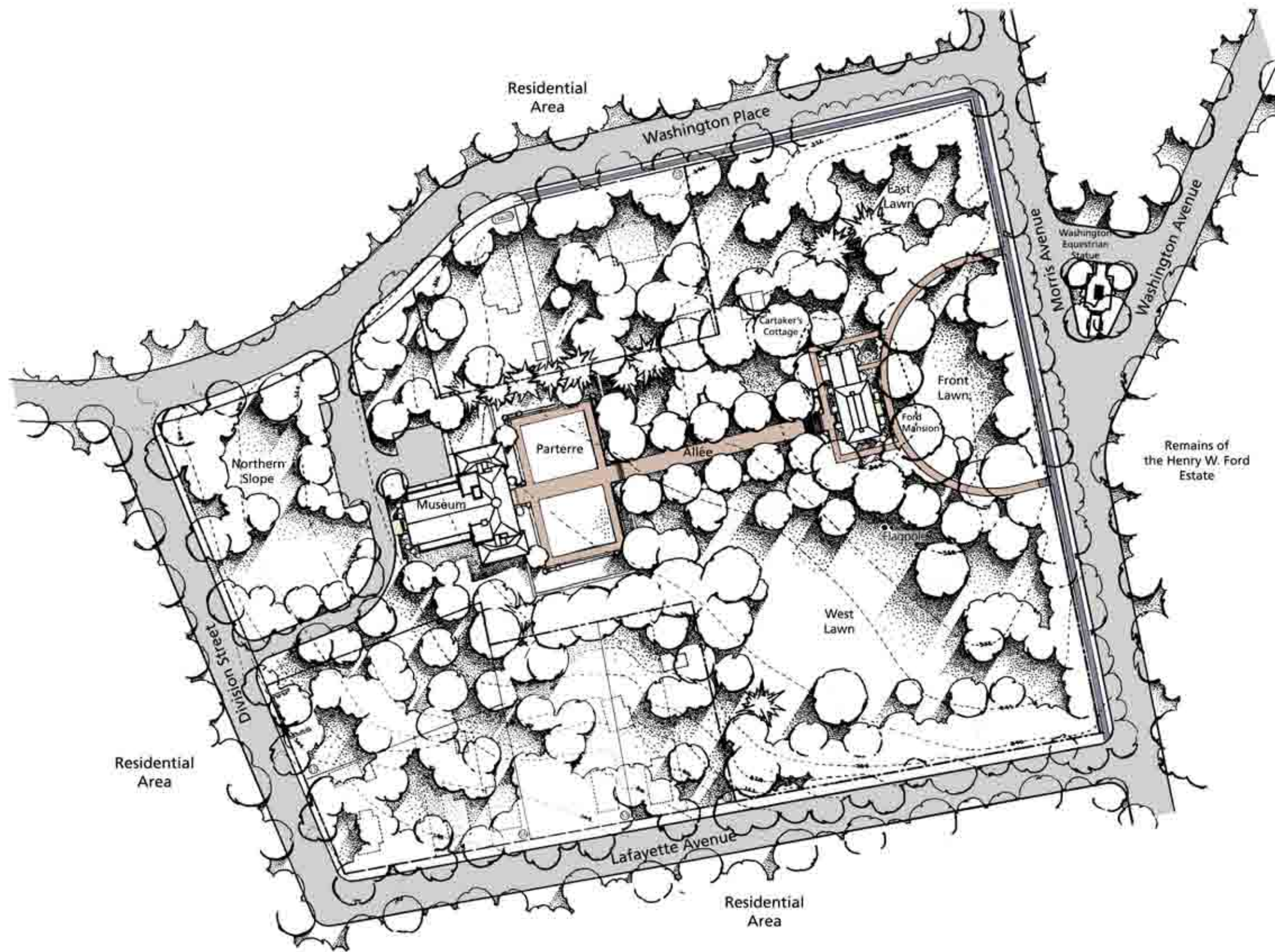
<sup>120</sup> Arbogast 1985:305.

Washington's Headquarters CLI 2000 Draft:13-15.

<sup>121</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP Draft 2001:24.

<sup>122</sup> Morristown National Historical Park GMP Draft 2001:25,26.

<sup>123</sup> Perry 1963, Part 1:8.



## 1942 Period Plan

Cultural Landscape Report  
 Volume 1  
 Washington's Headquarters Unit  
 Morristown National  
 Historical Park  
 Morristown, New Jersey

Produced by

National Park Service  
 Olmsted Center for  
 Landscape Preservation

### Map Sources:

Information presented in this plan is based on 1941 Headquarters Area Master Plan (MOR-2068) and the 1952 Headquarters Area Grounds Rehabilitation Plan (MOR-2020).

Additional field checking and historic photo analysis completed by the Olmsted Center, 2001-2002.

### Notes:

Plan prepared using Adobe Photoshop 7 by Chris Stevens, NPS.

Scale in Feet

0 25 50 75 100



### Legend:

	Deciduous Tree		Lawn
	Coniferous Tree		Subdivision Property Line
	Shrub	<b>Subdivision Property Owners</b>	
	Asphalt Path	12. George Anderson (south half) & Rachael Rosenblatt (north half)	
	Limestone	13. James Dooling	
	Brick	14. Julius A. Anderson & Alfred W. Anderson	
	Bluestone	15. William Ford Estate	
		19&20. George Pinney	
		21. Josephine Thompson	

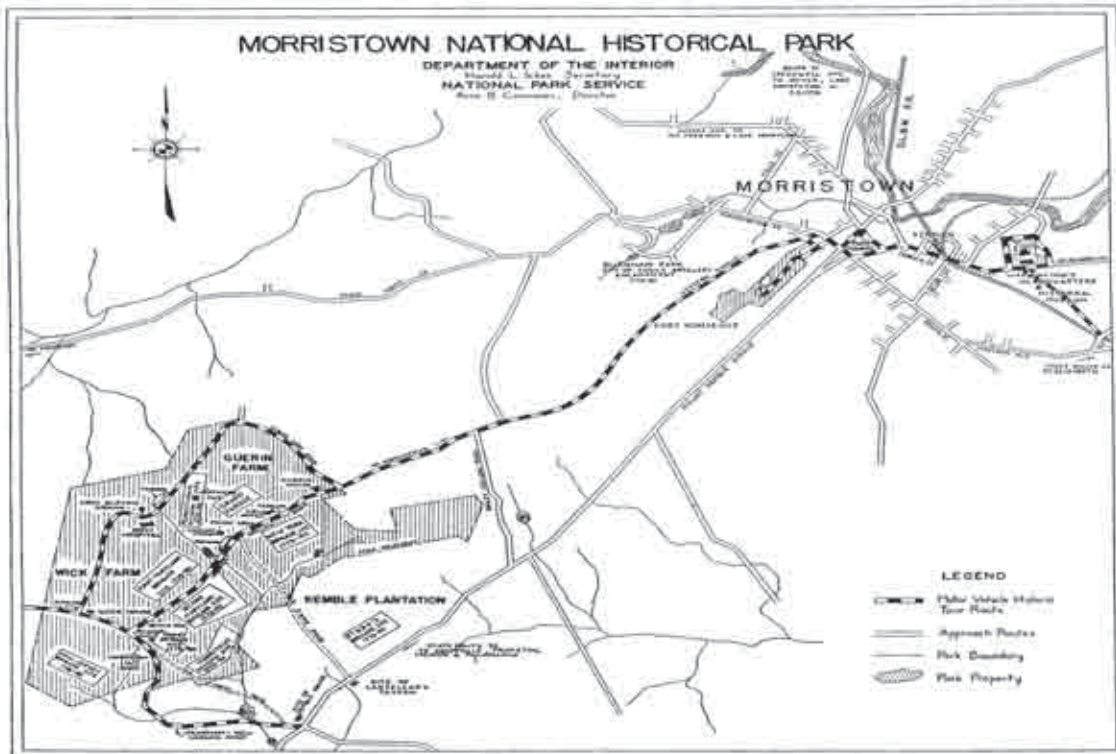


Figure 30. Motor tour route for new historical park, c. 1930s (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

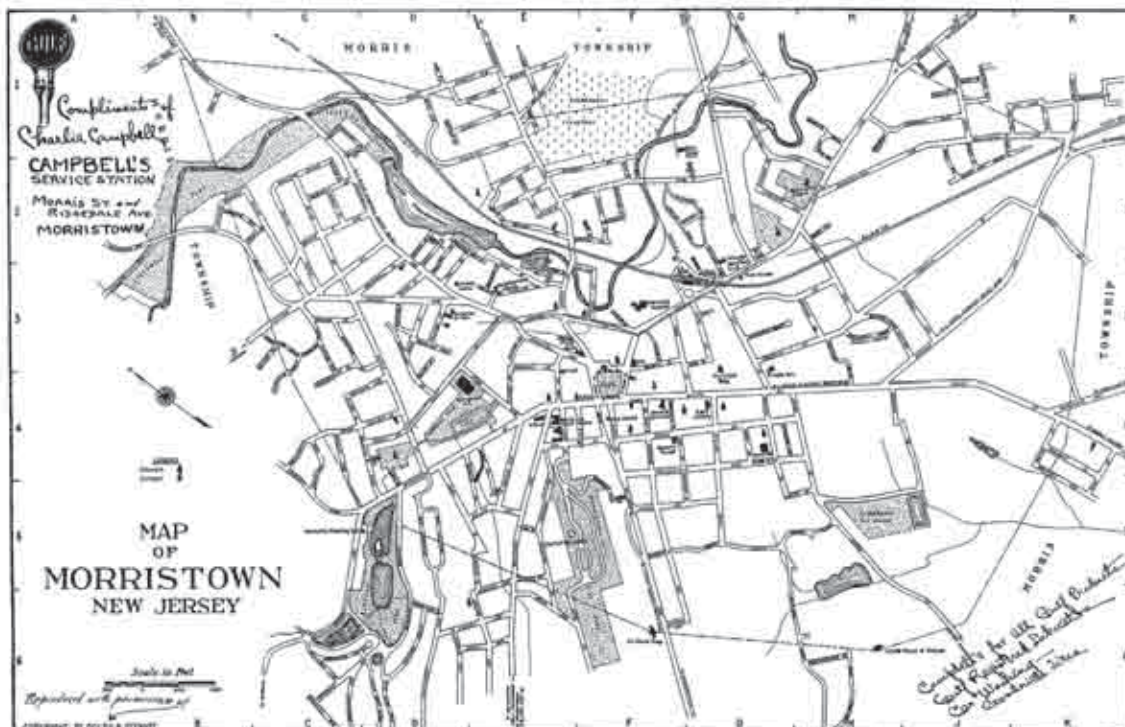


Figure 31. Gulf Gas Station road map of Morristown, c. 1930s (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

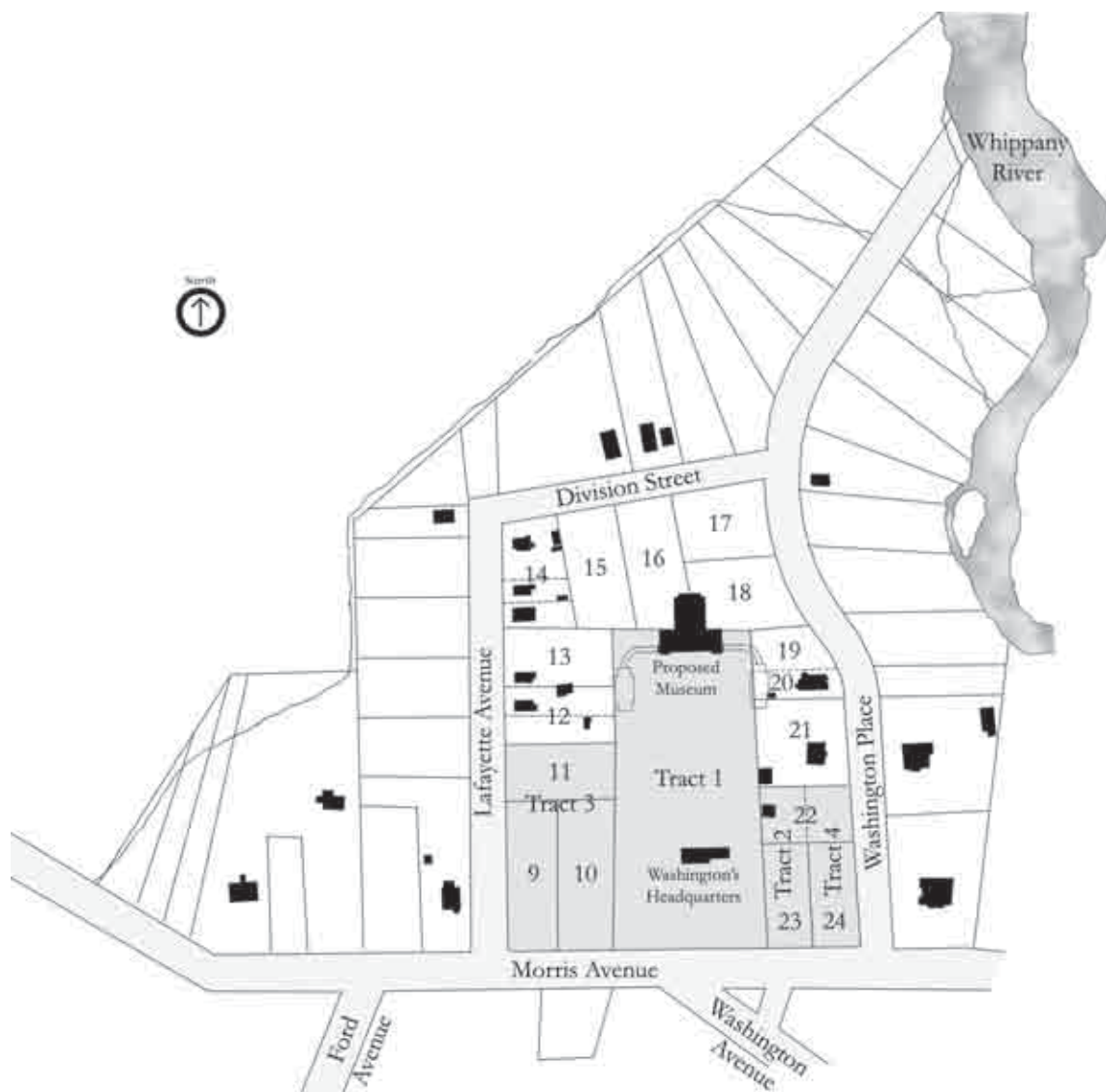


Figure 32. Subdivision map of Washington's Headquarters, c. 1933 (See Tables 7 and 8) (OCLP, 2002).





Figure 33. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 34. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 35. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 36. Front lawn of Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 37. Front steps to Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 38. Semicircular walk in front of Ford Mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 39. View down Washington Avenue, 1935 (note iron fence on the right along the Henry W. Ford estate) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 40. Cannon along the Ford Mansion's west facade, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 41. Park sign near southeast corner of the mansion, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 42. Southeast view across the east lawn, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 43. Southeast view across the east lawn with cannon, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 44. View of Ford Mansion from east lawn, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 45. Southeast corner of property along Washington Place, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 46. West lawn with sugar maples along property line, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 47. Locust trees along Washington Place removed from Lot 18, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 48. Locust trees removed from Lot 18, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 49. Fence damaged by automobile, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 50. Washington's Headquarters front lawn, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 51. Washington's Headquarters front lawn, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 52. Washington's Headquarters front lawn, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 53. Stone features by east facade of Ford Mansion, 1937 (note cobbled, gravel driveway) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 54. Washington's Headquarters front lawn, c.1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 55. Washington's Headquarters front lawn, c.1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

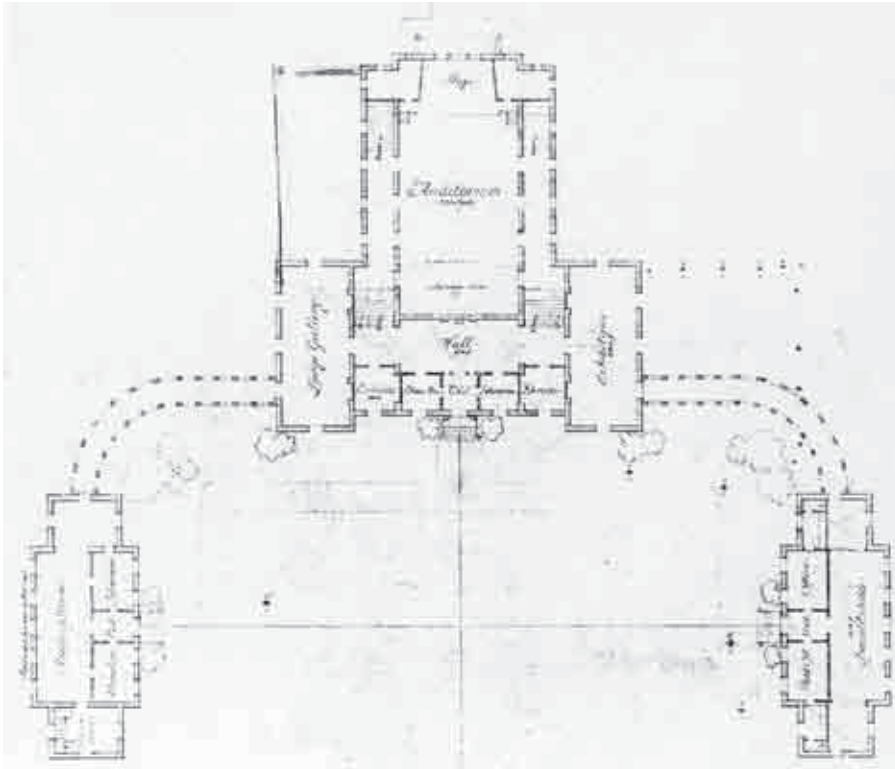


Figure 56. Pope museum plan, 1935 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

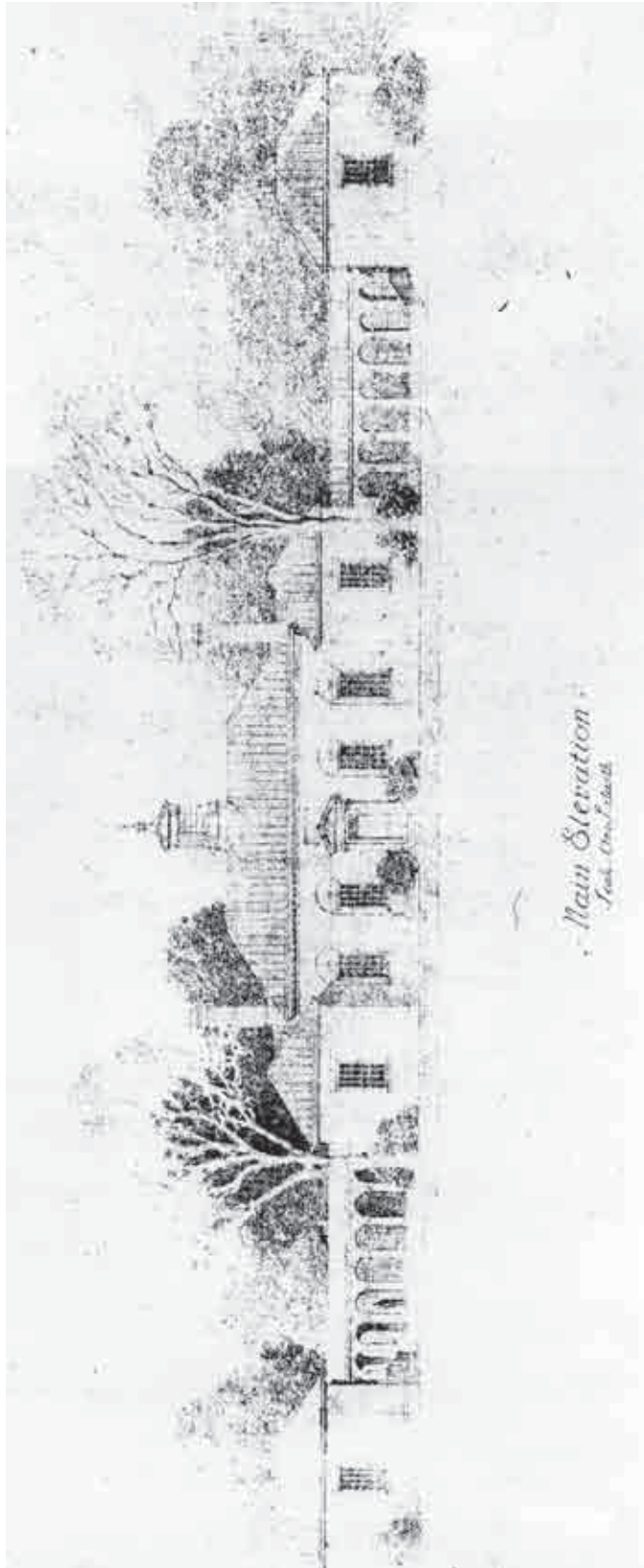


Figure 57. Pope elevational drawing of the museum, 1935 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

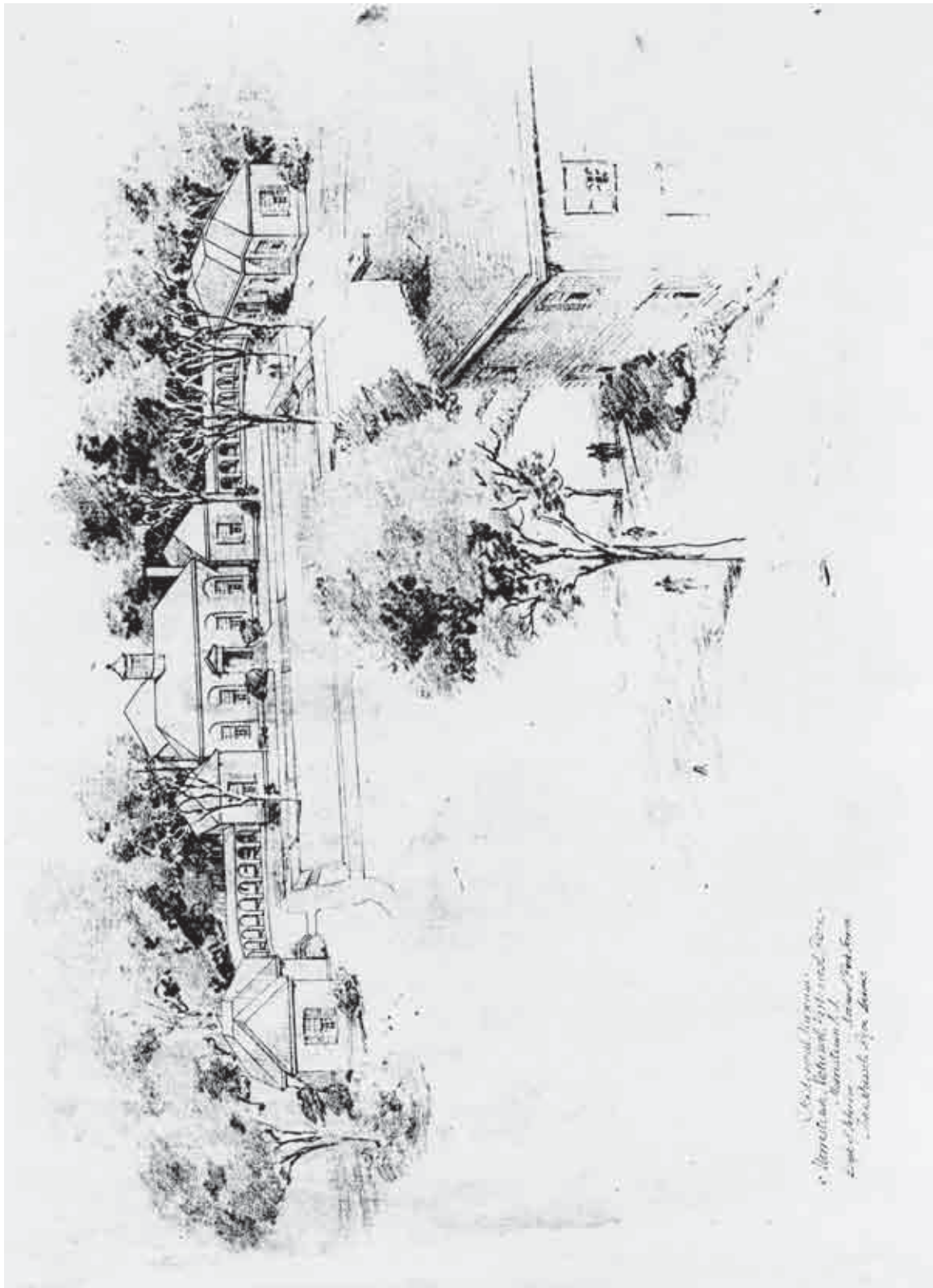


Figure 58. Pope's conceptual birdseye view of Washington's Headquarters, 1935 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).



Figure 59. George Washington's Mount Vernon home that inspired Pope's design.



Figure 60. Lafayette Hall prior to demolition, c.1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



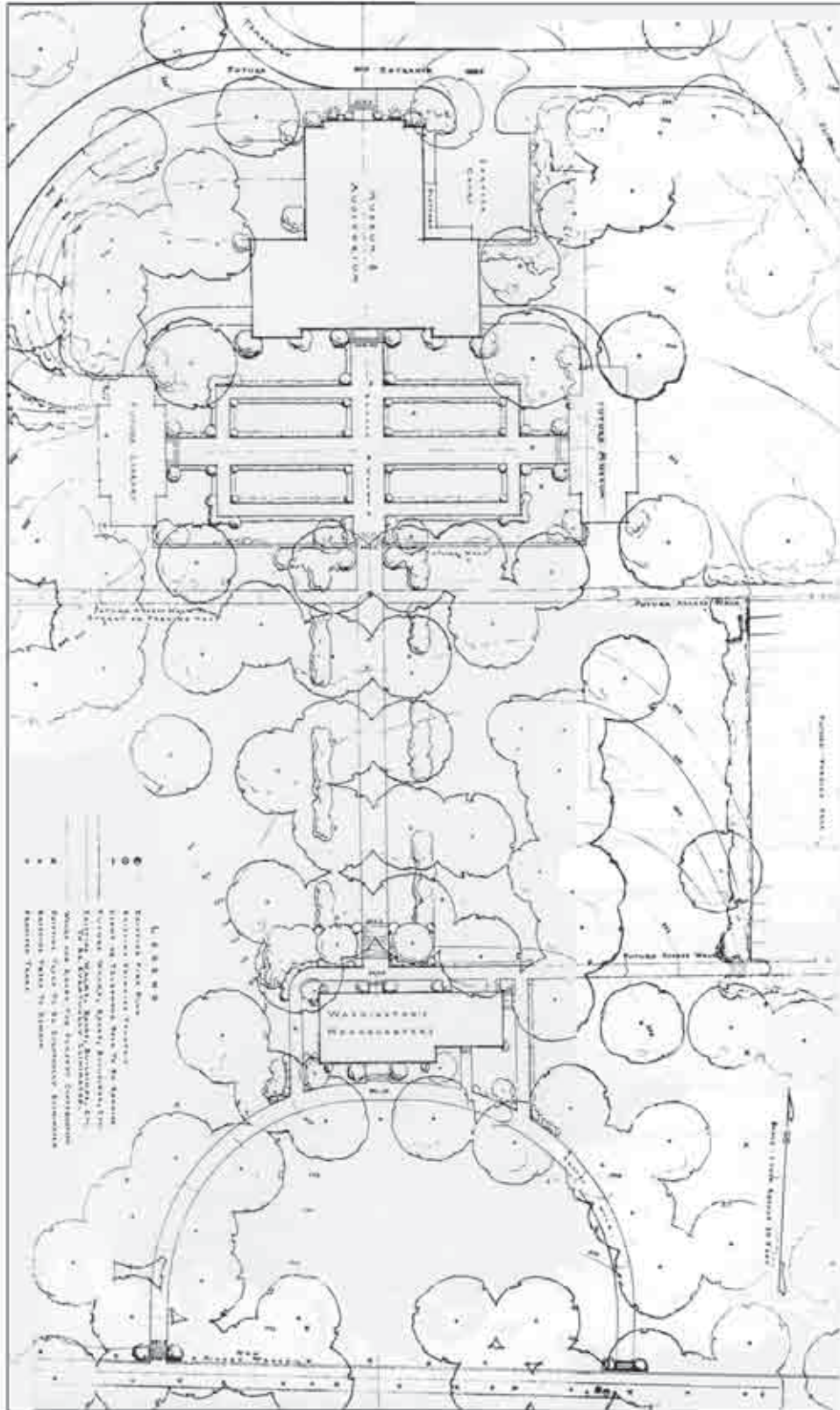


Figure 61. Pope/Newton Plan of the Washington's Headquarters landscape, 1937 (DSC-TIC Collection).

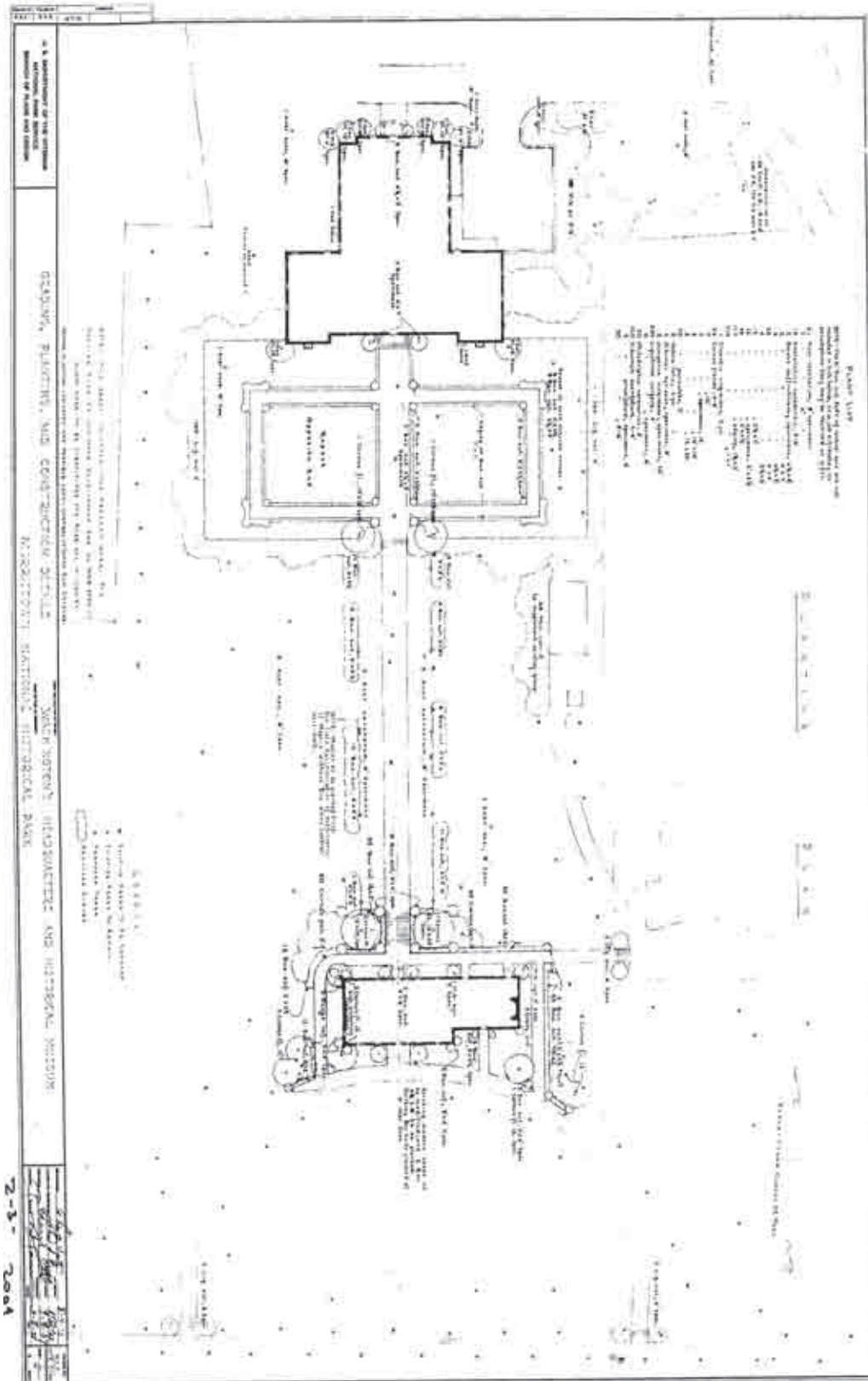


Figure 62. Washington's Headquarters planting plan, 1937 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).



Figure 63. CCC razing the barn, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

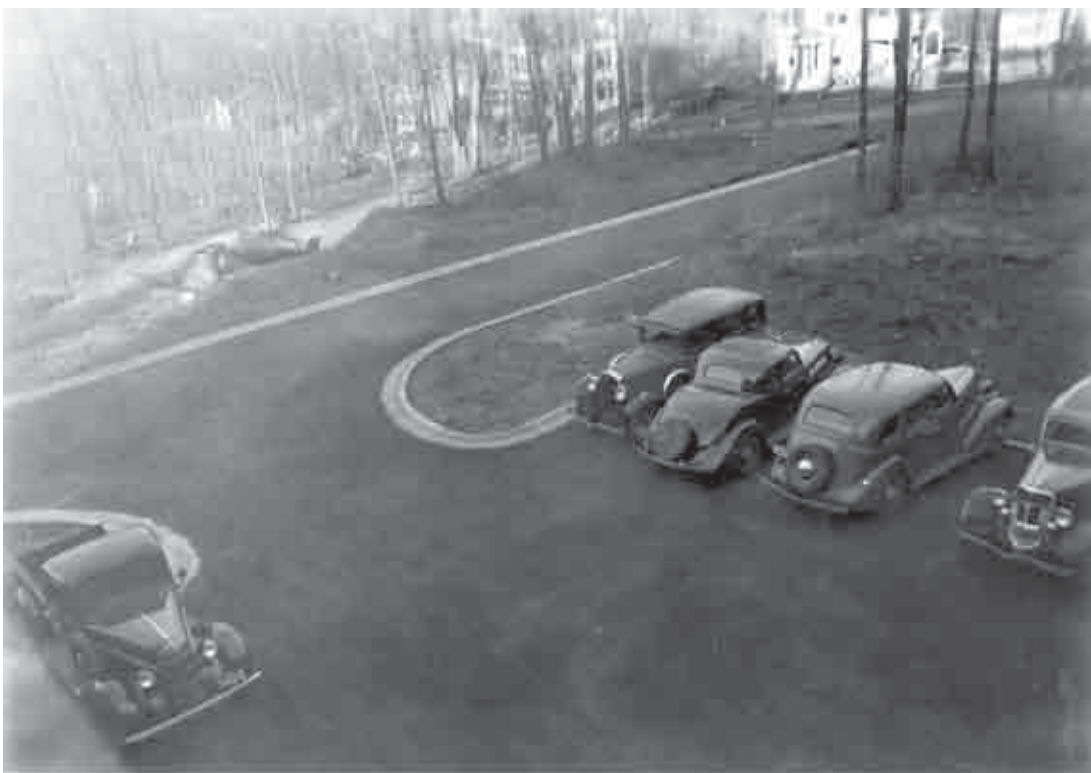


Figure 64. Service lot and entrance drive, c. 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 65. Grading the parterre in front of the new museum, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 66. CCC grading the central lawn, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 67. CCC grading the central lawn, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 68. CCC grading the west lawn, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 69. CCC grading the front lawn, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 70. CCC building the brick axial path, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 71. CCC installing the brick axial path, 1938 (note the rectilinear parterre path in the back ground) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 72. Norman Newton directing the CCC's installation of the parterre's brick rectilinear path, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 73. CCC installing the brick axial walkway, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 74. CCC installing the brick axial walkway, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 75. CCC installing the brick rectilinear walkway by the mansion, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 76. CCC installing the brick rectilinear walkway by the mansion, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 77. Southwest end of the semicircular walkway just after construction, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

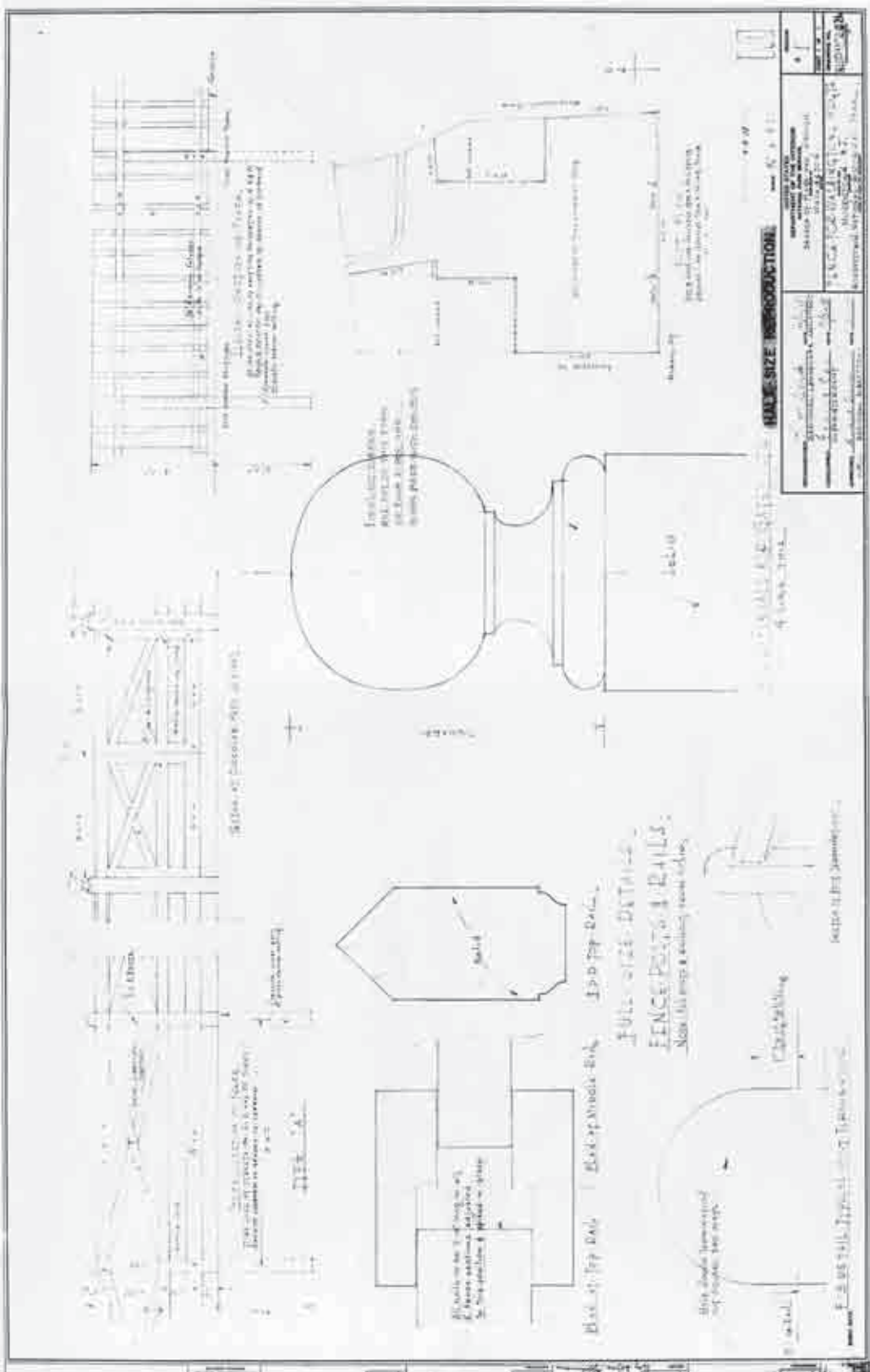


Figure 78. Fence plans, 1938 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).



Figure 79. CCC installation of new fence, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 80. Cars and new fence along Morris Avenue, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 81. Norman Newton directing the white oak tree planting in the central lawn, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 82. CCC foreman Layton directing the unloading of white oak trees, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 83. CCC unloading oak trees near barn, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 84. Morristown Garden Club ladies planting the white oak trees they donated for the central lawn, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 85. CCC grading around the newly planted white oak trees, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 86. Newly planted white oak trees of central lawn, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 87. Installation of the steam/utility tunnel by the CCC, 1938 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 88. Covering over the completed steam/utility tunnel, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 89. CCC enrollee defoliating dying white oak tree, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 90. CCC foreman Layton, trimming unhealthy white oak tree, 1939 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 91. Delivery of replacement white oaks for central lawn, 1940 (note caretaker's cottage and Lafayette Hall in background) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 92. CCC planting of replacement white oaks in central lawn, 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 93. Parterre with yew hedge in front of museum, c. 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 94. Parterre with yew hedge and brick walkway in front of museum, c. 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 95. CCC planting shrubs along Ford Mansion plinth, 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 96. CCC archeological grid trenching of front lawn, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 97. CCC archeological grid trenching of central lawn, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 98. CCC archeology of outbuilding behind mansion, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 99. CCC archeology of late kitchen addition, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 100. CCC archeology showing that original grade around mansion was two feet lower, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 101. CCC archeology of possible ice house, 1937 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 102. View from Ford Mansion of museum and new allée, 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 103. View of Ford Mansion from east lawn, 1940 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 104. View across front lawn toward the southeast corner of the Unit, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 105. West side of front lawn looking east, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 106. Morris Avenue, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 107. View of mansion and grounds from Washington Avenue, 1957 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 108. Fence along Washington Place, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 109. West lawn, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 110. View of the allee and axial walk to the museum from the mansion roof, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 111. Oak allee with brick walkway to the museum, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 112. Oak allee with hedge and brick walkway to museum, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 113. Oak allee with brick walkway to Ford Mansion, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 114. View of allee with brick walkway to museum with a group of touring school children, 1967 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 115. Oak allee with dogwood trees and brick walkway to Ford Mansion, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 116. Parterre with yew hedge, lawn, and brick rectilinear walkway, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 117. Parterre with yew hedge, lawn, and brick rectilinear walkway, 1950 (note Norway spruce row in the background) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 118. Yew hedge of parterre in need of rejuvenation, 1945 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 119. Entrance drive looking toward museum, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 120. Additional parking along entrance drive looking east, 1954 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 121. Additional parking along entrance drive looking west, 1954 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 122. Costumed reenactment on the front sandstone steps of the Ford Mansion, 1960 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

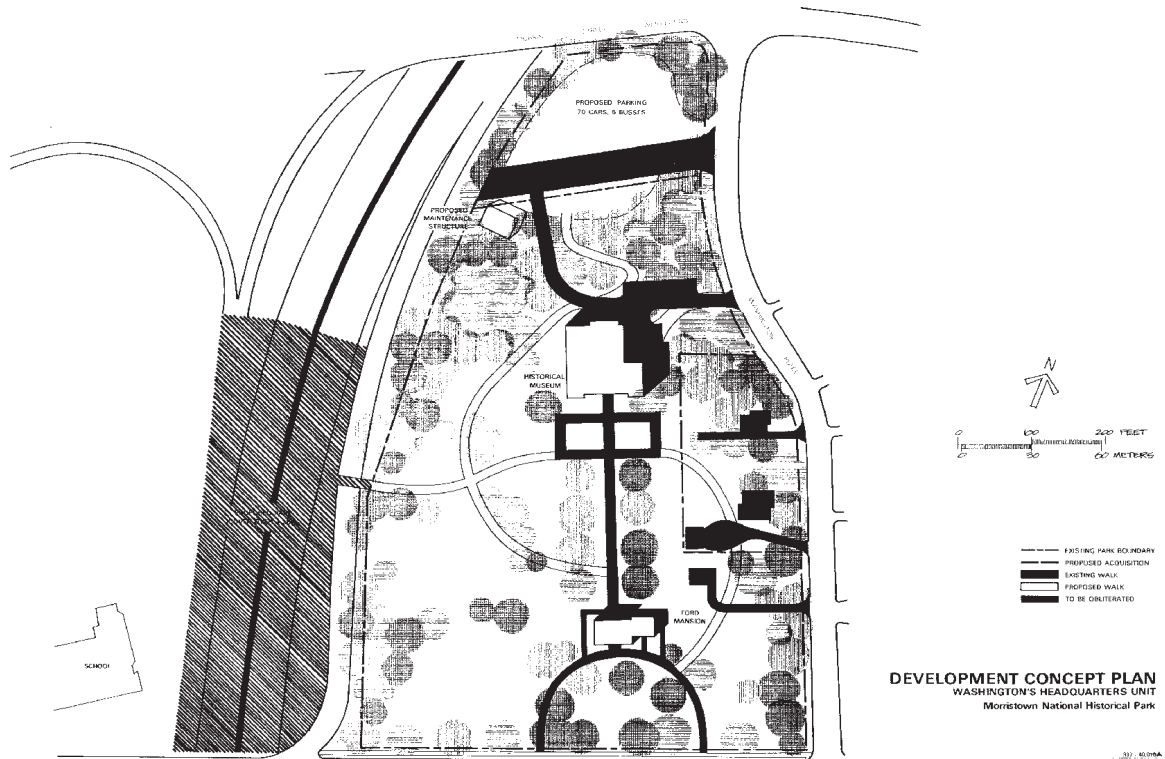


Figure 123. Morristown NHP Development Concept Plan, 1973 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

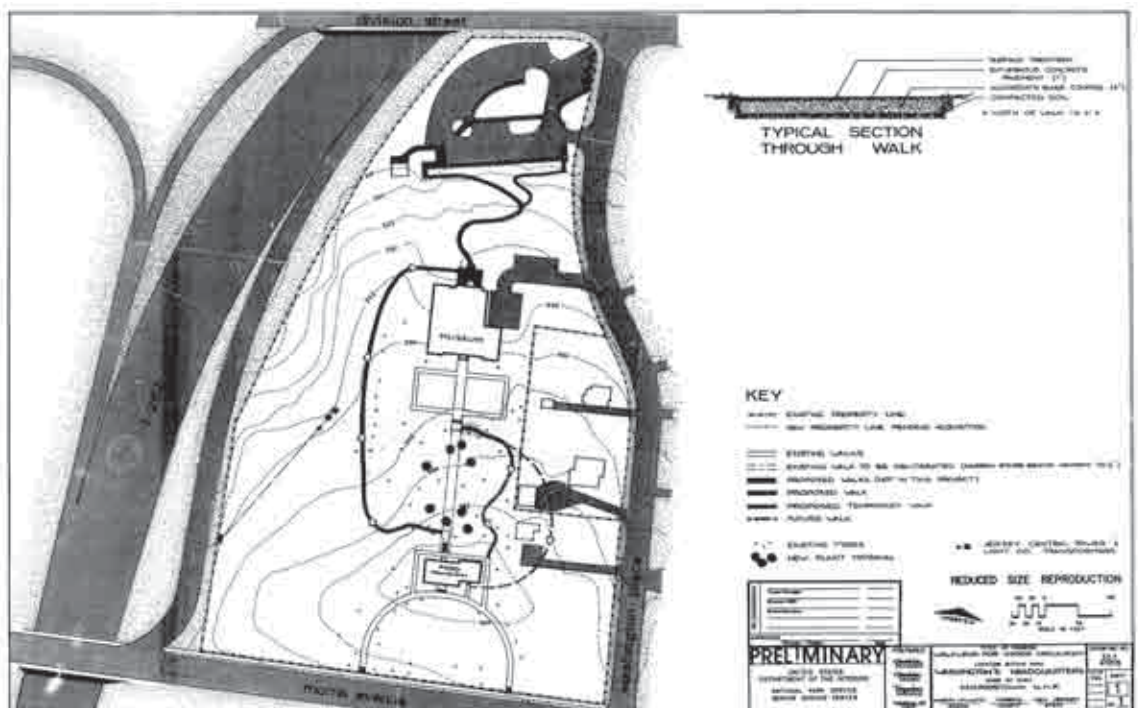


Figure 124. Development Concept -circulation and vegetation, 1975 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

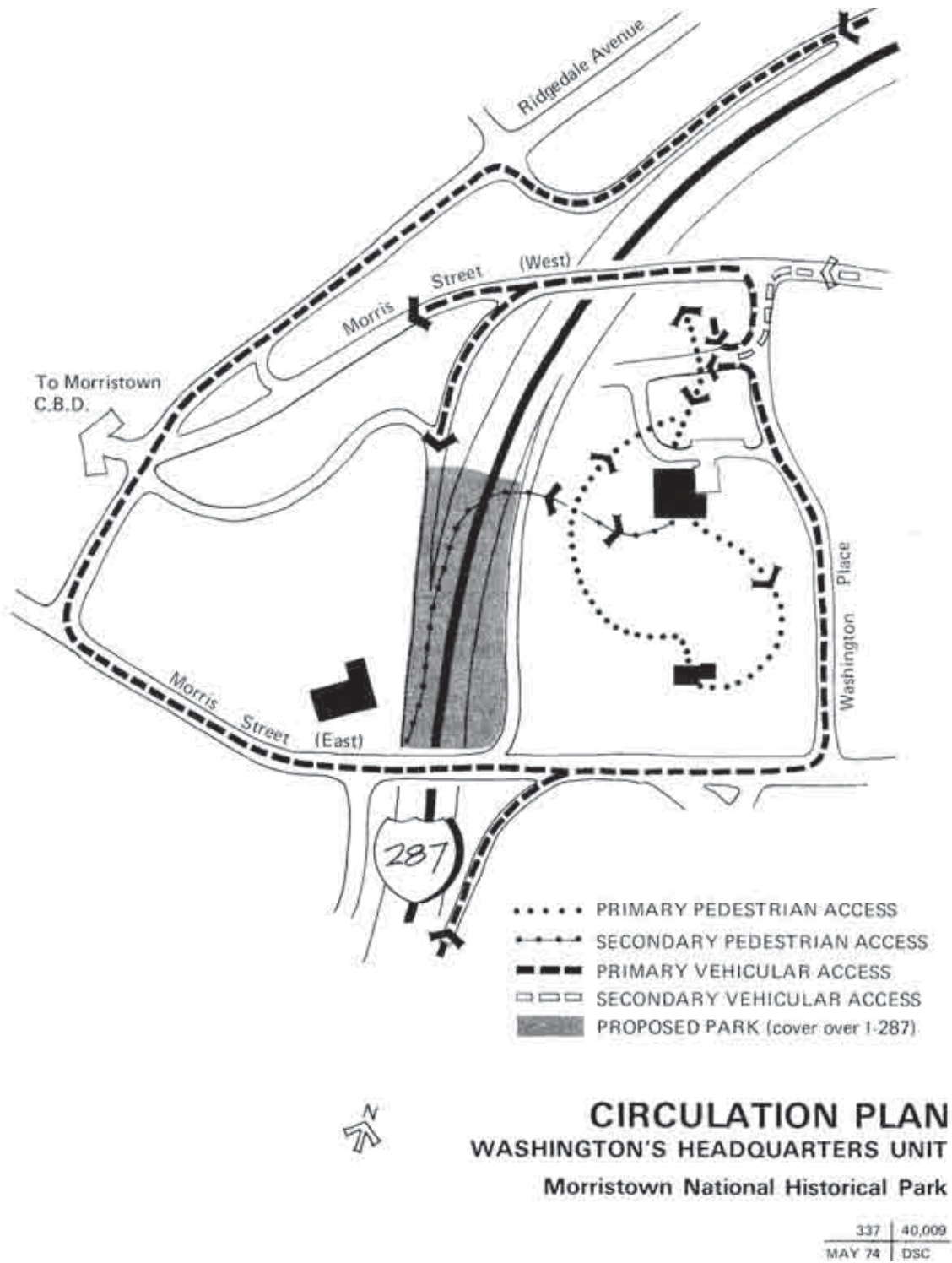


Figure 125. Circulation Plan, 1974 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

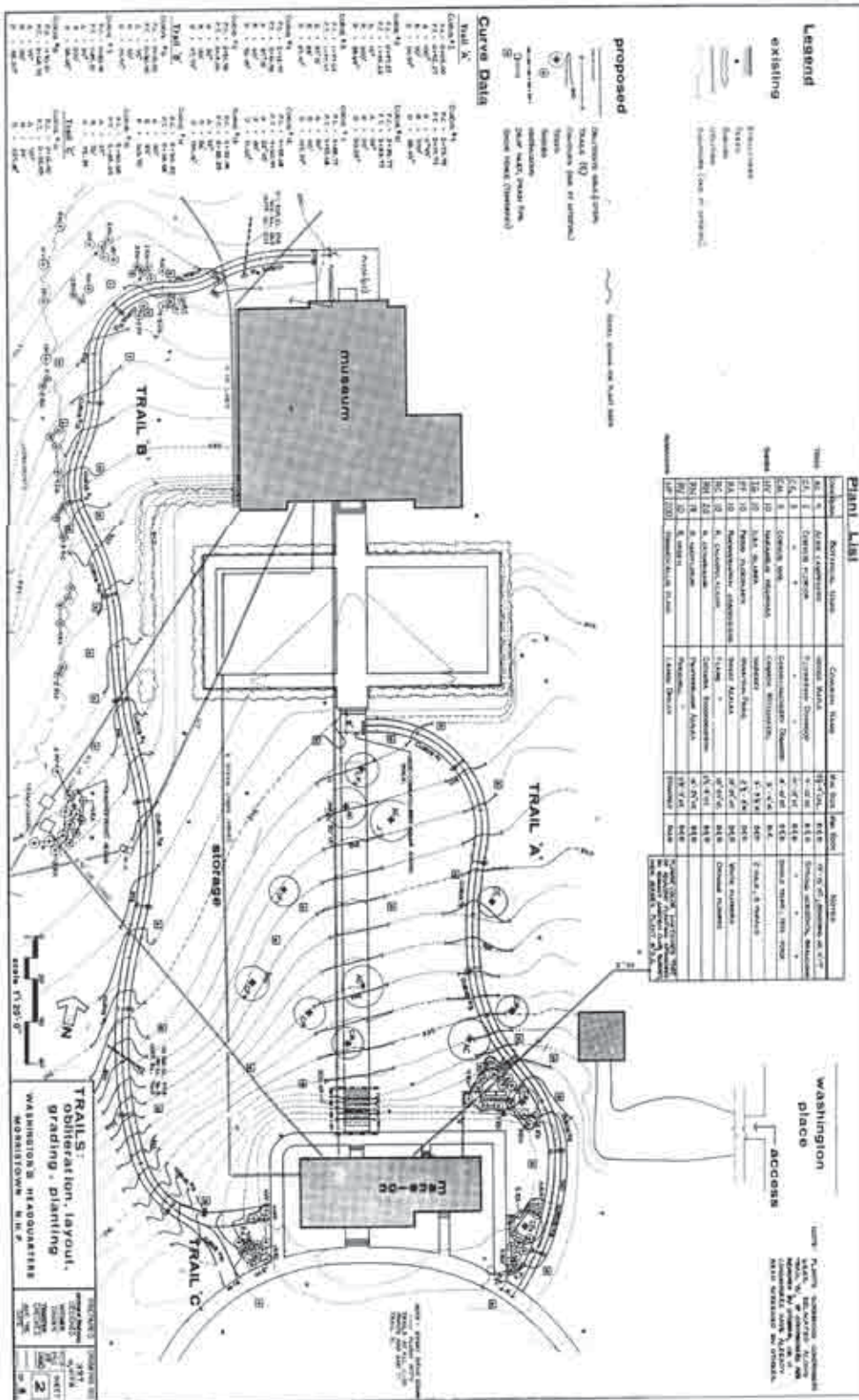


Figure 126. Vegetation plan with planting and obliteration, 1975 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

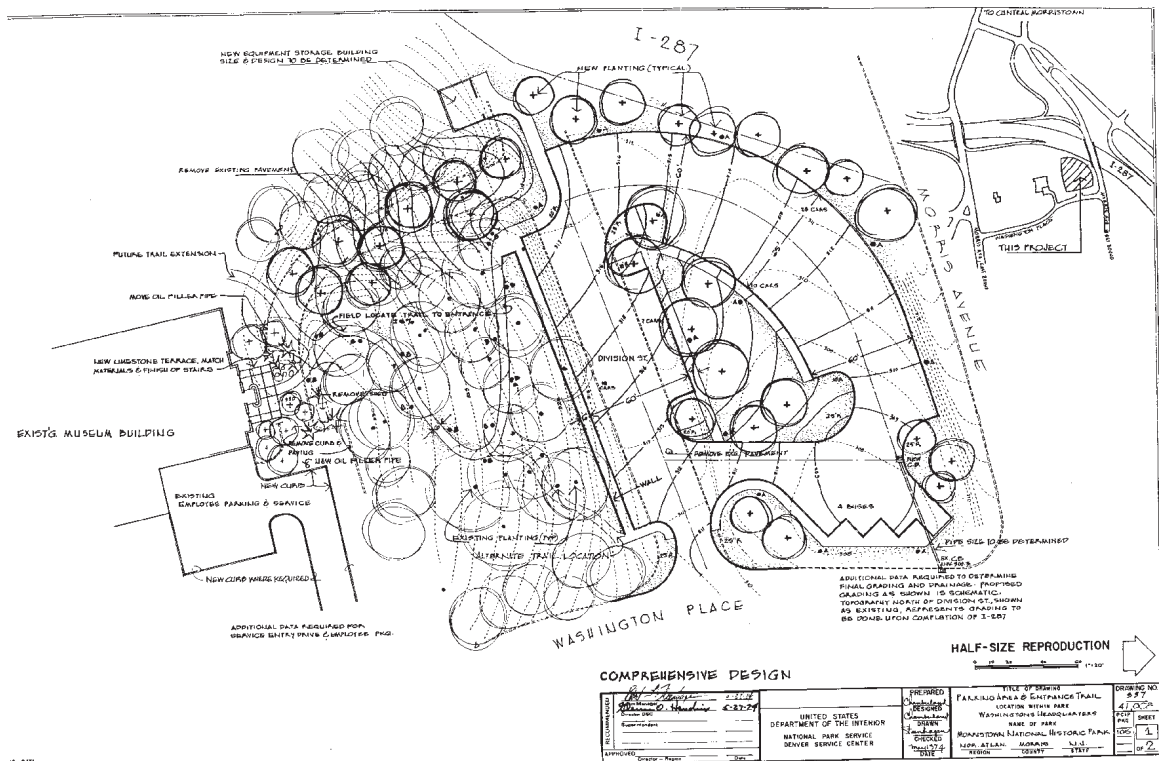


Figure 127. Parking lot and northern slope planting plan, 1974 (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).

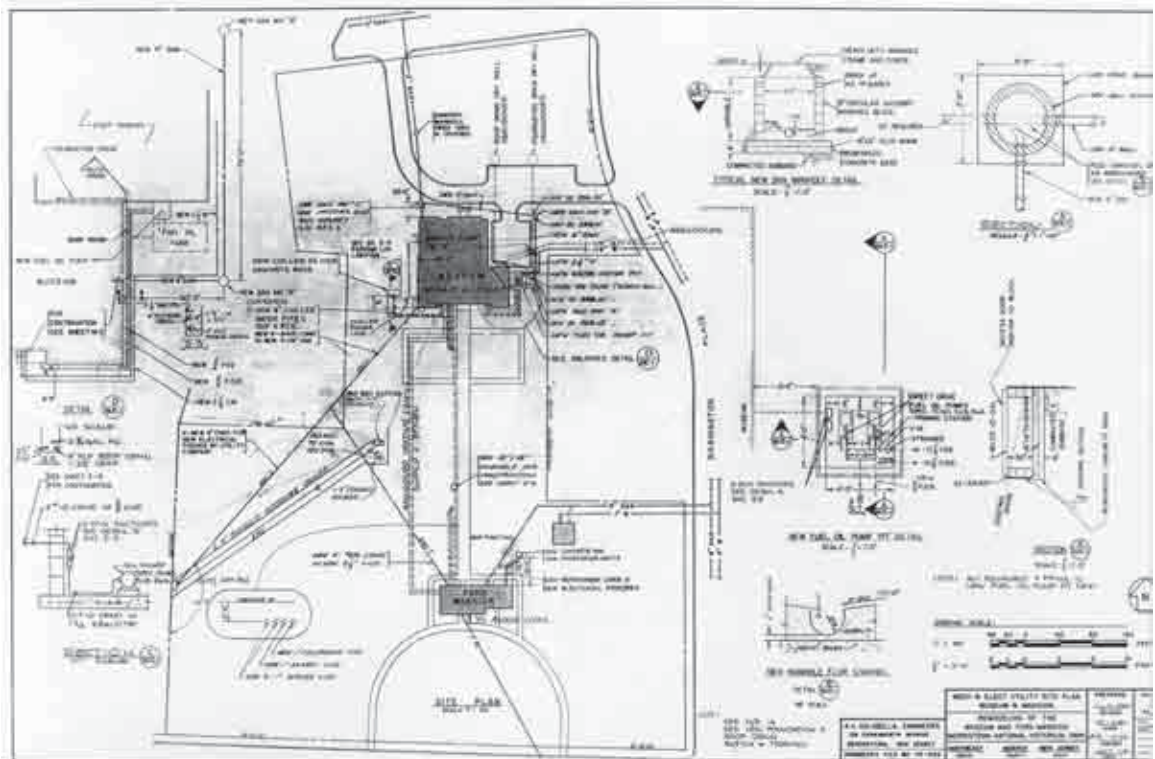


Figure 128. Utility Site Plan, 1974 (note the steam/utility tunnel location from the southwest corner of the museum to the west facade of the mansion) (DSC-TIC Plan Collection).



Figure 129. Division Street looking toward Washington Place and new Lafayette Avenue, 1974 (note the street trees from the former homes) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 130. Division Street and entrance drive intersection truncated for I-287 construction, 1974 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 131. Former southern edge of Division Street, now walled edge of parking lot, 1974 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 132. View across parking lot under construction toward new Lafayette Avenue, 1974 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



# EXISTING CONDITIONS<sup>I</sup>

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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The field conditions of the Washington's Headquarters Unit as of 2002 reflect an evolving tradition of landscape preservation initiated with the establishment of and purchase by the Washington Association of New Jersey (WANJ) in 1873. This section of the CLR presents an overview of existing conditions of the unit's cultural landscape recorded with photographs, text, and a plan based on site research and an AutoCAD survey from October 2001 to June 2002 (see Existing Conditions Plan, 2002). More detailed discussion of landscape characteristics and features are provided in Chapter 4, Landscape Analysis.

Morristown NHP is located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the eastern United States, in north-central New Jersey. The park is part of the New York City urban region with the city thirty miles to the east and Philadelphia seventy-five miles to the southwest. The park's four noncontiguous units lie within portions of Harding Township, Mendham Township, Morris Township, and Morristown, in Morris County; and Bernardsville Borough in Somerset County, New Jersey.

The approximately ten-acre Washington's Headquarters Unit, located in Morristown, is the northeastern-most and smallest of the park. The unit's Ford Mansion-historical museum complex is situated less than one mile east of the Morristown Green, and is bounded by Morris Avenue on the south, Lafayette Avenue on the north, Interstate 287 (I-287) on the west, and Washington Place on the east. Morris Avenue and Washington Place are residential streets with a variety of housing types, while I-287 is a major highway. A dense vegetation buffer exists along the I-287 boundary, screening views of the highway, but not the sound.

The c.1773 Ford Mansion served as General George Washington's headquarters during the winter of 1779-80 and is now open to the public as a furnished house museum. The adjacent museum, built in 1935, houses the park's collection of Revolutionary War materials, archives, and artifacts; serves as the park's administrative office; and functions as the main visitor contact station for the park. The unit also contains staff housing and a large visitor parking area. The grounds consist of a large maintained lawn with mature shade trees, pedestrian paths, and some wooded areas.

## LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS

### SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

The Washington's Headquarters Unit of Morristown NHP is an approximately ten-acre remnant of the 200-acre eighteenth-century Ford farm. The primary feature of the site is the Fords' 1773 Georgian-style mansion located on the crest of the property. The unit is divided into three zones from south to north: 1. The mansion's open front lawn with large shade trees and a semicircular walkway to Morris Avenue. 2. The central lawn between the mansion and the museum with large shade trees and curving asphalt paths. 3. The museum/administration zone with the parking lot and wooded slope. While most of the property contains structures and maintained treed lawn, a dense woodland area buffers the site from the parking area and from I-287 bordering the site on its west.

The site is organized with its formal front facing Morris Avenue to the south (Figure 133). The mansion and museum are on axis with one another, however, no path directly connects the two buildings, and shrubs and small trees obscure the views between them. The caretaker's cottage lies to the east of the mansion (Figure 134). Another park-owned house, the Dick house, is located to the east of the museum, and it is screened from the main grounds by a line of trees and shrubs. Busy streets and a residential neighborhood surround the park-like site to the north, south, and east.

### BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

The focal point of the unit is the Ford Mansion, General Washington's headquarters in the winter of 1779-80 and winter quarters for the Delaware Brigade in 1777 (Figure 135). Jacob Ford Jr. built the two-story, Georgian-style mansion between 1772-1774 to be the most spacious house in the area. The size along with its proximity to good roads and clear views to Fort Nonsense likely influenced Washington's decision to encamp here. The main building is about fifty-four feet across the front by about thirty-two feet wide. The kitchen or wing is about thirty-two feet by about twenty-seven feet deep.<sup>2</sup> Sided with flushboard siding on the front and clapboard siding on the sides and rear, the mansion consists of a large rectangular block with a smaller rectangular wing, stone foundation walls, and a Palladian front doorway and the window above it. The house has a central hall with four rooms on each floor. There are two chimneys in the main, hipped-gambrel-roofed section and one in the gable-roofed kitchen wing.<sup>3</sup>

Down the hill from the Ford Mansion is the museum, a Colonial Revival structure designed by John Russell Pope and constructed by the Public Works Administration in 1935-36. Built into a

slope, the cream-colored, stucco building features a two-story façade on the north side and a one-story façade on the south side, on top of which is a cupola reminiscent of Mt. Vernon (Figures 136 and 137). The symmetry of the building's T-shaped layout is compromised by the 1957 rectangular library addition, but the overall design continues to harmonize with the Ford Mansion. Unfortunately, this relationship is not clear due to the closure of the south entrance. Today, the structure houses the park's visitor center, museum, and administrative offices on the lower level and the auditorium, library, museum, and archives on the upper levels. The New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office has determined that the building is eligible for listing in the National Register.

Along the east side of the unit and adjacent to Washington Place are two houses currently used as park residences. Located northeast of the Ford Mansion, the caretaker's cottage was erected by the Washington Association in 1884 (Figure 138). The white, two-story rectangular wood structure was remodeled in the 1950s and includes a detached garage, asphalt drive, and lawns with some shrubs and specimen trees. North of the cottage and a separate lawn area (formerly the Thompson house site) is the Dick house, a 2.5-story frame structure clad in brown shingles (Figure 139). This Queen Anne-style structure was built in 1885 and features an asphalt driveway, a small front and back yard, and an enclosure of woodlands.

There are two other minor structures in the unit. A maintenance shed is located in the southwest corner of the parking lot (Figure 140). The yellow, one-story, prefabricated, metal-framed building was erected by the NPS in 1976 and is conspicuous due to the lack of vegetative screening. Extending along the south side of the parking lot from the handicapped ramp to the steps is a red brick retaining wall. It is in fair condition due to evidence of bowing and areas of spalling of bricks and mortar.

## TOPOGRAPHY

The Washington's Headquarters Unit is 300-340 feet (91-104 m) in elevation. Within the unit, the mansion is situated upon the crest of a small hill, which has been graded over time (Figures 141-143). Lawns slope away from the mansion on all sides (Figure 144). The crest forms a terrace immediately behind the mansion (Figure 145). The site slopes moderately with a drop of sixty-two feet from the mansion to the edge of Lafayette Avenue to the north. The property slopes about nine percent from the base of the steep plinth behind the mansion to the level lawn in front of the museum. This lawn is situated on a terrace that is excavated from the slope along the eastern and southern sides. The western side slopes away from the terrace, while the museum building acts as a retaining wall along the northern side. The land on the other side of the museum continues to slope about nine

percent north to the parking lot. Other slopes vary from seven percent south of the mansion, to fifteen percent along the western border with I-287.<sup>4</sup>

## CIRCULATION

Circulation to and from Washington's Headquarters is complex (see Existing Conditions Circulation 2002 Plan). The route to the Washington's Headquarters Unit is clearly identified by a sequence of standard brown, NPS-style signs and large, Morristown NHP custom signs with directional cues. Vehicles are directed eastbound on Morris Avenue (three lanes) to a switchback that merges into westbound Lafayette Avenue (three lanes). Lafayette Avenue curves as it descends a steep hill, at the bottom of which is the left-turn entrance into the unit's parking lot, via Washington Place (Figure 146). This intersection comes up quickly, and park officials have noted that there have been numerous rear-end collisions.

The visitor parking lot is located at the northernmost edge of the unit and can accommodate sixty-four cars, including two handicapped and four bus spaces (Figures 147 and 148). The asphalt surface and concrete curb are in generally good condition except for some areas where the asphalt meets the gutter pan and has settled (these areas are closest to the museum and are shaded by adjacent trees). The staff parking lot is located along the driveway from Washington Place and accommodates thirteen vehicles including one handicapped space (Figure 149). It is in fair condition with evidence of some spalling in the asphalt and along the concrete curb. Parking is also available along Washington Place.

Winding paths convey visitors from two points (a ramp and a set of stairs) at the parking lot's southern edge along a wooded hillside to a limestone patio at the museum's north entrance (Figures 150 and 151). From here, another path sweeps up the hill along the west side of the building paralleling the woodland edge to a fork where it splits into two paths (Figures 152-155). One branch continues southward, winding up a hill to its termination southwest of the mansion at the semicircular walkway. The other path heads east and connects to the museum's southern walkway (entrance currently closed) and then turns south, traversing the hill until its conclusion southeast of the mansion at its semicircular walkway. The formal, semicircular front walkway of the mansion also connects to a perimeter path encircling the mansion and to a sidewalk along the length of Morris Avenue (Figures 156-157). Sidewalks pass along Washington Place and Morris Avenue in front of the property, allowing pedestrian visitors to enter the site.

Path design and materials vary widely throughout the unit and reflect different styles. Most of the curvilinear paths in the lawn and wooded areas, as well as the ramp in the parking lot, are asphalt, between six to eight feet wide, and are generally in good condition, having been resurfaced in 2002. Contrasting with this naturalistic approach are the mansion's sweeping semicircular front walkway and perimeter walkway, and the museum's front axial walkway, all formally laid out in a herringbone-patterned brick with brick border. These walks range between six to thirteen feet wide and are in good condition. Sidewalks and steps in the parking lot area are concrete and are in generally good condition, with the notable exception of the area around the steps at the southeast corner of the lot where there is severe spalling and lifting. Other materials include the following: five-to-six-foot-wide bluestone walks along Morris Avenue and part of Washington Place (good to fair condition with some spalling), bluestone steps at the ends of the semicircular front walk and at the south end of the museum's front walk (good condition), and a limestone patio at the museum's back entrance (good to fair condition with some cracks and patches of moss).

Some changes were made to the circulation pattern during the mid-1970s as a response to the completion of I-287 and associated alignment changes in adjacent city streets. While it did provide much needed parking and reverse the site's front-to-back visitation pattern, the current sequence has created new problems. The asphalt paths have no particular design intention other than to move visitors hurriedly and unceremoniously. Entering through the back of the museum is counter to its original design intent, and visitors miss out on the more embellished front entrance and its axial relationship to the Ford Mansion. No existing path leads directly between the two buildings, and the axial relationship is further blurred by the presence of the asymmetrical curvilinear walkways.

## VEGETATION

Vegetation is used to screen incompatible land uses both within and around the unit's boundaries (Figure 158 and see Existing Vegetation 2002 Plans, Sheets 1-4). Woodland buffers currently separate the interstate from the lawn areas, the lawn areas from park housing, and the parking lot from the museum. These masses, which also serve to confine views, minimize noise, and provide shade, are primarily composed of mature trees, understory plants, and shrubs. The sugar maple-mixed woodland consists of a mix of native species, with a lesser number of introduced species. The most abundant species are sugar maples, white oaks, and black locusts. There are a number of downed trees, stumps, and invasive species such as tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*), and barberry (*Berberis spp.*).

Aside from the woodland areas, the unit is maintained in a park-like setting with informal plantings of trees, shrubs, and lawns. Large, old specimen trees include white oak (*Quercus alba*), horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*), and sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*). Many sugar maples and some horse chestnuts line the semicircular walkway and the sidewalks along Morris Avenue and Washington Place. A large rhododendron hedge grows north of the maple-lined sidewalk southwest of the mansion. Five white oaks and one large stump line the route of the former axial walkway. Many trees planted by the Washington Association of New Jersey remain, including a row of five large sugar maples that delineate the pre-1960s western property line and a row of many large Norway spruces interspersed with naturalized privet shrubs that delineate the pre-1980s eastern property line. The naturalistic planting design that was imposed between the mansion and the museum during the 1970s included flowering dogwoods (*Cornus florida*) and hedge maples (*Acer campestre*). This planting coupled with the loss of some older specimen trees, has blurred previous landscape design intentions (Figure 159). Ornamental plantings include flowering dogwoods (*Cornus florida*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron spp.*), holly (*Ilex spp.*), Summersweet clethra (*Clethra alnifolia spp.*), vinca (*Vinca minor*), and pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*). They are typically grouped in planting beds, some of which are bordered with steel edging. The largest concentration is on the outer side of the perimeter walk around the mansion (Figure 160). Additional plantings include privet shrubs that frame the ends of the semicircular walk, a mass of rhododendrons on the southwest edge of the property along Morris Avenue that effectively screens exiting traffic from the interstate, and a grouping near the northeast corner of the mansion screens HVAC units (Figure 161). There is a smattering of shrubs near the northern museum entrance including mock orange (*Philadelphus coronarius*) and spirea (*spirea spp.*) and a privet hedge to the east and west of the museum's southern entrance along the top of the bank. Rows of rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) and forsythia (*forsythia spp.*) surround the caretaker's cottage, and a ring of boxwood (*Buxus spp.*) and mock orange shrubs surrounds a large Norway spruce in the southeastern lawn. A large American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), a large white pine (*Pinus strobus*), and a grove of four apple trees (*Malus spp.*) grow on the lawn west of the mansion. Trees and shrubs, including a cluster of sweetshrub (*Calycanthus florida*), grow in the former Thompson lot and are eerily reminiscent of the house that once stood there. Various specimen and ornamental trees also dot the parking area landscape.

The wide expanses of lawn reveal the lay of the land and the Ford Mansion's prominence in the landscape. The lawn areas are a mix of grass, patches of moss, and rocky, bare ground. The latter component is particularly common under larger specimen trees and alongside many of the asphalt paths. During much of the year large quantities of acorns from the numerous oak specimens cover

the ground (Figure 162). Runnels are evident in some of these areas as well as around some of the above-grade lawn drains. Several stumps and depressions from former trees dot the landscape.

#### VIEWS AND VISTAS

Today's visitor to Washington's Headquarters looks out on a suburban landscape of buildings, roads, and trees. The views west and north of the grounds are obstructed by immediate stands of woodland. These wooded areas partially screen the view of I-287 to the west and busy Lafayette Avenue to the north. The view to the south is obstructed by an apartment complex and the busy Morris Avenue and includes a traffic island bearing a statue of General Washington on horseback (Figure 163). The southwestern view to Fort Nonsense is partially obstructed by large trees both on and off the property, perhaps explaining why there are no interpretive signs in the landscape that explain this important relationship. To the east, Washington Place is lined by detached houses and parked cars. This view is partially interrupted by a thin strip of shrubs and evergreen and deciduous shade trees, as well as by two staff houses. The view from the rear of the mansion still focuses on the south door of the historical museum; however, the view is cluttered by small trees and shrubs planted on the historic axis (Figures 164 and 165).

#### LAND USE

The landscape at Washington's Headquarters is park-like with large trees, lawn, shrubs, and some ornamental beds. The landscape does not promote contemplation and relaxation though, since the path system encourages visitors to move hurriedly and unceremoniously from the parking lot to the museum, around the perimeter of the site to the mansion, and then back again with only three benches along the route. The museum/administration building houses park offices, exhibit space, and an auditorium; the mansion serves as a furnished house museum; and the two houses on the property serve as park residences.

The unit is surrounded by suburban landscape. Late nineteenth and early-twentieth-century single-family residences lie to the east along Washington Place; a church, a small park with a bronze equestrian statue of George Washington, and a c.1960s two-story apartment building lie to the south along Morris Avenue; I-287 and Lafayette Avenue lie to the west and north. These roads define the unit's current boundaries and have been in place since the early 1970s.

On the grounds of the Washington's Headquarters Unit, the adjacent interstate's noise and air pollution produced are detrimental to the visitor experience. The noise levels have been estimated at between seventy and seventy-five decibels, a range common in areas along highways. The noise

prevents park staff from giving outdoor interpretive talks. Additional noise pollution is produced by airplane overflights, which are becoming more common with increasing aircraft traffic at Newark International Airport and Morristown Airport, a general aviation airport. EPA studies indicate that exposure to such conditions over extended periods of time may cause damage to human hearing. Wildlife at the unit may also be impacted by these elevated noise levels. The levels of carbon monoxides, nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons, and ozone are particular areas of concern, as the resulting air pollution may adversely affect the historic structures and the vegetation. High levels of ozone are frequent during the summer months at Morristown NHP due to the nearby densely populated New York City region. The ambient air quality standard for the area covering the park is designated as Level 2. Although air quality elements are not measured in the park, it is suspected that pollutants, particularly from vehicle emissions, may be affecting park resources.

#### SMALL-SCALE FEATURES

There are numerous contemporary, small-scale features but no historic ones (Figure 166). The parking lot area includes four wood trash cans with lids and nine brown, ten-foot-high steel light poles. The path from the parking lot to the museum is illuminated by twelve black, one-foot-high light fixtures, and it is bordered by two sections of post-and-rail fence and three wood informational boards offering general park announcements, a park-wide map (but no direction to the New Jersey Brigade site or the Cross Estate Units), and a brief synopsis of Washington's Headquarters. The vicinity of the service lot includes a picnic table on the east side of the museum building and two flood lights mounted on a telephone pole. Two concrete urns planted with impatiens flank the limestone stairs at the museum's north entrance. The lawn area between the museum and the mansion contains three wood/metal benches and one metal interpretive sign. The south side of the mansion includes two unscreened, silver ground-level spot lights directed toward the front of the mansion and a flagpole in the southwest lawn area.

Perimeter areas of the property include a four-foot high cyclone fence next to the interstate, numerous unscreened green at-grade and above-ground utility boxes, several water spigots, and a mailbox at the Caretaker's Cottage. In addition to the standard, brown NPS directional signs, there are five Morristown NHP custom signs, two within the unit and three within the surrounding neighborhood. Four of these metal and wood signs are in good condition but in need of a fresh coat of paint, while one is in fair condition with peeling and missing letters.

There are some small-scale features on the fringe or just outside of the unit that deserve mention. There is a 3.5-foot-high, non-operational, iron, Murdock drinking fountain located



southeast of the mansion on the north side of Morris Avenue between the curb and sidewalk near the eastern terminus of the semicircular brick walk. An impressive 1928 bronze equestrian statue with George Washington stands on the south side of Morris Avenue (outside of Park property). It is set within a landscaped brick and granite courtyard but is not readily accessible to pedestrians from the unit due to heavy traffic along the street and an absence of marked crosswalks.

#### ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

Due to the mandated focus on the period of the American Revolutionary War, no formal archeological efforts have been directed toward other periods, although incidental discoveries have been made in the course of investigations. Although archeological investigation did uncover landscape features at Washington's Headquarters, they did not appear to date from the encampment period of significance. Few records were kept of the investigation, and the work was not completed by professional archeologists. It is possible that further investigation, completed by professional archeologists, would uncover additional information or detail.

Fairly extensive archeological excavation took place from 1936 to 1939 following the acquisition of Washington's Headquarters by the NPS. Trenches or excavations were made over most of the site during the archeological excavation. The grounds contain the remains of many razed outbuildings, wells, and other features. These features have archeological potential to provide information related to the Ford family, the Washington occupation, and the residence during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. A series of stones was found extending from the southwest corner of the mansion and running in a southwesterly direction to Morris Street and appear to be the remains of the old stone fence constructed by Gabriel Ford in the early nineteenth century. North and east of the mansion, two cisterns were uncovered, one constructed of pebble, and one of wood, and may also have been built by Gabriel Ford. To the rear of the mansion a twenty-two-foot stone foundation was unearthed. Another stone foundation was uncovered at the northeast corner of the kitchen wing that may have been the "shed or lean-to" mentioned by both Gabriel and Henry Ford.

No Native American archeological sites have been systematically investigated at the park. However, in the process of testing encampment-period sites, four Native American sites have been located within the park boundary including one in the Washington's Headquarters Unit that contained two Native American artifacts. The two artifacts are fragments of shale, one a gray-brown color and the other a red-brown, and both have been broken and are not clearly of cultural origin. Nevertheless the two pieces may have been the product of chipped stone manufacturing. Historic records provide additional evidence of Native American presence in the immediate area, and native

place names such as Passaic, Musconetcong, Watnong, Rockaway, Shongum, Whippany, and Parsippany also recall the Native American presence in the area.

#### NATURAL SYSTEMS AND FEATURES

*PHYSIOGRAPHY:* Washington's Headquarters lies at the junction between the Highland and Piedmont physiographic provinces, which trend in a southwest to northeast direction, following both the coastline and the orientation of the Appalachians.<sup>5</sup> The Highlands are a southwestern extension of the New England Uplands, and the easternmost edge of the Appalachians. These hills are comprised of hard crystalline rocks, mostly gneiss, which contains deposits of iron, graphite and mica.<sup>6</sup> On the eastern side of the uplands, in the area of Morristown, is an extension of the hills known as the Trowbridge Range. With mountains to the north and west, Morristown's hilly terrain overlooks the lower piedmont and plains to the east. The Piedmont is the down-sloping eastside of the uplands, which meets softer coastal plain sediments.<sup>7</sup> Washington's *Headquarters* lies on a low terrace overlooking the Whippany River to the north, now partly separated by I-287.

*CLIMATE:* Morristown is typified by a continental climate, despite the proximity of most of New Jersey's land surface to the coast. A westerly air stream predominates bringing extreme hot and cold temperatures more typical of a large landmass than of a coastal location.<sup>8</sup> Morristown's coldest month is January, with an average low temperature of twenty-three degrees Fahrenheit, and its warmest month is July with an average high temperature of eighty-seven degrees.<sup>9</sup> Morristown's average temperatures have been warming since 1975, when the park's temperatures averaged twenty-seven degrees in January and seventy-three degrees in July.<sup>10</sup>

Nearly all of New Jersey averages over forty inches of annual precipitation, with the highest amounts in the north-central part of the state, which average over forty-eight inches. The highlands of the north cause lifting and cooling of air masses, resulting in greater precipitation. Morristown National Historical Park averages forty-seven inches of annual precipitation.<sup>11</sup> The Washington's Headquarters Unit drains into the Whippany River north of the unit, but much of the drainage is now separated by I-287.

*SOILS:* Soil scientists have classified the soil at Washington's Headquarters as Riverhead-Urban.<sup>12</sup> The soil is deep, well-drained to somewhat poorly drained, nearly level to strongly sloping, gravelly and sandy loam formed on outwash plains and terraces.

**WOODLAND:** The western and northern portions of the Washington's Headquarters landscape are covered with woodland. The sugar maple-mixed hardwood forests within Morristown NHP primarily consist of a mix of native species, with a lesser number of introduced species. The most abundant species are red maple, black birch, scarlet oak, yellow poplar, and flowering dogwood, while sugar maple, yellow birch, shagbark hickory, mockernut hickory, white ash, green ash, black walnut, blackgum, hornbeam, black cherry, white oak, red oak, pin oak, black oak, sassafras, and black locust are also common. The most common shrubs are spicebush, speckled alder, witch hazel, gray winterberry, porter blackberry, black raspberry, lowbush blueberry, mapleleaf viburnum, blackhaw, and Tartarian honeysuckle.<sup>13</sup>

**WILDLIFE<sup>14</sup>:** White-tailed deer (spp.) are abundant in the greater park, as are northern deer ticks. Common smaller mammals include red and gray squirrel, rabbit, skunk, opossums, and raccoons. Over one hundred species of birds were documented during a recent bird census, and commonly found birds include the turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk, mourning dove, downy woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, northern flicker, black-capped chickadee, white-breasted nuthatch, northern mockingbird, yellow-rumped warbler, scarlet tanager, chipping sparrow, song sparrow, common grackle, and American goldfinch.

#### CULTURAL TRADITIONS

Visitors come to the Washington's Headquarters Unit to learn about the Revolutionary War through the preserved Ford Mansion, the historical museum with its large Washingtoniana collection, and the library. Visitors also come to the site for patriotic events such as pageants, ceremonies, and concerts that occur on select holidays or anniversaries. The Washington Association sometimes holds its large Washington's birthday annual meeting at the site and frequently holds smaller meetings such as Martha Washington Teas here.

#### CONDITION ASSESSMENT (Good, Fair, or Poor)

The Washington's Headquarters landscape is in good condition; it shows no evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The area around the mansion is well maintained as a lawn interspersed with large shade trees. Many large white oak, sugar maple, and Norway spruce trees require maintenance though. The circulation system is in overall good condition, but some surfaces exhibit spalling. The integrity of the subsurface resources is

unknown and would require an archeological survey to determine their condition. The areas do not appear to be threatened by the museum expansion.

## ENDNOTES

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<sup>1</sup> Parts of this chapter were excerpted and modified from: Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001 Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>2</sup> Perry, Sherman W. 1963. Historic Structures Report, Part 1, Ford Mansion. Morristown National Historical Park, 7. National Park Service, WASO/NESO.

<sup>3</sup> Perry 1963: 4.

<sup>4</sup> Development Concept, Washington's Headquarters Unit, Morristown National Historical Park, June 1973: 5. Denver, CO: Denver Service Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, NESO.

<sup>5</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:5,6.

<sup>6</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:5.

Wacker, Peter O. 1975. *Land and People: A Cultural Geography of Preindustrial, 6-7. New Jersey*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

<sup>7</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:5.

Widmer, Kemble. 1964. *The Geology and Geography of New Jersey*. Van Nostrand Company, Princeton, New Jersey.

<sup>8</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:8.

Stansfield, Charles A., Jr. 1998. *A Geography of New Jersey: The City in the Garden*, 24-26. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

<sup>9</sup> Weather Underground. Copyright 2001. [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com).

<sup>10</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:8.

Wacker 1975:8-9.

<sup>11</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:8.

Wacker 1975:11.

<sup>12</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:6.

Eby, Carl F. 1976. *Soil Survey of Morris County, New Jersey*. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Kirkham, Wendell C. 1976. *Soil Survey of Somerset County, New Jersey*. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

<sup>13</sup> Morristown NHP CLR Draft 2001:6,7.

Ehrenfeld, Joan G. 1977. Vegetation of the Morristown National Historic Park: Ecological Analysis and Alternatives: Final Report, 150-153. National Park Service, Northeast Support Office.

<sup>14</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey, General Management Plan (GMP) Draft. 2001:88-97. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Northeast Region, Boston Support Office.

# Existing Conditions Plan, 2002

Cultural Landscape Report  
 Volume 1  
 Washington's Headquarters Unit  
 Morristown National  
 Historical Park  
 Morristown, New Jersey

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## Map Sources:

Information presented in this plan is based on the Greenhorne & O'Mara site survey of 2002.

Additional field checking completed by the Olmsted Center, July 2002.

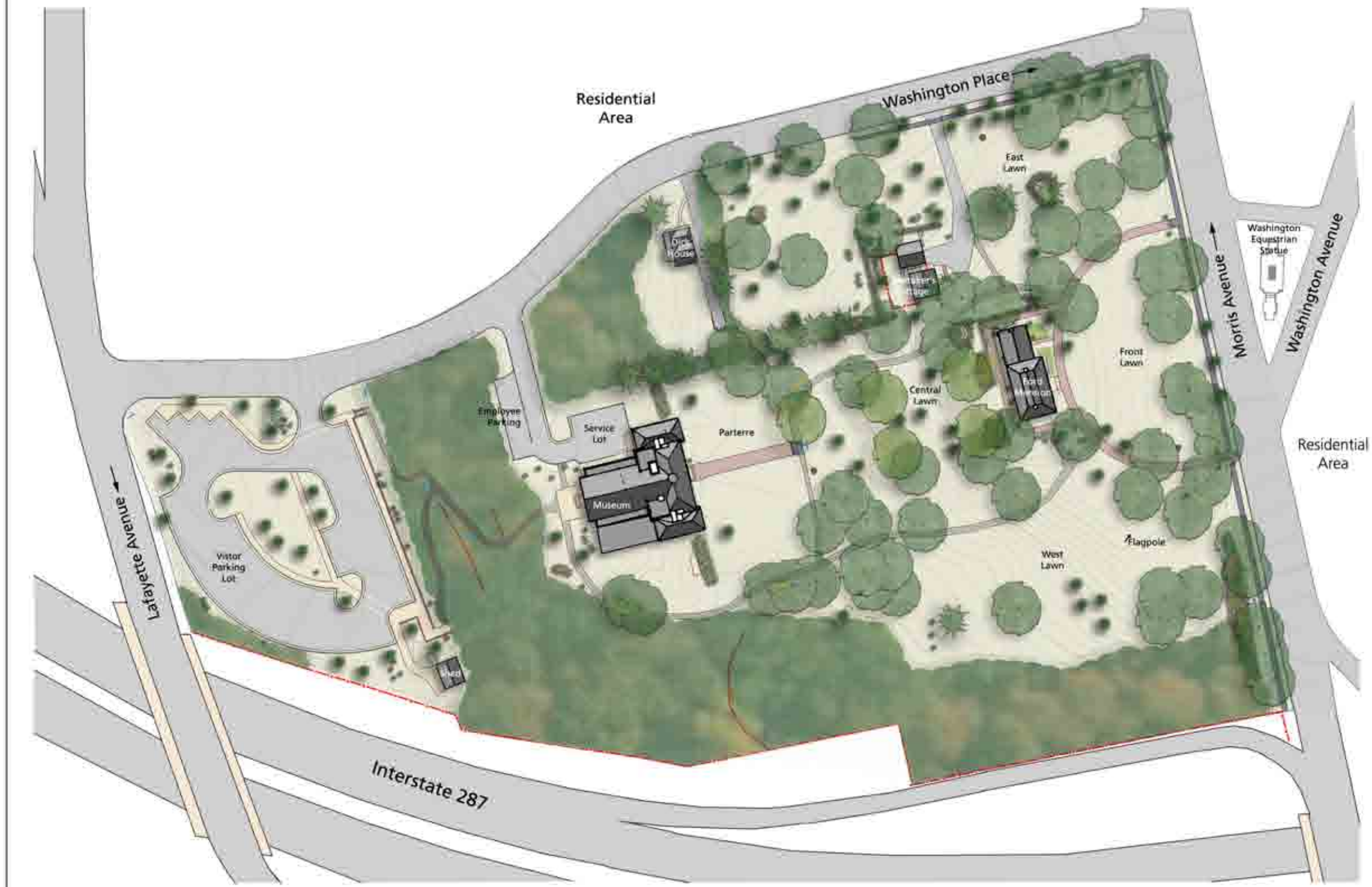
## Notes:

Plan drawn using Autocad 2000 and Adobe Photoshop 7 by Chris Stevens, NPS.



## Legend:

Historic Deciduous Tree	Asphalt Path
Young Deciduous Tree	Concrete or Limestone Path
Historic Coniferous Tree	Brick Path
Shrub	Bluestone Path
Woodland Edge	Park Sign
Lawn	Bench
Fence	



## Existing Circulation, 2002

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Volume 1  
Washington's Headquarters Unit  
Morristown National  
Historical Park  
Morristown, New Jersey

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### Map Sources:

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### Notes:

Diagram drawn using AutoCad 2000 and Adobe Photoshop 7 by Chris Stevens, NPS.

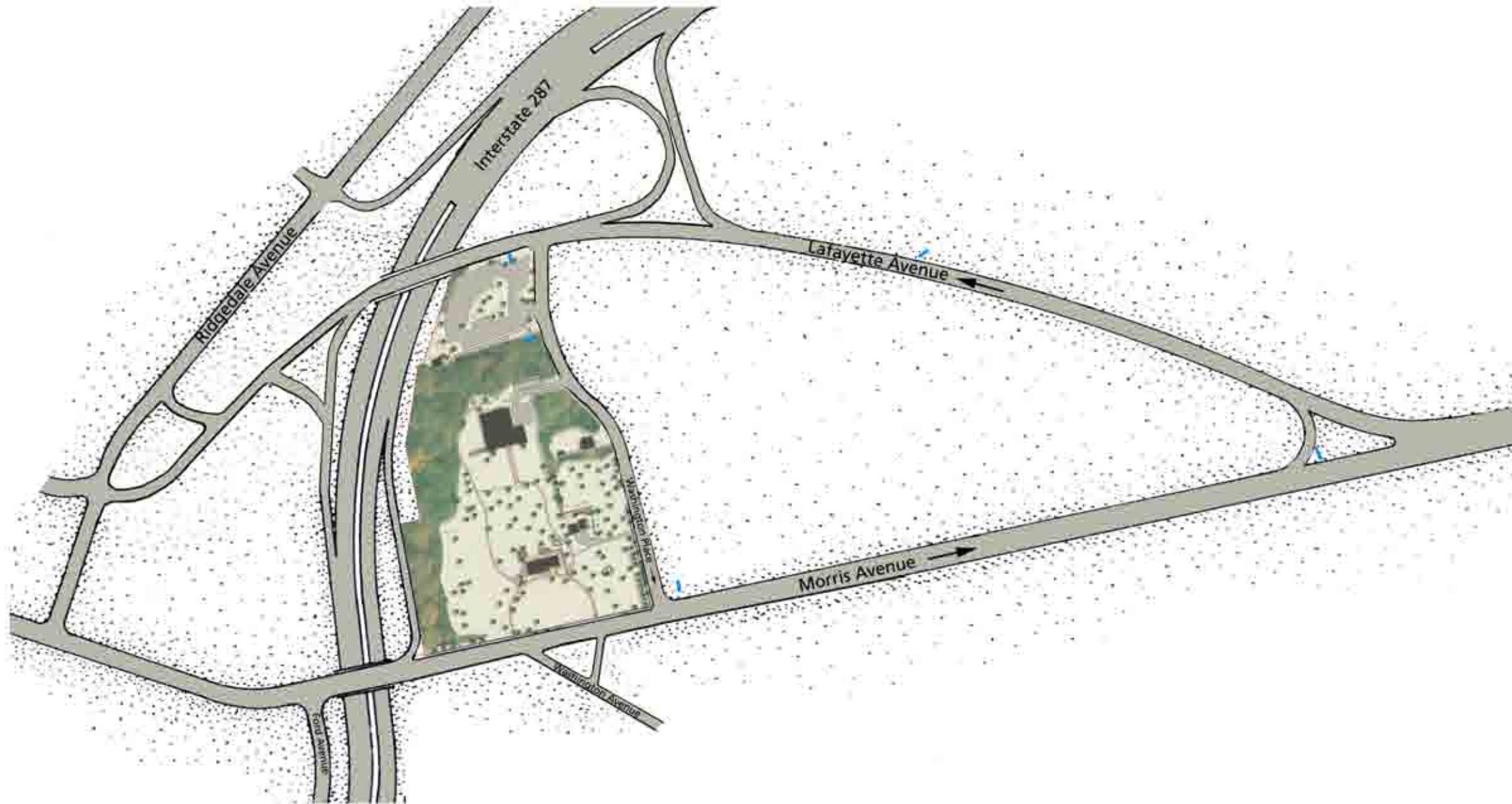
Scale in Feet

0 100 200 300 400



### Legend

-  Asphalt
-  Concrete or Limestone
-  Brick
-  Bluestone
-  Park Sign



## Existing Vegetation, 2002 - Sheet 1 of 4

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Volume 1  
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### Map Sources:

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July 2002



Scale in Feet

0 25 50



### Legend

A.g.	<i>Alnus glandulosa</i>	K.I.	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
A.C.	<i>Acer campestre</i>	K.J.	<i>Jacaria japonica</i>
A.P.	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	L.V.	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
A.R.	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	L.L.	<i>Larix laricina</i>
A.S.	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	M.	<i>Malus spp.</i>
A.S.	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	P.c.	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
A.S.	<i>Aplousia spicata</i>	P.a.	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
A.S.	<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i>	P.f.	<i>Picea canadensis</i>
A.P.	<i>Andropogon patens</i>	P.S.	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
B.V.	<i>Betula vulgaris</i>	P.O.	<i>Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'</i>
B.	<i>Betula spp.</i>	Q.a.	<i>Quercus alba</i>
C.I.	<i>Caryocarpus flaccidus</i>	R.H.	<i>Rhus glabra</i>
C.	<i>Carya spp.</i>	R.	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
Ca.	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	R.O.	<i>Rosa pratincola</i>
C.B.	<i>Cornus florida</i>	S.M.	<i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i>
F.g.	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	S.	<i>Spiraea spp.</i>
F.	<i>Forsythia spp.</i>	T.O.	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
G.G.	<i>Gymnocladia dioica</i>	T.L.	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
H.H.	<i>Hibiscus spp.</i>	I.L.	<i>Linum catharticum</i>
H.A.	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	V.	<i>Viburnum spp.</i>
L.S.	<i>Illex verticillata</i>	V.M.	<i>Vincetoxicum</i>

**Existing Vegetation,  
2002 - Sheet 2 of 4**  
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**Map Sources:**  
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July 2002.



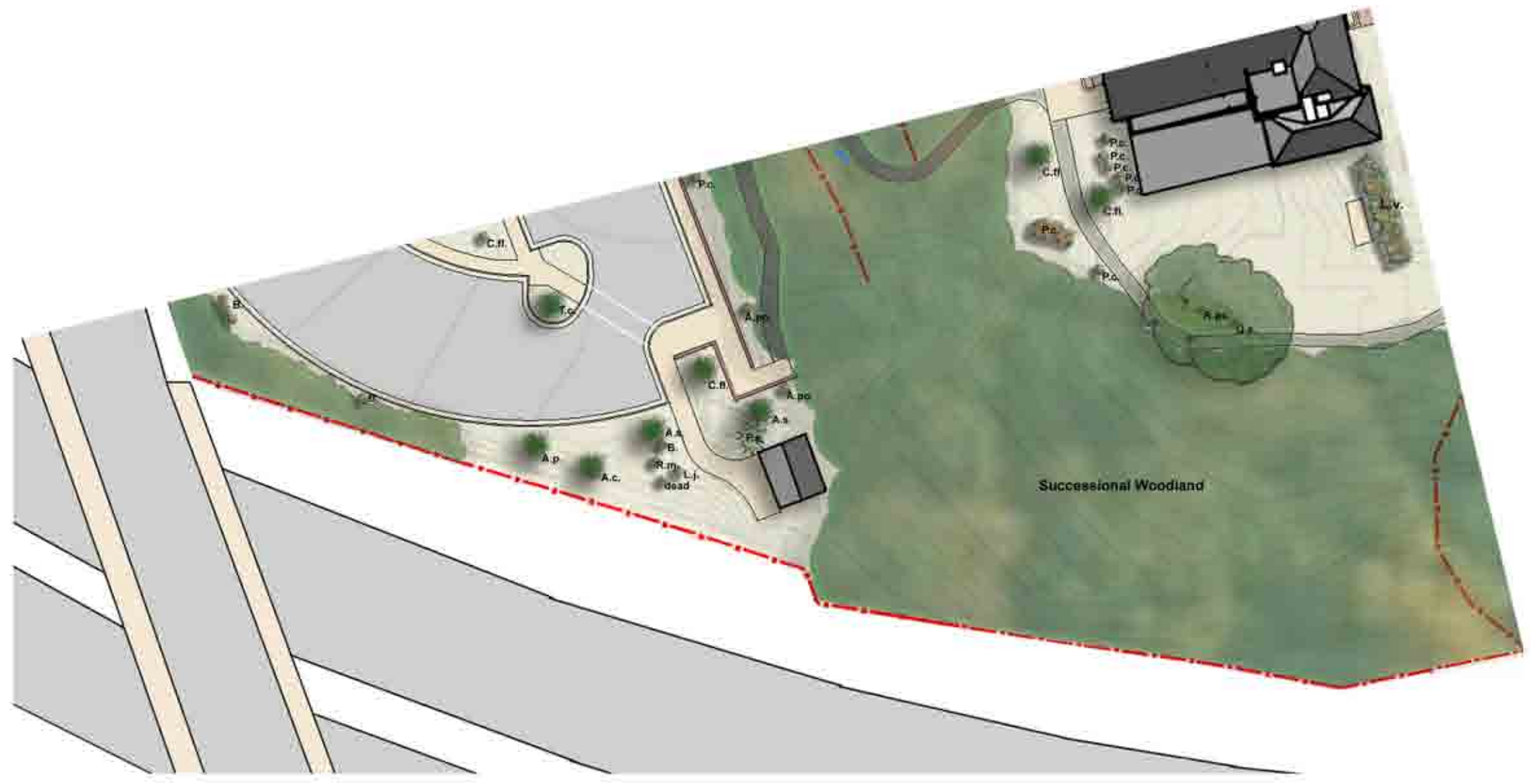
**Legend**

A.g.	Ableia grandiflora	K.l.	Kalmia latifolia
A.c.	Acer campense	K.j.	Kalmia latifolia
A.p.	Acer pennsylvanicum	L.v.	Ligustrum vulgare
A.r.	Acer rubrum	L.j.	Lonicera japonica
A.s.	Acer saccharinum	M.	Malus spp.
A.h.	Aesculus hippocastanum	P.c.	Prinos cuneatus
A.a.	Alexandria albomarginata	P.s.	Prinos sibiricus
A.ca.	Ampelopsis canadensis	P.y.	Prinos yunnanensis
A.po.	Andropogon distachyos	P.ca.	Prinos californicus (Stadler)
B.v.	Berberis vulgaris	P.ca.	Prinos californicus (Stadler)
B.	Betula sp.	Q.a.	Quercus alba
C.f.	Caryophyllus foetidus	R.p.	Rhododendron pernyiense
C.	Carya spp.	R.	Rhododendron spp.
C.a.	Castanea alba	R.ca.	Rubus prinosifolius
C.f.	Cornus florida	R.m.	Rosa multiflora
F.g.	Fagus grandifolia	S.	Spiraea latifolia
F.	Fragaria spp.	T.s.	Thalictrum flavum
G.d.	Gymnocladia dioica	T.c.	Tilia cordata
H.h.	Hesperis matronalis	U.s.	Ulmus americana
H.s.	Hibiscus syriacus	V.	Viburnum spp.
I.s.	Ilex opaca	V.m.	Vitis muncipalis

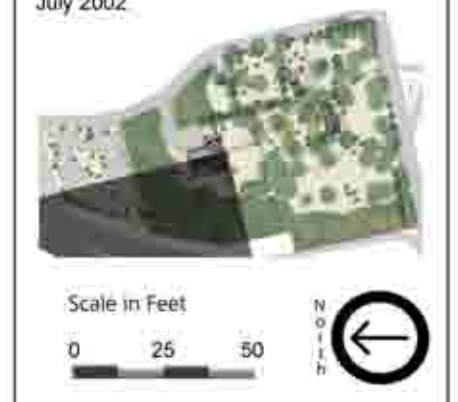


**Existing Vegetation,  
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**Legend**

A.g	<i>Aster grandiflorus</i>	K.I	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
A.l	<i>Aster lanceolatus</i>	K.J	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
A.p	<i>Aster patens</i>	L.	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>
A.r	<i>Aster rubrum</i>	L.J	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
A.s	<i>Aster scaberrimus</i>	M.	<i>Moss spp.</i>
A.h	<i>Aster spicatus</i>	P.c	<i>Prunella coccinea</i>
A.a	<i>Aster multiflorus</i>	P.s	<i>Prunella sp.</i>
A.ca	<i>Aster canadensis</i>	P.a	<i>Prunella alba</i>
A.pe	<i>Aster poliflorus</i>	P.f	<i>Prunella sp.</i>
N.s	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	P.co	<i>Prunella americana</i>
B.	<i>Buxus spp.</i>	Q.a	<i>Quercus alba</i>
C.f	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i>	R.a	<i>Rubus odoratus</i>
C.	<i>Carya spp.</i>	R.	<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>
C.s	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	R.ab	<i>Rosa pratincola</i>
C.n	<i>Cornus florida</i>	R.m	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
F.g	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	S.	<i>Spiraea spp.</i>
F.	<i>Forsythia spp.</i>	T.e	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
G.d	<i>Gymnocladia dioica</i>	T.c	<i>Tilia cordata</i>
H.h	<i>Hibiscus</i>	U.s	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
H.s	<i>Hemlock</i>	V.	<i>Viburnum spp.</i>
T.o	<i>Taxus</i>	V.m	<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>



**Existing Vegetation,  
2002 - Sheet 4 of 4**  
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**Map Sources:**

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Scale in Feet



**Legend**

A.g.	Alexis - grandiflora	K.l.	Kalmia latifolia
A.c.	Acer palmatum	K.j.	Kalmia latifolia
A.p.	Acer platanoides	L.i.	Liquidambar styraciflua
A.l.	Acer rubrum	L.l.	Lonicera japonica
A.s.	Acer saccharum	M.	Morus spp.
A.h.	Aesculus hippocastanum	P.c.	Philadelphus coronatus
A.e.	Ailanthus altissima	P.s.	Rosa sp.
A.ca.	Amelanchier canadensis	F.s.	Rhus glabra
A.co.	Andromeda coccinea	P.y.	Rhus glabra
B.v.	Berberis vulgaris	P.po.	Rhus glabra
B.	Betula spp.	Q.a.	Quercus alba
C.f.	Catalpa bignonioides	R.g.	Rhododendron penicillatum
C.	Carya spp.	R.	Rhododendron spp.
C.a.	Cedrus atlantica	R.p.	Rhododendron spp.
C.s.	Conocarpus	R.m.	Rosa multiflora
F.g.	Fagus grandifolia	S.	Spiraea spp.
F.	Forsythia spp.	T.d.	Taxus canadensis
G.u.	Gymnocladia dioica	T.u.	Taxus canadensis
H.s.	Hesperis matronalis	U.a.	Ulmus americana
H.s.	Hesperis matronalis	V.	Viburnum spp.
I.o.	Ilex opaca	V.r.	Viburnum spp.



Figure 133. Front lawn with canopy trees, semicircular walk, Ford mansion, museum (background), and caretaker's cottage (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 134. Circuitous path running between Ford mansion and caretaker's cottage to the museum (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 135. View of the southeastern corner of the Ford mansion and semicircular walk (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 136. Southern façade of museum (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 137. View of the northwest corner of the museum showing the 1957 library addition (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 138. Southern façades of caretaker's cottage and garage (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 139. Dick house northeast of Ford mansion and east of museum (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 140. Maintenance shed at southwest corner of visitor parking lot (OCLP, 2001).

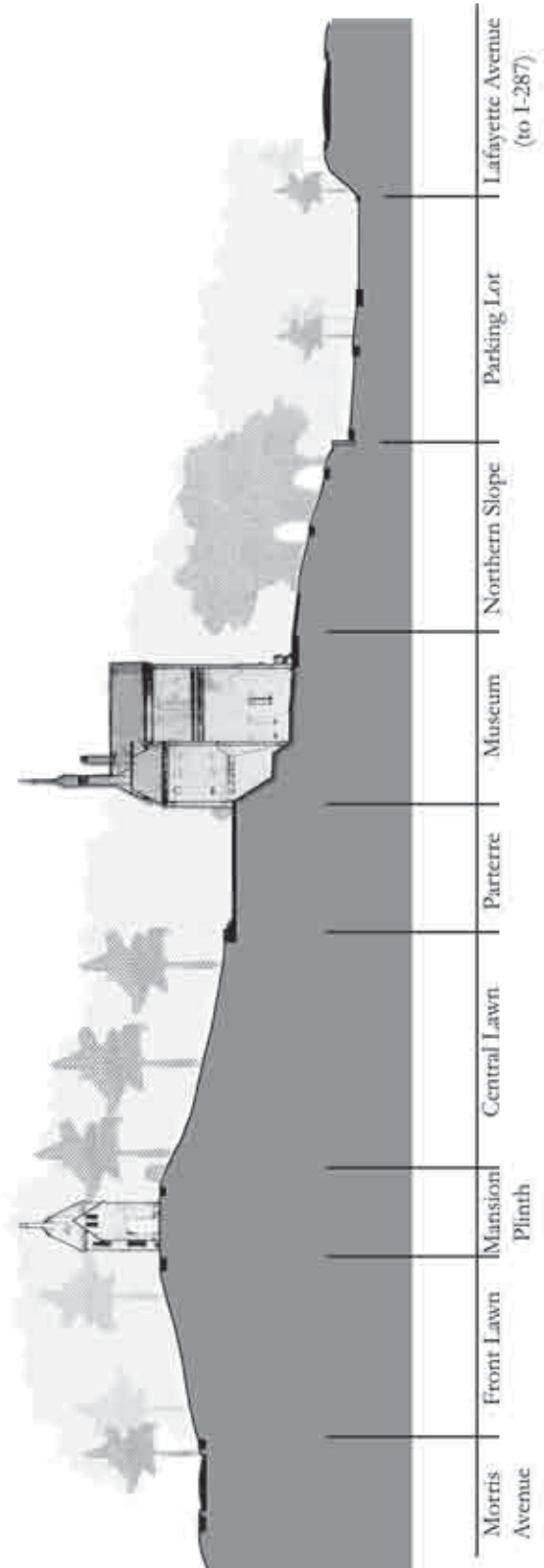


Figure 141. Sectional drawing of the Washington's Headquarters Unit from Morris Avenue (south) to Lafayette Avenue (north). Scale is vertically exaggerated (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 142. The declining slope from the Ford mansion at the crest of the hill to the museum below (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 143. Topography conceals the view of the museum from Morris Avenue (OCLP, 2002).





Figure 144. View from west showing slope of west and central lawns (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 145. The steep bank along the northern façade of the Ford mansion (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 146. The intersection of Lafayette Avenue and Washington Place showing the entrance to the visitor's parking lot from the latter street. The museum is in the background (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 147. The brick retaining wall along the south side of the visitor's parking lot and the asphalt winding path that leads up the slope to the museum (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 148. Northern view of the visitor's parking lot from the asphalt winding path (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 149. Entry drive to the museum with the utility/parking lot by the northeast corner of the building and an employee parking lot north of the drive (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 150. The asphalt winding path from the visitor's parking lot to the museum. Note the split rail fence, informational signs, and the maintenance shed (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 151. Path and Parking at museum's north entrance (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 152. Intersection of the brick axial walkway and the asphalt circuitous path at the southern edge of the parterre (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 153. The point where the asphalt circuitous path from the north façade of the museum branches and leads east along the south façade and south to the Ford mansion (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 154. Asphalt circuitous path running along the west side of the property. The museum's south façade is in the background (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 155. The western portion of the asphalt circuitous path leading to the Ford mansion (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 156. Intersection of the southwestern end of the brick semicircular walkway in front of the mansion with the bluestone walkway along Morris Avenue (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 157. The bluestone walkway along Morris Avenue lined by sugar maple trees. This is the first view that visitors coming from Morristown or I-287 have of the unit (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 158. Aerial photograph showing the Washington's Headquarter's unit. Most of the property is covered by tree canopy. Note the orderly pattern of the canopy between the mansion and the museum. [Copyright 1996-2001 MapQuest.com, Inc. ("MapQuest"). All rights reserved.]





Figure 159. Large white oak 'tunnel' between the mansion and the museum, blocked by small hedge maple and flowering dogwood trees (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 160. Shrubs immediately behind the Ford Mansion along the rectilinear walkway (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 161. HVAC unit behind northeast corner of Ford mansion screened by shrubs including rhododendron (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 162. NPS employees removing the large quantities of leaf litter and acorns that accumulate between the Ford mansion and museum each autumn (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 163. View of the Ford mansion across the traffic triangle at the intersection of Morris Avenue and Washington Avenue. The triangle contains the 1928 bronze equestrian statue of General George Washington (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 164. View from mansion to the museum blocked by small trees (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 165. View from the museum to the mansion blocked by small trees (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 166. Left: Cast-iron drinking fountain and bluestone walkways southeast of the Ford Mansion. Right: Flagpole in the west lawn (Fort Nonsense is located on Mount Kemble in the background) (OCLP, 2001).

## LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

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This chapter provides an analysis of the historical significance of Morristown National Historical Park's Washington's Headquarters Unit and an evaluation of the integrity of the physical character of the landscape. The significance portion of this chapter reviews the entire park's documented historical significance, evaluates how the Washington's Headquarters landscape contributes to this significance, and then identifies potential new areas of significance. The grounds are evaluated in landscape-related areas of historical significance according to the National Register Criteria for the Evaluation of Historic Properties.<sup>1</sup> NPS policy requires historical significance of park units to be documented in a park-wide National Register nomination. The discussion of significance in this section consists of recommendations for expanding the existing National Register documentation, based on the findings of this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). The landscape characteristic portion of the chapter evaluates the historic integrity of extant landscape characteristics with respect to the site's historical appearance and materials. Landscape characteristics and features are evaluated as contributing or non-contributing to the historical significance of the site.

### ANALYSIS SUMMARY

Morristown National Historical Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the American Revolution. The Washington's Headquarters landscape is significant for the winter of 1779-1780 when Morristown became the headquarters of the Continental Army and General Washington chose the Ford Mansion as his headquarters. The greater park and Washington's Headquarters are also culturally important for their commemorative layer (1873-1942) associated with early historic preservation and memorialization efforts in America.

The landscape of Washington's Headquarters does not retain historic integrity to convey its significance for its association with the American Revolution. The landscape possesses only a few physical characteristics from the period, including the Ford Mansion, its location on the highest point of the property, and its relationship to the road. It is also possible that archeological resources dating to the encampment period exist. However, the unit does retain historic integrity for its association with the commemorative layer, retaining the buildings, the lawn, numerous trees, and much of the circulation system from the period. Today's landscape is the direct result of the 1930s design implemented by the NPS.

## ANALYSIS OF SIGNIFICANCE <sup>2</sup>

### CURRENT PARK-WIDE NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS

As a historic area within the national park system, Morristown National Historical Park was administratively added to the National Register of Historic Places with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act on October 15, 1966. The park is currently listed under all four National Register criteria.<sup>3</sup>

The most recent National Register documentation was completed in February 1980 and describes the park as having four geographically separate units encompassing a total of 1,674 acres. Washington's Headquarters, Fort Nonsense, the Jockey Hollow Encampment, and the New Jersey Encampment are described, as are the Ford Mansion and the Wick House. Fort Nonsense is intentionally not listed in the documentation as a contributing resource due to the lack of archeological evidence supporting its existence. The period of significance is listed as ca. 1744-1780 and specifically for 1777-1782 encampments and activities associated with the Revolutionary War. The areas of significance indicated are "Archeology-Historic," "Architecture," and "Military." The statement of significance repeatedly alludes to the importance of the area's surviving topography, viewsheds, and vegetation, but does not reference specific landscape features associated with the encampment period.

A List of Classified Structures (LCS) survey in 1996 identified structures and features to be managed as cultural resources.<sup>4</sup> For Washington's Headquarters Unit, the LCS program determined that the museum is culturally important for its design and for its association with the national preservation movement, and the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (NJSHPO) has determined that it is eligible for listing in the National Register. The LCS also lists the caretaker's residence, the only other substantial building on the grounds, to be managed as a cultural resource.

### PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: AMERICAN REVOLUTION, 1777-1782

The landscapes of Morristown National Historical Park are significant as the location of much Continental Army activity from 1777 to 1782 during the American Revolution. The park is primarily significant as the location of the Continental Army encampments during the winters of 1777 and 1779-80. The park commemorates an important phase of the Revolutionary War and General George Washington's leadership in overcoming starvation, disease, and mutiny to rebuild his army. The park's landscape of defensible ridges, wooded hillsides, and numerous water sources played vital

roles. With the exception of the Cross Estate, the four units of the park are thematically connected and are nationally significant under all four National Register criteria.

The park is significant for its association with the American Revolution, for its association with George Washington, for possessing distinctive architectural resources that represent the period, and for containing archeological resources, both investigated and untouched, associated with the historic events that occurred. The different units of Morristown National Historical Park have experienced various levels of change since the American Revolution, but assessed as a whole, the park reflects integrity to its historical significance to the American Revolution.

#### COMMEMORATIVE LAYER, 1873-1942

Morristown National Historical Park has a potential secondary significant period, 1873-1942, as an early example of Revolutionary War commemoration and as the first national historical park. Preservation and memorialization began in 1873 when the Washington Association of New Jersey (WANJ) purchased and restored the Ford Mansion and improved the grounds.<sup>5</sup> Through the diligent efforts of local citizens, the city of Morristown, and the federal government over the next seventy years, the major components of the encampments were acquired. This culminated in the establishment of the Morristown National Historical Park in 1933, the first national historical park in the United States. The period ends in 1942 with the termination of Depression-era conservation programs including the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC).

The park may be significant for its association with the national preservation movement to commemorate local features significant to the Revolutionary War, as it served as a model for historical parks and represents a turning point for the National Park Service's expansion into public history, living history, and historic preservation. The park's development strongly reflects NPS planning principles of the 1930s, which influenced the design of many historic sites, monuments, and memorials. However the context for this area of significance has not yet been developed, and a more thorough, in-depth context study is needed. Morristown possesses significant architectural resources that represent the preservation and commemoration layer and may also have significance for potential archeological resources associated with the period.

Discussions regarding the adoption of a potential second period of significance have been ongoing for the last twenty years. The primary focus will obviously remain on the encampment period; however, recognition of commemoration efforts will preserve selected nineteenth- and twentieth-century additions to the historic scene to illustrate the way previous generations have

chosen to both create and remember the past. The General Management Plan (GMP) currently being developed recognizes the commemorative layer resources not as significant but as culturally important and requiring protection. This secondary period needs further study to clearly define its significance.

At each site, the general commemoration intent remains as the overriding character. In addition, many of the individual features that defined those efforts are also still extant. The important landscape characteristics and most individual character-defining features are extant. As a whole, Morristown National Historical Park retains a high degree of integrity for its commemorative layer. Nearly all aspects of integrity are present at Washington's Headquarters and Jockey Hollow (particularly at the Wick Farm). The Cross Estate was not added to the park until 1975 and therefore does not contribute to this significance.

#### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR INTERPRETATION

The park's mandated archeological focus has been on the encampment period and locating historic sites and structures to assist in restoration and reconstruction projects. However, portions of the park have the potential to yield information regarding other periods. Historic records provide evidence bearing Native American activity in the area, and several sites have been discovered in the course of testing encampment-period sites.<sup>6</sup>

#### WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS LANDSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE

The established period of significance for Washington's Headquarters is 1779-80, the time of the second winter encampment at Morristown when General Washington used the Ford Mansion as his headquarters. The nationally significant Ford Mansion is listed on the National Register and recalls civilian contributions to the winning of independence. It is listed under National Register Criteria A, B, C, and D for its association with George Washington, for the architectural design of the mansion, and for the archeological information the grounds are likely to yield. Here during the severe winter, Washington demonstrated his leadership holding the army together as an effective fighting force. Other notable figures such as Alexander Hamilton shared the headquarters with Washington, and dignitaries such as the Marquis de Lafayette made visits. The Ford Mansion is a fine example of the late Georgian style of architecture. The property is significant for its association with events that contributed to the American Revolution, for its association with George Washington, for the architectural design of the mansion, and for the archeological information the grounds are likely to yield. Very little fabric remains from the encampment period. The most important remaining feature of the site is the mansion itself, with its formal, front facade facing the road as it has since it was built.



The Headquarters is culturally important and may also be significant for the period 1873-1942 under National Register Criterion A for its association with the national preservation movement to commemorate the Revolutionary War and under Criterion C for possession of distinctive architectural, landscape architectural, and archeological resources associated with this period. At Washington's Headquarters, these commemorative efforts began in 1873 when the Washington Association of New Jersey purchased the property. The association was created as a public, not-for-profit organization whose mission was to preserve the Ford Mansion and its history, a role they have continued since the property was transferred to the NPS in 1933. The mansion was restored in 1934-35, John Russell Pope designed the museum building constructed in 1935-36, and Norman T. Newton designed the landscape installed by the CCC during the late 1930s and early 1940s. The unit has significance for the additional areas of Conservation and Landscape Architecture.

The office of John Russell Pope, a noted Colonial Revival architect, supervised plans for the Morristown National Historical Park Museum, the first museum built for a national historical park. Some of Pope's most notable designs include the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the National Archives Building, and the National Gallery of Art, all located in Washington, DC, and all designed in the decade before Pope's 1937 death. These buildings were an eclectic blend of Beaux Arts formalism and the neoclassical vocabulary. In designing the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Pope was inspired by Jefferson's Monticello and the University of Virginia Rotunda and incorporated similar proportions, columns, and a dome. With the Morristown project, Pope designed the museum in a Georgian neoclassical style to recall Washington's Mount Vernon home in Virginia, incorporating similar covered arcades, wings, symmetry, and a cupola. Pope also designed the museum to complement and harmonize with the Ford Mansion. Only the central block, the museum/administration building was ultimately constructed. It is culturally important for its design and for its association with the national preservation movement and has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register by the NJSHPO through the NPS LCS program. The LCS lists the caretaker's residence, the only other substantial building on the grounds, to be managed as a cultural resource.

Landscape architect Norman T. Newton supervised landscape planning and design. One of Newton's most notable designs was the 1939 *Master Plan* for Liberty Island in which he designed a processional way that framed views of the Statue of Liberty. At Washington's Headquarters, he also employed the Beaux Arts style typically associated with monumental and classical structures and with the Renaissance gardens of Italy and France where axuality, symmetry, and hierarchy were

paramount. The Washington's Headquarters landscape may be significant as an outstanding example of historic house grounds designed in the American Beaux Arts style.

The Washington's Headquarters site retains many features that contribute to the commemorative layer. These include the Ford Mansion, the semicircular walkway, the walkway surrounding the mansion, the portion of the axial walkway in front of the museum, the open lawn with scattered shade trees, the caretaker's cottage, and the museum building. The majority of the site's vegetation dates from the early twentieth century, with much dating to the late Washington Association of New Jersey era and to Norman T. Newton's design installed by the CCC. While its surroundings have changed, the 1930s character of the park property proximal to the mansion remains. The axial relationship of the mansion and museum survive; however, the axial views are cluttered and interrupted, and no longer retain the formal design intent. A large portion of the axial walkway was removed during the 1970s, with small trees and shrubs planted in its place. Two new asphalt curvilinear paths were built to replace it further east and west. Along with these changes and construction of the new parking lot, a new one-way status for Morris Avenue completely rerouted the approach to Washington's Headquarters.

While suburban development and the historic commemoration occurred simultaneously at and around the Washington's Headquarters Unit, development has continued to grow and evolve since 1942, and the area is now urban. The most noticeable urban detractor is Interstate 287 that runs along the site's western boundary. These changes to the landscape especially undermine the site's integrity to the encampment period by altering the site's setting and feeling.

The landscape of Washington's Headquarters only retains integrity of location and association to the encampment period, 1779-1780. The association of the property with the American Revolution and with George Washington is embodied in the mansion, and it remains in its original location, with the view south of Morris Avenue. The landscape retains substantial integrity of location, design, workmanship, and association to the commemorative layer, 1873-1942. The museum and caretaker's cottage remain in their original locations, and the majority of trees and shrubs were planted by the Washington Association of New Jersey before 1933, or by the NPS and CCC between 1933 and 1942. Much of the herringbone brick walkway system built by the CCC remains as designed by Norman T. Newton, and the topography of the land, graded by the CCC to Newton's specifications, still clearly reflects this designed landscape. The relationship between the mansion and the museum also remains although obscured with changes in circulation and vegetation.

## ANALYSIS OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS

### QUALITIES OF INTEGRITY

Integrity is the ability of a cultural landscape to convey its significance. To be listed in the National Register, a property must not only be shown to be significant under National Register criteria, but it must also have integrity. The evaluation of integrity is sometimes a subjective judgement, particularly for a complex landscape, but it must be grounded in an understanding of a site's physical features and how they relate to its significance.

Historic properties either retain integrity, or they do not. The National Register identifies seven aspects that, in various combinations, define integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.<sup>7</sup> To retain historic integrity, a property possess several, and usually most, of these aspects. Determining which aspects of integrity are the most important for evaluation is guided by the property's significance.

### EVALUATING LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS

The historic integrity of a landscape is documented through analysis and evaluation of landscape characteristics. These characteristics, including processes and physical forms, are the tangible and intangible evidence of the activities of natural and cultural forces shaping the landscape. The following evaluations include a brief description of the characteristic's historic and existing condition as well as a determination regarding the contribution of each characteristic or specific feature to the significance and integrity of the landscape as a whole. Extant characteristics and features defined as "contributing" are those that were present during the period(s) of significance and retain their historic character. Some features have been altered or added since the early 1940s; they may or may not detract or alter the historical significance and integrity of the landscape. Table 11 at the end of this chapter summarizes the findings of the discussions that follow.

## LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

### SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* During the winter of 1779-1780, the Ford Mansion was the center of the estate. It was located on a small hill, the highest point of the estate. The house was built facing the intersection of two well-traveled roads and commanded views across the Ford's 200 acres of land on either side of the road. A treed lawn with an orchard and a garden most likely immediately surrounded the house. The grounds probably contained a cluster of barns, sheds, quarters, and privies, but their organization is unknown. Open agricultural fields surrounded the house lot to the

south and east, and forest surrounded the house to the north and west, where the land was more difficult to cultivate or pasture. Washington's guard quartered in small log huts in the meadows across the road from the Ford home (on privately land today), and troops constructed a stable southeast of the house. The physical and visual connections between the headquarters, Fort Nonsense, and the encampment areas were important.

Gabriel and Henry Ford, successive owners of the estate tinkered with the estate's spatial organization, but by 1873, most of the property had been subdivided, and growth and development gradually ensued. Roads and homes surrounded the house. All of the early outbuildings had been or were soon to be removed. During the Washington Association's ownership, the Association built a caretaker's cottage and Lafayette Hall to the east of the mansion and installed a formal garden to the north. The NPS removed Lafayette Hall and the garden during the 1930s and built a historical museum on axis with the back door of the mansion. A brick path enclosed by an alleé of trees connected the two buildings from door to door. A level, open lawn announced the southern entrance to the museum. The lawn in front of the house contained a brick semicircular walkway, connected to the street, centered on axis with the front doorway and the walkway behind the house, and lined with trees. The area immediately north of the museum was wooded, and an entrance drive allowed staff to reach the service lot and the north entrance of the museum. The unit was surrounded by Morris Avenue to the South, Washington Place to the east, Division Street to the north, and Lafayette Avenue to the west.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* Today's spatial relationships within the unit represent layers of historic features from many periods, especially from the commemorative layer. The Washington's Headquarters unit of Morristown National Historical Park is an approximately ten-acre remnant of the 200-acre eighteenth-century Ford farm. The primary feature of the site is the Fords' 1773 Georgian mansion located on the crest of the property. Open lawns with large shade trees, a semicircular front walkway, and a network of pedestrian paths surround the mansion. At the rear of the site is the historical museum with a large public parking area on the north side below the slope. While most of the property contains structures or maintained treed lawn, a dense woodland area buffers the site from the parking area and from I-287 bordering the site on its west. The site is organized with the mansion's formal front facing Morris Avenue to the south. The mansion and museum are on axis with one another, however, no path directly connects the two buildings, and shrubs and small trees obscure the views. Visitors move between the buildings along two serpentine asphalt paths toward the outside of the property. The caretaker's cottage lies to the east of the mansion. Another park-owned house, the last remaining one in the unit from the nineteenth-century

subdivision, is located to the east of the museum, and it is screened from the main grounds by a line of trees and shrubs. Other tree and shrub rows delineate former house lot boundaries and form an enclosure with the wooded areas to the north and west. The surrounding residential neighborhood, busy streets, and the interstate highway make the unit a virtual island. Connections to other park units are not evident mainly due to changes in adjacent land uses and vegetative cover.

*EVALUATION: Contributing (1873-1942)*

The Ford Mansion's relationship to Morris Avenue is the only spatial landscape characteristic that contributes to the significance of the Washington's Headquarters Unit for the Encampment period (1779-1780). Much of the existing spatial organization characteristics and features contribute to the significance for the commemorative layer (1873-1942), including the mansion and its relationship to the road. The formal, axial, spatial organization established by Norman T. Newton and John Russell Pope for the NPS during the 1930s was the single most important characteristic of the commemorative landscape. The axial design provided well-defined spaces with a clear hierarchy of features within the landscape stressing the link between the mansion and the museum. The subordinate spaces were off at the perimeter and more irregular in form. The design provided well-articulated land use zones with clear separation of public (visitor) and private (staff) functions and clear physical distinction between circulation areas and green landscaped areas. Although obscured by the removal of part of the walkway and the planting of small trees between the Ford Mansion and the museum, the axial relationship of the two buildings is still intact as is the general organization of the lawns in front of the museum and the mansion. The support and administration facilities remain to the rear of the site, although part of the staff entrance drive has been removed, and a public parking lot exists where private homes used to be. The caretaker's cottage, the Dick house, and tree rows still surround much of the unit along with the forest to the north and west, and the unit is still bordered to the south by Morris Avenue and to the east by Washington Place.

**BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* The two-story, Georgian-style Ford Mansion was built between 1772-1774 by Jacob Ford Jr. and was at the time one of the most spacious in the area. The large size influenced General Washington's decision to make it his headquarters in the winter of 1779-80. The Delaware Brigade also had used the mansion for their quarters in 1777. Other than the Ford Mansion, it is unclear what structures existed on the Ford property during the encampment period. During his stay, General Washington had two log structures built west of the house to serve as offices and a log addition attached to the east side of the house to serve as a kitchen. The army also built a stable at this time southeast of the house. It may be assumed that other structures existed on the grounds as well.

At least one privy must have existed, a cluster of sheds or barns, and additional storage and stables probably existed to serve the needs of the army if not the Ford family. However, where these structures were located is undocumented. Washington's guard was quartered in small log huts in the meadows across the road from the Ford Mansion (outside the unit).

Gabriel and Henry Ford both appear to have built and used a number of outbuildings on the grounds of the Ford estate, including a smokehouse, woodhouse, icehouse, cribs, and sheds. By the close of the nineteenth century all of the historic outbuildings had disappeared. In 1886, the Washington Association placed a caretaker's cottage on the east side of the mansion. The Washington Association of New Jersey also constructed a tool shed/stable/carriage house behind northeast of the mansion at this time. The Washington Association of New Jersey built Lafayette Hall to the east of the caretaker's cottage in 1896 for Association meetings. The National Park Service demolished Lafayette Hall in 1936 and soon built a new historical museum, a Colonial Revival structure designed by John Russell Pope and constructed by the Public Works Administration in 1935-36, north of the mansion. The park also built a steel maintenance shed west of the new parking area in the 1970s.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* The focal point of the unit is the Ford Mansion. Constructed of flushboard siding on the front and clapboard siding on the sides and rear, the mansion consists of a large rectangular block with a smaller rectangular wing, stone foundation walls, and Palladian motifs, including the carved front doorway and second-story window above it. North and down the hill from the Ford Mansion is the museum. Built into a slope, the cream-colored, stucco building features a two-story façade on the north side and a one-story façade on the south side, on top of which is a cupola reminiscent of Mt. Vernon. The symmetry of the building's T-shaped layout has been altered by the addition of a library wing, but the overall design continues to harmonize with the Ford Mansion (Figures 167-169). Unfortunately, this relationship is not clear due to the closure of the south entrance. Today, the structure houses the park's visitor center, administrative offices, auditorium, library, museum, and archives. It is eligible for listing in the National Register. Along the east side of the unit and adjacent to Washington Place are two houses currently used as park residences, the caretaker's cottage, and the Dick house. The caretaker's cottage, a white, two-story rectangular plan wood structure with a detached garage, is located northeast of the Ford Mansion, and the Dick house, a 2.5-story frame Queen Anne structure clad in brown shingles and built in 1885, is located northeast of the cottage. The yellow, one-story, prefabricated steel maintenance shed is located in the southwest corner of the parking lot and is only conspicuous from this lot. Extending along the south

side of the parking lot from the handicapped ramp to the steps is a red brick retaining wall. It is in fair condition with evidence of bowing and areas of spalling of bricks and mortar.

*EVALUATION:* Contributing (1873-1942)

The Ford Mansion, built in 1772-1774, contributes to the significance of the Washington Headquarters grounds as a character-defining feature of the Encampment period (1779-1780). The mansion is the focal point and primary organizational element in the landscape. The mansion is significant at a national level as the former headquarters of General Washington and at the state level as a distinctive example of Georgian-style architecture. The mansion, the museum, and the caretaker's cottage contribute to the significance of the commemorative layer (1873-1942), having been present during the period with their exteriors having changed minimally. The museum is eligible for listing in the National Register and is significant for its relation to the early national preservation movement and for its design by a nationally significant architect, John Russell Pope. The steel maintenance shed and the Dick house do not reflect any particular period of significance, although the latter was privately built during the commemorative period.

#### TOPOGRAPHY

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* Jacob Ford built his mansion on the highest point of the Ford property which commanded views of the surrounding meadows, fields, and woodland during the American Revolution. The Whippany River followed much lower ground north of the mansion as did a swale west of the mansion. Here where the land was steeper, the forest was not cleared. The prominent mansion was visible from Fort Nonsense atop Mount Kemble to the west.

During the period of ownership by the Washington Association (1873-1933), the association added adjacent subdivided parcels of land to the Washington's Headquarters site. As these parcels were rejoined to the property, they were graded to blend evenly with the house lot. To the rear of the house, the land was leveled in order to install an eighteenth-century style garden. After the National Park Service acquired the Washington's Headquarters unit in 1933, extensive archeological excavation and utility installation was conducted on the grounds using trenching. The garden was removed and replaced with a new historical museum built into the slope with a one-story façade on the south side and a two-story façade on the north side. Grading occurred around the new museum, as well as in the area between the museum and mansion. A level terrace was excavated south of the museum for a lawn. The lawn was carved from the slope along its eastern and southern sides, while the western side was built up. Grading to the north and west of the museum was relatively extensive for the construction of the public parking lot and I-287 during the 1970s.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* The mansion is situated upon a small hill with a lawn sloping down from the house on all sides. The front lawn has a gentle seven percent slope toward Morris Avenue. The slope is very pronounced immediately behind the house, before the terrace tapers to nine-percent down to the level lawn in front of the museum. The nine-percent slope continues north of the museum and continues down to the public parking lot. Grades of fifteen percent or greater slope down to I-287 at the western property line. These slopes and their vegetative cover provide some sight and sound insulation from the busy traffic of the interstate.

*EVALUATION:* Contributing (1873-1942)

The hill, upon which the Ford Mansion is located, is a character-defining feature that contributes to both the American Revolution significance (1779-1780) and to the commemorative layer significance (1873-1942). Much of the grounds were regraded during the latter period, and this sculpting is still evident in the landscape. Newton and Pope utilized and adjusted the topography of the land to reinforce the hierarchy and connections of their designs. The parterre lawn was created as a bright level space for ease of navigation between the originally proposed three-building museum complex. Steep slopes and the stairs required to navigate them south of the parterre lawn and immediately behind the mansion announced thresholds between important areas. Although the two museum wings were never built, and much of the axial walkway has been removed, the topography of the landscape still strongly reflects the intentions of its designers.

## CIRCULATION

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* Washington's selection of the Ford property as his winter headquarters may have been partially influenced by its close proximity to the intersection of two major roads, one to Newark and the other to Elizabethtown. It is likely that there was a also distinct circulation pattern on the grounds due to the amount of new and existing outbuildings and horses, carriages, and wagons that must have been present during the encampment. Documentation suggests that an entrance drive surrounded the front lawn and led to the front door, but it is unclear if this feature dates to 1779-80. It is not known how the outbuildings were accessed by the Ford family or the army, but the stable was probably accessed directly from the adjacent Morris Avenue. It is not known if access was available to the mansion and its immediate grounds through the woodland located to the north of the property.

Between 1780-1933, the grounds went through many changes. Gravel paths were developed through gardens and to various outbuildings. Various driveways were constructed, relocated, and



removed. Roads were also built at the perimeter of the property. When the NPS took over the site in 1933, more changes were made according to designs by Newton and Pope in order to compensate for the increase in park visitors. The gravel front semicircular drive was made symmetrical and re-laid with brick by the CCC to serve as a pedestrian walkway from Morris Avenue. The concentric elliptical paths that surrounded the mansion were replaced with one brick rectangular path along the northern, eastern, and western facades. An axial brick path was laid out between the Ford Mansion and the new museum (the 1930s brick circulation elements are listed in the LCS as unevaluated features, 1994). At some point around this time or during the Washington Association of New Jersey tenure, the sidewalks along Morris Avenue and Washington Place were paved with bluestone slabs. During the 1970s, Interstate 287 was constructed along the western edge of the property affecting the entire circulation pattern around and within the property. Lafayette Avenue and Division Street were removed. Vehicular access to the park was rerouted to enter from a new Lafayette Avenue (parallel to Morris Avenue, but westbound). A large parking lot was built here at the north end of the property atop the former Division Street with paved footpaths constructed to bring visitors to the back door of the museum. The connecting curve from the former Division Street to the entrance drive was removed when the street was replaced with the parking lot, but its ghost remains (Figures 168 and 169). The new approach brought park visitors to the central grounds of Washington's Headquarters from the north end of the property instead of from the south where they had once parked along Morris Avenue. A large portion of the axial path was removed, and new winding paved paths were constructed.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* Today's circulation system represents a combination of that planned by Newton and Pope and installed by the CCC during the 1930s and that influenced by I-287 and installed during the 1970s. The traffic pattern leading to the site is a complicated and confusing route of one-way streets with visitors ultimately entering from Lafayette Avenue (westbound) and Washington Place (southbound). The sidewalks along Morris Avenue and Washington Place are still paved with bluestone slabs along the property. The 1930s semicircular brick walkway remains in front of the mansion as does the rectangular brick path around the base. Only part of the 1930s brick path between the museum and mansion remains, originating at the south entrance to the museum, but the ghost of the lost portion is still evident in the age and growth patterns of the adjacent groundcovers and trees. No existing path leads directly between the two buildings, but two 1970s asphalt paths wind across the site linking the museum to the mansion. Another asphalt path winds through the wooded bank between the museum and the parking lot.

*EVALUATION:* Contributing (1873-1942)

The lack of documentation of circulation patterns present on the site during the Encampment period makes evaluation to this period impossible, but a myriad of changes to the property, including subdivision and regrading, has likely erased archeological evidence of this period's circulation system. However, Morris and Washington Avenues still follow the same routes with only some minor grading changes (Figures 170 and 171). Although the semicircular brick walk at the front of the house may be reminiscent of the organization of the site during the encampment period, the current path dates to the 1930s NPS design, as do the brick pathways surrounding the mansion and in front of the museum. This existing circulation system as well as the bluestone walkway along the perimeter do contribute to the historical significance of the grounds and retain integrity to the commemorative layer (1873-1942) (Figures 172-176). Portions of the circulation system that were altered in the 1970s detract from the design intent established in the 1930s to symmetrically link the mansion and museum. The two curvilinear asphalt paths that replaced the removed portion of the brick axial walkway have no particular design intention other than to move visitors hurriedly and unceremoniously. The relationship between the mansion and the museum is blurred, and the arrival of visitors to the site has been completely rerouted from the 1930s approach with visitors now arriving from the rear side from the parking lot.

## VEGETATION

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* Little is known about the vegetation of the Ford Mansion during the Encampment period. According to an 1804 map of the property, the relatively open house lot was surrounded by a meadow to the south, and woodland to the west. After the house was completed in 1774, there was little time to improve landscaping of the site before Jacob Ford Jr. was appointed as a militia commander, and the Continental Army arrived. No record has been found of any vegetation planted by the Ford family during this period.

The first recorded horticultural improvements to the grounds were made in 1790. Poplar trees were planted in front of the mansion and Fousilet Pears were planted in back. During the Gabriel Ford ownership (1805-1849), much landscaping occurred on the grounds. He installed a parterre garden somewhere behind the house that contained vegetables, trees, shrubs, and ornamentals. Gabriel planted a number of canopy trees around the front of the house, particularly bordering the front courtyard where various groundcovers existed until he planted turf in 1819. He also installed various sweet-smelling and flowering shrubs around the house and a lilac border somewhere on the property. Henry Ford continued to maintain the landscape from 1849 until his death in 1872 without making many changes. Between 1873 and 1933, the Washington Association utilized vegetation to “beautify” the property and to screen neighboring subdivided properties. The

Washington Association of New Jersey installed an eighteenth-century type garden north of the house, and planted shade trees and lawn throughout the site. The association planted Norway spruce or sugar maple trees along property lines, sugar maples along the sidewalks, and shrubs, particularly boxwood, around the house. During the 1930s, the National Park Service overlaid the basic planting combination of property-line tree rows, scattered canopy trees, and turf with an axial planting treatment. The NPS removed the eighteenth-century style garden to make way for the new historical museum with its rectangular parterre garden of yew and privet hedge and lawn. CCC crews planted trees along the new walkways. Crews installed an allée of ten white oak trees flanked with a yew hedge and additional white oaks along the brick axial walk, ornamental trees and shrubs around the mansion, and additional sugar maple and horse chestnut trees along the front semicircular walkway and sidewalks. The NPS maintained treed lawns south, east, and west of the mansion and north of the museum on the slope. After much of the axial walkway between the mansion and museum was removed during the 1970s, flowering dogwoods and hedge maples were planted to obscure the axis and its allée. The new parking lot north of the museum was planted with trees and shrubs, including dogwood, multi-stem serviceberry, littleleaf linden, and hedge and sugar maple trees and mock orange, andromeda, boxwood, and spirea shrubs. The slope between the museum and the parking lot was planted as a woodland.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* The grounds immediately surrounding the museum and mansion are maintained as a mowed lawn interspersed with large old shade trees. Miscellaneous ornamental shrubs, groundcovers, and understory trees are located around the mansion. The mansion's foundation is sparsely planted with turf, vinca, and boxwood, while rhododendron, azalea, andromeda, summersweet, and barberry line the outside the rectangular walk that surrounds the mansion. The semicircular walkway and the sidewalks along Morris Avenue and Washington Place are lined mostly with mature sugar maples with some younger specimens and some horse chestnuts. A large rhododendron hedge grows north of the maple-lined sidewalk southwest of the house. Many large, old white oak trees cover the central lawn between the mansion and the museum, with five of the allée trees remaining. A few hedge maple and dogwood understory trees are peppered beneath the canopy. This naturalistic planting coupled with the loss of five of the original allée trees has made the allée less perceptible. A row of large Norway spruce trees and overgrown shrubs line the former subdivision property line east of the central lawn, while a row of large sugar maples lines the former subdivision line to the west. Specimen trees including a grove of apples and a large beech and white pine tree grow on the west lawn. Woodland covers the steep slopes on the west side of the property and the north slope between the museum and parking lot. Various deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs dot the parking area landscape. The Dick house landscape east of the museum is tucked into

the slope's woodland and is surrounded by a patch of lawn with a large Norway spruce in front. A large rhododendron hedge separates the property from the former Thompson house landscape to the south. The Thompson house was demolished and planted with lawn, but many of its trees and shrubs remain including, a clump of sweetshrub and various American holly specimens. The caretaker's cottage has a fenced lawn immediately behind it and is surrounded with large sugar maple trees and shrub rows of rose-of-Sharon and forsythia. Some shrubs and trees from the former Lafayette Hall grow in the southeast lawn.

*EVALUATION: Contributing (1873-1942)*

The lack of documentation of vegetation present on the site during the American Revolution makes evaluation to the encampment period (1779-1780) difficult. All that is known is that the open house lot was surrounded by meadows, woodlands, and neighboring farms. The existing vegetation does contribute to the historical significance of the grounds, though, as a defining characteristic of the landscape from the commemorative layer (1873-1942). Though there were additions and deletions throughout the period, the vegetation is remarkably intact, and the design intent has always showcased the Ford Mansion. The completion of the museum building in 1936 and associated landscape features further strengthened this intent, but a naturalistic planting design imposed in the 1970s has somewhat strained this relationship. Most of the trees on the grounds date to the 1873-1942 commemorative layer with the majority being planted by the CCC between 1935 and 1942. Many old sugar maples line the sidewalks and the semicircular walk in front of the house, many large white oak trees remain in the central lawn including five from the alleé, and a Norway spruce row and a sugar maple row still delineate the old subdivision property lines. In addition, certain shrubs remain from the CCC plantings including the privet hedges by the museum and at the ends of the semicircular walkway.

**VIEWS**

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* General Washington chose the Ford Mansion as his winter quarters in 1779-80 in part because of its views of Fort Nonsense, the town green, and the surrounding countryside. During the late-eighteenth century, the Ford Mansion was said to command a view of about 4000 feet extending across meadows, agricultural fields, and scattered farmsteads interrupted by occasional stands of woodland. The view southeast from the mansion would have also included the stable and the orderly log cabins of General Washington's guard.

During the tenures of Gabriel and Henry Ford, the views evolved as trees and gardens were planted and maintained. Nineteenth-century subdivision altered views with the construction of roads

and houses around the mansion lot. The Washington Association responded by planting tree screens along property lines and around the perimeter of the property. The view to and from the equestrian statue of George Washington has been a significant part of the site since its construction in 1928 in the traffic island at the intersection of Morris and Washington Avenues. Henry W. Ford's estate south of this intersection was demolished during the 1940s, and a series of long brick apartment buildings were erected on land that had been meadow since the eighteenth century. This and other development in the neighborhood substantially altered the views from the Ford Mansion. During the 1930s, the National Park Service made many improvements to the landscape with the addition of the museum and numerous landscape features. Designers enhanced the axial arrangement of the mansion and the museum with an uninterrupted view between the two buildings along a central brick path framed and reinforced by rows of trees and shrubs. The axial view continued from the north façade of the museum down the slope to Division Street across a tree-lined lawn. These perspectives were completed by 1942 and remained until the 1970s. During the 1970s, the woodland along the western property line was bolstered to help conceal views of the newly constructed and very obtrusive I-287. The woodland along the slope north of the museum was established to conceal views of the new parking lot. At this time, much of the axial walkway was removed and the once-prominent view between the mansion and the museum was obstructed with the planting of small trees. Serpentine paths were constructed closer to the property edges to connect the two buildings, giving visitors different and unceremonious views.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* The views west and southwest of the main grounds of Washington's Headquarters are obstructed by immediate stands of woodland. These wooded areas screen the view of I-287 to the west and busy Morris Avenue westbound to the north, but they also obscure the view west to Fort Nonsense. The view to the south consists of busy Morris Avenue and a traffic island bearing a statue of General Washington on horseback but is obstructed beyond by an apartment complex. To the east, Washington Place is lined by residential homes and parked cars. This view is somewhat broken up by a thin strip of shrubs and evergreen and deciduous shade trees, as well as two staff housing structures. The view from the rear of the mansion still focuses on the south door of the historical museum. However, the view is cluttered by scattered trees and the serpentine paths that cross the site, unlike the historic axial and formal views from previous decades.

*EVALUATION:* Non-contributing

Views do not contribute to the historical significance of Washington's Headquarters for the encampment period (1779-1780). Centuries of land use change, both within the original 200-acre estate and in areas around it, have shortened many of the historic views, and today's visitor looks out

not upon the rural countryside, but rather a suburban landscape of buildings and roads. Although ample vegetation is present on the grounds to screen out unsightly views, it is unlikely this type of screening was present during the encampment period. The once sweeping view to and from the Ford Mansion has been replaced by a condensed view crowded by trees, roads, and adjacent structures. Some of the views do contribute to the historical significance of the unit for the commemorative layer (1873-1942). The axial relationship between the museum and mansion created in the 1930s remains; however, the views are cluttered and interrupted and no longer retain the formal design intent (Figures 177-180). Much of these views could be rehabilitated. I-287 and the parking lot have seriously altered the western and southern views. Collectively, views do not retain integrity to either the encampment period or to the commemorative layer.

## LAND USE

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* Early land use of the Ford property is not clearly documented, but farming was the mainstay of the Morristown community during the encampment period (1779-1780). However, because Jacob Ford Jr. was a manufacturer, it may be assumed that his lands were also used for other purposes than agricultural fields, such as pastureland for the grazing of horses and possibly other domestic animals. An 1804 map of the Ford estate labeled the land south of the house as "meadow" and the land north of the house as "woodland." During the winter encampment, the house lot was busy with activity revolving around the mansion and outbuildings such as the stable. Washington's guard was quartered in small log huts in the meadows across from the Ford home.

Throughout the nineteenth century, Gabriel and Henry Ford farmed the land, raised livestock, and grew fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals in their gardens. They also planted and maintained many specimen trees and shrubs on the property. Since the Washington Association's acquisition of the property in 1873, the site has served as a historical park. The Washington Association of New Jersey built a caretaker's cottage and Lafayette Hall east of the house, creating residential and congregational spaces on the land. Private houses were built on the subdivided land around the perimeter of the property, but the Washington Association of New Jersey planted trees and shrubs to screen them from view. The Washington Association of New Jersey also planted many trees to "beautify" the property and enhance its park-like character, and added an "old fashioned" parterre garden that included historic relics. The National Park Service developed the park further, adding a museum/administration building and updating the circulation system, topography, and vegetation to enhance the expanded educational role of the landscape. Construction of I-287 and landscape changes during the 1970s diminished the park-like qualities, discouraging contemplation

while encouraging speedy movement from the parking lot to the museum to the mansion and then back again.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* The Washington's Headquarters Unit houses the administrative offices and historical museum, and therefore is central to Morristown National Historical Park. The northern half of the unit is used for parking, administrative offices, and the museum, while the southern half provides a setting for the mansion. Vegetation and an informal circuitous path blurs the connection between the two zones, and the noise and visual intrusion from I-287 further diminishes the park-like character of the unit. All but one of the private homes located on the perimeter of the property have been demolished, and this land is now part of the park unit. This remaining home and the caretaker's cottage serve as residences for park staff.

*EVALUATION: Contributing (1873-1942)*

Existing primary educational, interpretive, and administrative uses do not contribute to the historical significance as a defining characteristic of the landscape for the encampment period (1779-1780), but these uses do contribute for the commemorative layer (1873-1942). Although the relationship between the zones is blurred and the effects of I-287 continually intrude, the National Park Service continues to use the land as a historical park as it has since the 1930s.

**SMALL-SCALE FEATURES**

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* While many small-scale features are sure to have existed on the property during the encampment period, no documentation has been found to support any specific details.

Gabriel Ford added a fence to the front lawn and gardens with features and fences behind the mansion, and Henry Ford later maintained these features, while making slight changes or additions. The Washington Association replaced the front fence and added a balustraded piazza immediately along the front of the mansion. The Washington Association of New Jersey also placed cannons in front and to the side of the mansion, a carriage stepping-stone to the east, a weathervane to the west, and a ship's mast flagpole to the south (later replaced with a standard pole). The Washington Association of New Jersey collected many historic relics, including a local steeple and a firetruck and placed them in their parterre garden north of the mansion. A Murdock brand, cast iron water fountain was installed along Morris Avenue at Washington sometime early in the twentieth century. The NPS removed most of these features soon after acquiring the site. The NPS added floodlights to the front lawn and replaced the picket fence with a Colonial Revival crossbar fence in 1939. The NPS

erected a new flagpole in 1973, and placed five directional park signs on grounds and throughout the surrounding neighborhood in 1975. Informational signs, a split rail fence, and path lights were placed along the path from the parking lot to the museum. A cast-metal informational wayside was placed atop the parterre garden stairs. During the last decades of the twentieth century, the NPS placed three park benches on the grounds between the mansion and the museum, removed the crossbar fence, and updated the floodlights. The NPS also situated three clusters of utility boxes (electric, air conditioning, etc.) east of the mansion, west of the museum, and along the woodland west of the central lawn.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* Few small-scale features exist at Washington's Headquarters. The cast-iron water fountain remains along the Morris Avenue curb, but it is non-functional and seems forgotten. Five directional park signs lead automobiles to the parking lot from the neighborhood streets and custom Morristown NHP signs announce the property. Three movable metal and wood benches and a cast-metal wayside are located along pathways in the central lawn area. Utility boxes are also located in this vicinity and are screened by shrubs. Informational, wood informational boards, a post and rail fence, and path lights line the path from the parking lot to the museum. Two concrete urns flank the northern entrance to the museum. Two ground-level spot lights illuminate the mansion from the front lawn, and a flagpole stands to the southwest.

*EVALUATION:* Non-contributing

Existing small-scale features do not contribute to the historical significance of the property for either the encampment period of significance (1779-1780) or for the commemorative layer (1873-1942). The Murdock brand, cast-iron water fountain may be a contributing resource, but further research is needed. The NPS removed many of the small-scale features immediately after acquiring the property but also added some before the close of the commemorative period in 1942. These features, though, have been routinely updated or removed during the remainder of the twentieth century. Although the existing small-scale features do not contribute to the significance of the property, they do not detract from it either.

#### ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* Following the acquisition of Washington's Headquarters by the NPS in 1933, fairly extensive archeological excavation took place from 1936 to 1939. CCC crews dug trenches over most of the site during this investigation. A series of stones was found extending from the southwest corner of the house and running in a southwesterly direction to Morris Street and appeared to be the remains of the old fence base constructed by Gabriel Ford during the early



nineteenth century. North and east of the house, two cisterns were uncovered, one constructed of pebble and one of wood, and may have been the cisterns built by Gabriel Ford. To the rear of the house a twenty-two foot stone foundation was unearthed. Another stone foundation was uncovered at the northeast corner of the kitchen wing and may have been the "shed or lean-to" built for Washington's kitchen and referenced by both Gabriel and Henry Ford.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* There have been no recent archeological investigations at Washington's Headquarters. Many alterations, including grading and utility and archeological trenching, have probably greatly disturbed any archeological remains, but evaluation is needed from a professional archeologist.

*EVALUATION:* Unevaluated

Although archeological investigation did uncover landscape features at Washington's Headquarters, they do not conclusively date from the encampment period of significance (1779-1780). Few records were kept of the investigation, and the work was not completed by professional archeologists. It is possible that further investigation, completed by professional archeologists, would uncover additional information or detail.

#### NATURAL SYSTEMS AND FEATURES

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* At the time of the encampment (1779-1780), the Ford estate encompassed rolling meadows and woodland that drained into the Whippany River to the north. The Ford Mansion sat atop the highest hill in the center of the property. Average climatic conditions for the period are not documented. The variety of animals that could be found on the property during the late eighteenth century was probably rich and diverse but probably decreased during the nineteenth century due to development. The streams that drained the property were straightened during the nineteenth century and culverted during the twentieth. Construction of I-287 during the 1970s further separated the drainage from the property.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* Washington's Headquarters' coldest month is January with an average low temperature of twenty-three degrees Fahrenheit, and its warmest month is July with an average high temperature of eighty-seven degrees. The area averages over forty inches of annual precipitation. The unit drains into the Whippany River north of the unit, but the drainage is now separated by I-287 or concealed in culverts. The soil at Washington's Headquarters is Riverhead-Urban. The western and northern portions of the landscape are covered with woodland. The sugar maple-mixed hardwood forests primarily consist of a mix of native species, with a lesser number of

introduced species. Some small mammals dwell in or migrate through the unit including red and gray squirrel, rabbit, skunk, opossums and raccoons. Over one hundred species of birds were documented during a recent bird census at the park, including the turkey vulture, red-tailed hawk, mourning dove, downey woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, northern flicker, black-capped chickadee, white-breasted nuthatch, northern mockingbird, yellow-rumped warbler, scarlet tanager, chipping sparrow, song sparrow, common grackle and American goldfinch.

*EVALUATION:* Non-contributing

The natural systems and features have changed dramatically since the encampment period (1779-1780) and the commemorative layer (1873-1942) and do not contribute to the historical significance of the property. Construction of I-287 during the 1970s obliterated any remaining features. The natural systems and features do not retain integrity.

#### CULTURAL TRADITIONS

*HISTORIC CONDITION:* The first cultural traditions at Washington's Headquarters began shortly after the Washington Association purchased the Ford Mansion in 1873. The Washington Association of New Jersey began holding late June annual meetings upstairs in the mansion or outdoors in a large tent erected on a level grass plot. In 1888, the Washington Association of New Jersey began holding its popular annual meetings on Washington's Birthday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, to avoid heat associated with the previous summer meetings. As part of the annual celebration at the headquarters guns were fired from Fort Nonsense. During the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago, interest in George Washington was running high, and each of the eastern states recreated Washington habitats for their state exhibits. New Jersey reproduced Washington's Headquarters at Morristown, while Virginia reproduced Mount Vernon. The Washington Association of New Jersey constructed Lafayette Hall east of the mansion in 1896 for their annual patriotic meetings and other functions. Each year keynote addresses were given by such notables as former Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William H. Taft. Formal balls and teas were also routinely held for fundraising. In 1929, sesquicentennial ceremonies were held at the Headquarters with a Colonial Revival costume pageant. The bicentennial of George Washington's birthday was celebrated here in 1932 with much fanfare, including keynote speakers, a parade, and historic costume pageants. After the demolition of Lafayette Hall in 1941, the annual Washington Association of New Jersey meetings have been held either in the new museum building or in local hotels. The NPS hosted a gala at the Headquarters on July 2-4, 1982 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Morristown National Historical Park. Additional pageantry has been held at the site intermittently throughout the remainder of the twentieth century.

*EXISTING CONDITION:* Visitors come to the Washington's Headquarters unit to learn about the Revolutionary War through the preserved Ford Mansion, the museum with its large Washingtoniana collection, and the library. Visitors also come to the site for patriotic events, such as pageants, ceremonies, and concerts that occur on select holidays or anniversaries. The Washington Association holds many meetings on site as well.

*EVALUATION: Contributing (1873-1942)*

The Ford Mansion remains an important Revolutionary-era icon in New Jersey. Cultural traditions at Washington's Headquarters contribute to the historical significance of the landscape for the commemorative layer (1873-1942) (Figures 181 and 182). The annual meetings and special celebrations continually commemorate General Washington and the American Revolution and reinforce the public's reverence for this hallowed site.

## SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

Table II. Summary of Landscape Characteristics and Features for Washington's Headquarters, Morristown National Historical Park. Evaluation at characteristic level (bold) based on combined evaluation of features within that characteristic.

Characteristic or Feature	Status for Period of Significance (1779-80)	Status for Commemorative Layer (1873-1942)	Comments
<b>Spatial Organization</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
-Relationship to Morris Ave.	Contributing	Contributing	Relatively unchanged since 1779.
-Axial Organization	Non-contributing	Contributing	Designed by Newton and Pope, (1930s).
<b>Buildings &amp; Structures</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
-Ford Mansion	Contributing	Contributing	Built 1772-74, General Washington's headquarters, key feature of the park, listed on National Register.
-Museum	Non-contributing	Contributing	Design by John Russell Pope (1935). Eligible for National Register.
-Caretaker's cottage	Non-contributing	Contributing	Erected by WANJ in 1886.
-Dick house	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	C.1885 house acquired by NPS c.1985.
- Maintenance shed	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Constructed in 1976.
<b>Topography</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
-Mansion hill	Contributing	Contributing	Highest point on property since its construction (1772-1774).
-Museum sited down hill	Non-contributing	Contributing	Distinct hierarchical relationship since 1935.
-Formal grading	Non-contributing	Contributing	House terrace, sloped central lawn, and level parterre space graded by 1942. Designed to include future museum wings.
<b>Circulation</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
- Semicircular, herringbone brick walk fronting mansion	Non-contributing	Contributing	General path may date from late 18 <sup>th</sup> or early 19 <sup>th</sup> century. NPS made WANJ curve symmetrical with bricks.
-Circulation pattern	Non-contributing	Contributing	Much from 1930s design remains, but much affected by 1970s' alterations.
-Asphalt curvilinear paths	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Installed during mid-1970s.
-Parking lot	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Constructed in mid-1970s.
- Sidewalks	Non-contributing	Contributing	Bluestone slabs probably placed during early 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>Vegetation</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
- Open front lawn with shade trees	Contributing	Contributing	Present since encampment period (1779-1780).
- Designed landscape	Non-contributing	Contributing	Begun in 1873. Redesigned by Newton and Pope 1930s. Affected by alterations of 1970s.

- Tree-lined walkways	Non-contributing	Contributing	Tradition begun by WANJ during 19 <sup>th</sup> century.
- Sugar maple trees	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
- White oak trees/alleé	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
- Privet hedges	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
- Mansion hedge rows	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
- American beech tree	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plant.
- Norway spruce row	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
- Sugar maple row	Non-contributing	Contributing	Specimen plants.
<b>Views &amp; Vistas</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	I-287 and surrounding post-1942 development detracts greatly.
- View to Washington equestrian statue	Non-contributing	Contributing	
- View to and from Morris Avenue	Contributing	Contributing	
- Axial view from mansion to museum	Non-contributing	Contributing	Obstructed by modern plantings, no longer clear as 1930s design intended.
<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
- Historical park with educational, interpretive, and administrative zones	Non-contributing	Contributing	Similar to 1930s.
<b>Small Scale Features</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	
Benches	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Caretaker's Cottage mailbox	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Cast-metal wayside	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Concrete urns	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Flagpole	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942 replacement.
Floodlights	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942 replacements.
Ground-level spot lights	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Morristown NHP custom signs	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
NPS Directional signs	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Murdock brand, cast iron water fountain	Non-contributing	Undetermined	Installed late-19 <sup>th</sup> or early-20 <sup>th</sup> century.
Parking lot path lights	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Parking lot post and rail fencing	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Parking lot wood informational boards	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Perimeter cyclone fence	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Picnic table	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Steel light poles	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Utility box clusters	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Water spigots	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
Wood trash cans with lids	Non-contributing	Non-contributing	Post 1942.
<b>Archeological Sites</b>	<b>Unevaluated</b>	<b>Unevaluated</b>	
<b>Natural Systems &amp; Features</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	
<b>Cultural Traditions</b>	<b>Non-contributing</b>	<b>Contributing</b>	
- Pageants, meetings, etc.	Non-contributing	Contributing	Commemorative use begun by WANJ in 1873.

## INTEGRITY TO THE ENCAMPMENT PERIOD, 1779-1780

The relative absence of explicit documentation and extant above-ground remains of features makes assessment of integrity to the 1779-1780 period somewhat difficult. Archeological investigations have located some landscape features, but detailed information is sparse. Further complicating matters are the changes to the landscape caused by over two centuries of suburban growth.

The most important contributing feature for this period is the Ford Mansion. Washington used Morristown's largest residence as his headquarters and constructed additional small structures near it to support his requirements. Although these outbuildings are now gone, the mansion, with its formal appearance oriented to the south, and the open front lawn with scattered shade trees are significant to the period. Later additions do not contribute to the period and include the museum, parking lot, pedestrian paths, and neighboring structures. Noise from Interstate 287 and visible suburban development on all sides of the property significantly diminish the integrity.

By comparing the historic condition of landscape features with their status today, the unit's integrity to the Revolutionary War period, 1779-1780, can be summarized as follows:

- *Location and Association:* Washington's Headquarters has integrity of location and association because it was the actual site of General Washington's headquarters and his entourage's encampment.
- *Setting:* The setting, or character, beyond the area proximal to the Ford Mansion, especially the surrounding land uses, has considerably diminished Washington's Headquarters' integrity.
- *Feeling:* Washington's Headquarters feels altogether different because of the surrounding suburban development and adjacent interstate highway.
- *Design, Materials, and Workmanship:* The Ford Mansion is the main feature that contributes to the integrity of Washington's Headquarters.
- *Overall:* Despite the presence of the Ford Mansion in its original location, the Washington's Headquarters landscape does not retain integrity to the period.

## INTEGRITY TO THE COMMEMORATION LAYER, 1873-1942

Evaluating integrity for the recommended second period of significance is somewhat simpler because it is a more recent past, which means there are more extant features and better documentation. Memorialization activities began in 1873, peaked in the 1930s, and lasted until 1942 when Depression-era service activities ended. The goal of these efforts was to preserve and commemorate Washington's Headquarters, making it and its collection accessible to all citizens. This character endures in many of the existing features of the park. Consequently, Washington's Headquarters retains integrity to the commemoration layer, 1873-1942.

The landscape contains many features significant to the commemoration layer. They include the Ford Mansion, the front lawn with scattered shade trees, the semicircular front walkway, the caretaker's cottage, and the museum/administration building. Although the character of the park around the mansion is essentially the same as in the 1930s, the presence of adjacent suburban development and heavy traffic on surrounding roads and Interstate 287 pervades the visitor experience. The axial relationship between the mansion and the museum still exists with most of the circulation system and the building locations in place and with five of the ten white oak trees remaining from the alleé. The relationship is less perceptible to the untrained eye today though due to the removal of much of the axial walkway, the thinning of the tree alleé, and the naturalistic plantings of the 1970s that blocks key views. Furthermore, the construction of the parking lot and conversion of the museum's rear entrance into a main entrance reversed the original pedestrian circulation pattern. Combined, these changes have de-emphasized the historic relationship between the two buildings.

Based on the comparison of historic and extant landscape features, the park's integrity to the commemoration layer, 1873-1942, can be summarized as follows:

- *Location:* The location of Washington's Headquarters is unchanged, and the boundaries have not decreased in size.
- *Association:* Washington's Headquarters retains the memorial intent of the commemoration layer and therefore possesses a high degree of association.

- *Setting:* The integrity of setting or character immediately around the Ford Mansion has changed little. However, the surrounding setting of Washington's Headquarters has changed greatly because of the visual and aural intrusions from Interstate 287 and to a much lesser degree, from the altered circulation pattern.
- *Feeling:* Post-1942 changes to the Washington's Headquarters circulation system and development of Interstate 287 have compromised the feeling of commemoration and reverence at that unit. Numerous large trees from 1873-1942 protect the historic character.
- *Design:* The spatial relationship between buildings, circulation elements and trees retains integrity to the period. However, the overlay of 1970s landscape and circulation features at Washington's Headquarters moderately detracts from the historic character.
- *Materials and Workmanship:* The museum building and the herringbone brick walkways are well-documented and are maintained in good condition. In general, they sustain a high integrity of material and workmanship.
- *Overall:* Washington's Headquarters retains integrity to the commemoration layer, 1873-1942.

## SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE INTEGRITY

After evaluating Washington's Headquarters' character defining features, it can be concluded that the landscape does not retain integrity to the primary period of significance, the Revolutionary War from 1777-1782 (more specifically the encampment period of 1779-1780). However, the landscape does retain integrity to the commemoration layer of 1873-1942 (Table 12).

The landscape of Washington's Headquarters only retains integrity of location and association to the Encampment Period, 1779-1780. The association of the landscape with the American Revolution and with George Washington is embodied in the mansion, and it remains in its original location, with its historic view south of Morris Avenue. Much suburban and urban development has occurred at and around the Washington's Headquarters Unit, development has continued to grow and evolve since 1942, and the area is now urban. The most noticeable urban detractor is Interstate 287 that runs along the landscape's western boundary. These changes to the landscape especially undermine the landscape's integrity to the Encampment Period by altering the landscape's setting and feeling.



The Washington's Headquarters landscape retains substantial integrity of location, design, workmanship, and association to the Commemorative Layer, 1873-1942. The museum and caretaker's cottage remain in their original locations, and the majority of trees and shrubs were planted by the Washington Association of New Jersey before 1933, or by the NPS and CCC between 1933 and 1942. Much of the herringbone brick walkway system built by the CCC remains as designed by Norman T. Newton, and the topography of the land, graded by the CCC to Newton's specifications, still clearly reflects this designed landscape. The axial relationship between the mansion and the museum also remains although obscured with changes in circulation and vegetation.

Table 12. Summary of Landscape Integrity for the Washington's Headquarters Unit of Morristown National Historical Park.

Aspect of Integrity	American Revolution (1777-1782) Subset: Encampment Period (1779-1780)	Commemoration Layer (1873-1942)
Location	Yes	Yes
Association	Yes	Yes
Setting	No	No
Feeling	No	Yes, but compromised by I-287
Design	No, not enough above-ground remains to thoroughly evaluate	Yes
Materials	No, not enough above-ground remains to thoroughly evaluate	Yes
Workmanship	No, not enough above-ground remains to thoroughly evaluate	Yes
Overall	No	Yes

## ENDNOTES

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<sup>1</sup> Determination of eligibility of the Washington's Headquarters landscape under each of the areas discussed here, where not already included in the existing National Register documentation, must be made in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer. Revision of the existing National Register listing ultimately requires approval by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

<sup>2</sup> Much of this section was excerpted and modified from: Morristown National Historical Park Cultural Landscape Report (CLR). 2001 Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation and

Gee, Jodi, David Uschold, and Patrick Eleey. 2000 Draft. *Washington's Headquarters, Morristown National Historical Park, Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)*, Part 2:1. Brookline, MA: National Park Service, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation.

<sup>3</sup> National Register Bulletin, 1997, page 2.

<sup>4</sup> The LCS is a program fulfilling NPS responsibilities regarding Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It identifies structures that individually meet the criteria of the National Register or are contributing elements of sites and districts that meet the National Register criteria. The structures are managed as cultural resources. *Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*, page 140.

<sup>5</sup> The Washington Association of New Jersey still plays an active role in the park's management today.

<sup>6</sup> Morristown National Historical Park, Morristown, New Jersey, General Management Plan (GMP). 2001:86 Draft. Boston, MA: National Park Service, Northeast Region, Boston Support Office.

<sup>7</sup> Location is the place where the cultural landscape was constructed or where the historic event occurred. Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Setting is the physical environment of the property. It refers to the *character* of the place in which the property played its historic role. It involves *how*, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space. Materials are the physical elements deposited during the particular period(s), which include plant materials, paving, and other landscape features. Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period. Feeling is the cultural landscape's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time. It results from the presence of historic features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character. Association is the direct link between the cultural landscape and the historic event or person. From *Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques*, page 72 and National Register Bulletin 40: Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields, pages 10-12.



Figure 167. Northwest corner of the museum with 1957 library addition (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 168. Northwest corner of museum from former entrance drive (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 169. Northwest corner of the museum from the entrance drive, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 170. View down Washington Avenue (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 171. View down Washington Avenue, 1935 (note iron fence along the right side - part of the Henry W. Ford Estate (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 172. Southwest portion of semicircular front walkway (OCLP, 2002).



Figure 173. Southwestern portion of semicircular front walkway, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 174. Southwestern portion of semicircular front walkway, 1935 (note gravel surface and cobbled gutters) (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 175. Southwestern end of semicircular front walkway(OCLP, 2002).



Figure 176. Southwestern end of semicircular front walkway after construction prior to privet shrub planting, 1935 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 177. Axial view from the museum to the mansion (OCLP 2001).



Figure 178. Axial view from the museum to the mansion, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).





Figure 179. Axial view from the mansion to the museum (OCLP, 2001).



Figure 180. Axial view from the mansion to the museum, 1950 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 181. Costumed reenactment on the Ford Mansion's front lawn, 1960 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).



Figure 182. Diagram of exhibits on the front lawn of the Ford Mansion for the fiftieth anniversary of the park, 1983 (Morristown NHP CRM Archives).

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